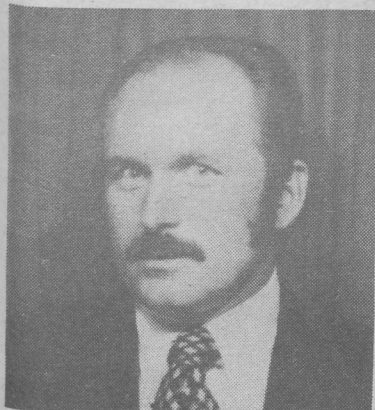


## WHO CHOSE THE MUSIC? PART I

by Eldon Joslin  
5721 Loop Rd.  
Birmingham, AL 25224

Ephesians 5:19, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." This Scripture teaches us that music is to be used to worship the Lord and we should glorify him with all of our music. After much prayer and study, I feel that the Lord would



Eldon Joslin

have me to write on the subject of music. Having spent a great deal of time studying music, I felt somewhat qualified to write on music in general and Church music in particular.

Being a song leader, and

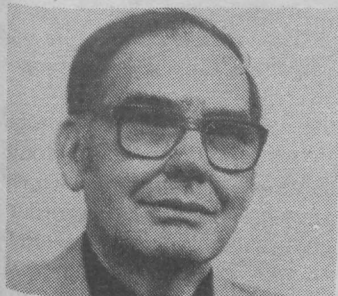
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## Studies in Jude

by Clyde Everman

"Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities". (V.8).

Jude now gives us a description of these apostate teachers. In verses 5 - 7 he went back to the Old Testament to show three examples of apostates, and how the wrath of God was poured out against them for their sin. He is saying these men are committing the same sins. "Likewise also these filthy dreamers." Note first they commit these sins because they are dreamers. They live in a dream world; in a world that is not real. They have lis-



Clyde Everman

tened to Satan, and like Eve, believed his lie. "Ye shall be as gods". They, like the angels, reject the authority of God they "despise dominion". They have gone about to set up their own authority. As a result, this rebellion and self pride causes them to "defile the flesh". The thought here is they practice the same unnatural immorality as that practiced in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. How

(Continued on Page 6 Column 5)

Repentance, apart from Christ, must needs be repented of.

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

# The Baptist Examiner

Baptist Is Our Middle Name

Paid Circulation in All States and in Many Foreign Countries

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

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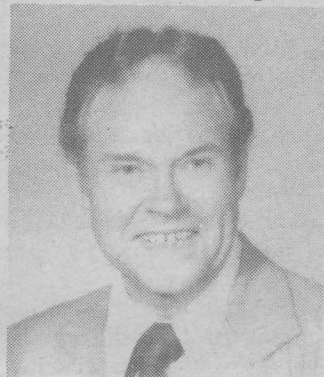
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## ASPECTS OF PRACTICAL BIBLICAL EVANGELISM

by Elgie Hornsby

I don't want to be called a Hardshell, do you? Neither, do I want to be called an Arminian, do you? Yet we wear these labels. It is the way others perceive our theology as they observe our methods of evangelism. Many, though not Hardshell or Arminian in doctrine, are one or the other in practice. So, if we are referred to as Hardshell or Arminian, we can suspect that we are that, or that we have never reconciled our theology with our evangelistic methods. Those of us, who are not Hardshell or Arminian but do believe in a sovereign God and the doctrines of grace, must come to grips with the compatibility of truth and practice. Because we have not come to grips with this wide spread problem over evangelism in our ranks, our churches are ei-

ther dying or filled with many unsaved people. Dissension or peaceful co-existence prevails in our fellowship rather than true evangelism. Many churches in our fellowship will eventually die. They will not experience growth because you can more comfortably fellowship with one another and the doctrines of grace and be Hardshell in evangelistical



Elgie Hornsby

method - which is a pretense, or no method - than to be Arminian in evangelistic methods. I think we also observe that those who once gave strong witness to the doctrines of grace and then began to use Arminian methods are soon doctrinally silent or change their theology to support their method. Their actions are justified by the reasoning that the Arminian theology must be correct because experiences support it. Spiritual truth is never revealed by experience but by God's Word. A true experience of salvation is an affirmation of truth or Biblical theology. In true evangelism, Biblical theology and Biblical methods must be wed together inseparably. No evangelistical effort will produce the right kind of fruit if it begins

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## ALIEN GROWTH MISSION BOARDS IN RETROSPECT

by Ray Hiatt  
P.O. Box 156  
Avawam, Ky. 41713

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

Several years ago, in a fit of what some folks came to call unwisdom, I wrote some papers which examined the origins, pedigrees and regnant, patrician mental state of mission boards. This was a less majesty offense and grown men screamed for months like wounded children. I asked in a gentle tone for any soul on earth

to show me the origin or authority for a mission board in the Bible. During the ranting over these papers, and when the railing ceased I awaited Biblical rebuttal. None



Ray Hiatt

ever came. No soul ever replied to these papers with a Biblical support for the devilish devices of mission boards. None ever shall. I saw increments of slander and landslides of bile, but no soul on earth has ever replied to these papers. I therefore approach the subject anew and afresh hoping that after the passage of time those who support mission boards have perhaps researched the Bible and obtained a warrant for their fictive inventions.

In retrospect have mission boards improved in either demeanor or doctrine? Is there a mission board under creation

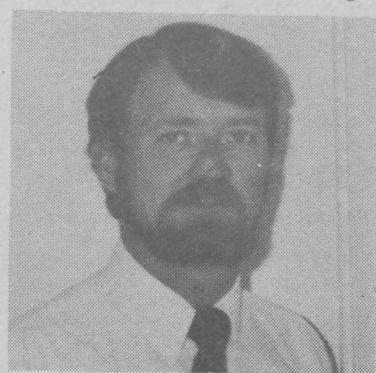
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## IN HIS HAND

by Bob Belanger  
704 Liberty Hall Rd.  
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John 10:28 -- "And I give unto them eternal life: and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." We find that His promises are promises that are impossible to believe without faith, for they are promises that are far beyond the abilities of mere mortals to keep. What mortal is able to so boldly promise, "I give unto them eternal life"? Perhaps even longer than in the days of Ponce De Leon, man has sought



Bob Belanger

fountains of youth in vain. We, of late, hear many glowing reports on the so called extended life span of man through medicine's modern miracles. But all the searchings and all the reports never stop the

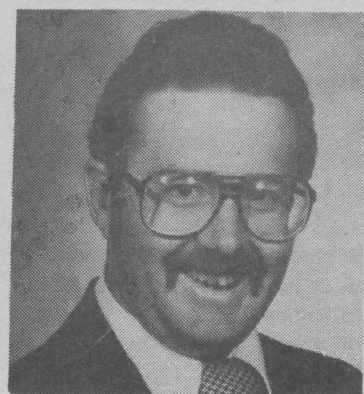
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## WHAT'S WRONG WITH OUR CHURCHES PART II

by Sam Wilson

Beloved, we need to see a revival of holy living in our Baptist churches. We preach about it but do we practice it?

The third thing I mention is that ungodliness is allowed in our



Sam Wilson

churches. In other words, there is no church discipline. I have heard some of the worst stories of immorality in Baptist churches over the past ten years. We have no right to overly criticize Bakker and others, unless we are going to clean up our own churches. Many of these things involved pastors of churches. I am ashamed to say, that many of these men are still pastoring that same church without ever even issuing an apology. Beloved, godliness is one thing that has always distinguished Baptist churches. Things are allowed now that our

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## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor Joseph M. Wilson

## TRUST IN THE LORD IS BETTER THAN CONFIDENCE IN MAN

"It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man" (Psa.118:8). I have a personal history on this subject. I like to trust a man. I like to believe what he tells me. I like to take a person at face value. I like to put the best possible construction on the act of another. I like to believe the best I can about another man. Very many times I have suffered over this. I have been wrong in putting such trust in a man. I have been hurt by one in whom I had put great confidence.

And the worst hurt has been the consequent loss of confidence in one whom I had dearly loved.

I have had friends warn me often of this tendency of mine. I have had friends tell me repeatedly to keep carbon copies of all letters I write in case someone would later use a perversion of such against me. I have been repeatedly warned by friends of putting my confidence in man. I have been told of a certain individual, "Don't trust him." I have ignored such advice. I have lived to wish (?) I had followed it.

Well, I am just that way. I like to trust people. I have put my neck on the line by doing this. I have had it chopped off. I have put it back on the line. I suppose I will keep doing this. I don't want to go around doubting everyone, being suspicious of all my friends, wondering if they would later turn against me or how. I would rather trust a man, get hurt now and then, and trust the next one who comes along; than to be forever suspicious of

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## The Baptist Examiner

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## TRUST

(Continued from Page 1)

all whom I meet.

However, we must make a large and definite distinction between any confidence we place in man and the total and complete trust that we have in the Lord. The two must never be confused in our minds. They must never become equated in our thinking. We must realize that confidence that we have in any man is and must be far different from the trust that we have in the Lord. Let me give several reasons why my text is true. Of course, it is finally and fully true because it is in the Bible; but I desire to set forth some further reasons, all connected with and drawn from the Word of God.

1. It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man because man is a sinner but God is absolutely holy. We must remember that the best of men are sinners at the best. There is not a just man upon the earth that doeth good and sinneth not. No matter how good a man might be by the grace of God, he is still a sinner. He may be, in the main, a good man, one whom you could fully trust. But he is a sinner and may someday let you down as to your confidence in him.

But God is absolutely holy. He would betray His holiness if He betrayed one's trust in Him. If God should tell us something, and if we should believe it totally, putting our full faith in what He has said, then, if He should fail to do what He has said, He would not only betray

our trust in Him, but He would also betray Himself. He would prove untrue to His own holy nature, and this can never be. He said that if I would believe in Jesus Christ, I would be saved. I have trusted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. Now, if I should be lost, should die and go to hell, God would eternally besmirch and betray His own holiness. This can never be. God's holiness is pledged to His truthfulness. God's holiness guarantees His truthfulness. I can fully trust in Him. He will never let me down.

2. Because man is fallible in knowledge, but God is absolutely omniscient. A man will sometimes betray your confidence be-



Joe Wilson

cause of his lack of knowledge. He meant well. He meant what he said. He did not mean to deceive you. But he knows things now that he did not know when he made promises to you. He feels that this new knowledge demands and justifies that he now go contrary to what he originally said. Men promise things that they would not have promised had they had full knowledge of all the facts and circumstances.

But God is omniscient. He always knows all things. All things are ever before His eyes as if just now taking place. Of course, He sees them in their sequence, but the past and future are before Him as plain and clear and real as the present. When He makes a promise, He is aware of all that relates thereto and of all that will take place in the future. He makes His promises with full cognizance of all the facts; past, present, and future. He cannot possibly learn something new; something He did not know when He made His multitudinous promises. Therefore, no new knowledge will ever affect His promises or cause Him to fail one's confidence in Him.

3. Because man changes his mind, but God is immutable. Man is a changeable being. Man changes his mind. It is not simply the prerogative of a woman to change her mind, but men do this as well. A man makes a promise to you. He tells you something he will do. He presents a certain picture to you. It may well be that, at the time he meant all he said. He may have been very honest in the matter at that time. But then, he changes his mind. For different reasons, which he deems satisfactory, he changes his mind and decides to not do what he originally said he would. Oh, how often have we seen this. How we have been hurt and disappointed by such changes of mind. This fact that a man might change his mind keeps us from the total confidence in him we would like to have. If a man meant to do a thing and then changed his mind, or if he lied to start with and never intended to do what he said the outcome is the same. That which we had depended upon is not done.

But God is immutable. He is of one mind and no one can turn Him. Whatsoever He purposeth, that He doeth. God will never change His mind. What He purposed in His mind before the world began, He will not change; but will surely bring it to pass. I know that men argue with this doctrine, but one had best consider what he is about before doing so. Men do not realize that in arguing against God's sovereignty, His absolute and eternal predestination of all things, His election of some from among fallen mankind to salvation; in doing this, men argue against the immutability of God. They argue against His power to bring to pass that which He has purposed. God will never change His mind. What He has said He will do. We could have absolutely no confidence in a God who would change His mind. We cannot put the confidence in man that we can in God because man may change his mind. We can put full and total confidence in God because He is immutable.

This truth - that God cannot and will not change His mind - is the ground of the assurance of faith: Abraham believed God. He was strong in faith because He believed that what God had promised, He was able to perform. He staggered not in unbelief. We are sure that everything is going to turn out all right. We are sure that we are going to heaven. We are happy in our blessed assurance - because God has spoken, and we know He will not change His mind.

4. Because man is often looking out for himself, but God never takes advantage of another for His own good. Man is a selfish being. Selfishness is in all of us to some extent. Selfishness is our biggest problem. Selfishness may well be our biggest sin. Selfishness is the mother of a large brood of terrible sins. One might almost ask, what sin has not been committed because of selfishness? Man often takes advantage of another to suit his own selfish purposes. When it is to a man's advantage to let you down, to be dishonest with you, to turn against you, to betray your confidence in him - look out. How often has this happened. Men have become liars and deceivers because they thought it might turn to their advantage. Man ought to be true to his word to his own hurt, but many will not do this. You don't know what a pastor will do if he thinks he can gain some of your members. You may have had sweet fellowship with a brother pastor for many years. You might have full confidence in him. Then, when he thinks it will help him as to his esteem among the brethren or help him get more members, or be to his advantage in some way or other, he will turn viciously against you. Again I say, if it is to a man's advantage to betray your confidence in him, let you down, do you dirty - look out.

But God is not like this, praise His name. He will never let you down. He will never betray your trust in Him. He will never do you dirty. He is not in this for His own good. He is concerned about the eternal good of His people. He is all powerful. He never will need to betray your trust in order to gain for Himself. And He would never do it if it would be to His own good. God is looking out for His children,

not just for Himself. God is the opposite of selfishness. He is love, and love is never selfish.

5. Because man is changeable in his affections, but God is not. Man may love you today and hate you tomorrow. I do not greatly like the marrying business. I would as soon do as little as possible. I told my church that if Judy or Jeannie ever got married, I would want to perform the ceremony, but otherwise I am not overly fond of marrying people. I

hate to marry someone today, and then in a few months they are separated. There they are, a young man and a young woman. They just can't stay away from one another. They are so madly in love. They get married. A few months or years pass. Now, they hate one another. They just can't stand the sight of one another. They are hateful to one another. Then, they are looking elsewhere. Then they are divorced. Then they are

(Continued on Page 3 Column 2)

## FROM THE EDITOR

According to F.M. Riley, of the Last Call Gospel Ministry, in Maduoke, Arkansas, the rapture will occur on September 12th, 1988. According to a Mr. Whisenant, who I believe is connected in some way with The World Bible Society of Nashville, Tenn., the rapture will occur on September 11, 12, or 13. I have listened to some tapes by Mr. Whisenant, and he is most positive, even willing (he says) to stake his life on this matter.

Well, if these men are right, you will never receive this editorial. Though I am writing on August 12th, this is scheduled to be in the October 1st issue of The Baptist Examiner. When, and if, you read this paper, we will know that these men were false prophets. They really are such no matter what comes of their prediction. If you read this, I wonder what these two men, along with those who worked with them, along with those deceived by them will be doing at this time. I wonder how they will get around their false prediction. I wonder if and how they will carry on their ministries. One would think that they would pack up and slip off into some unknown part of the world and hide themselves from the rest of man kind. Of course, it would be better if they would admit their errors, repent thereof, and make this as prominent as they have made their false prophecies. Well, when and if you read this, we will know something about this matter.

The truth of the matter is that Jesus will come for His people at a predestinated moment of time. He cannot and will not come a minute earlier or later than that time marked out on the calendar of eternal predestination for this event. Another very important part of the truth on this subject is that the Lord has purposefully not revealed when that moment of time will be. So far as we do or can know, and so far as God has revealed the matter, Jesus may come at any moment of time. We are to always be ready, watching, waiting, looking for, and loving His appearing. We do not have to wait until September 11, 12, or 13 to begin looking for Him. We should have already been doing this ever since we were saved. We should be looking for Him from day to day. So, the truth of the matter is that Jesus may come on September 11, 12, or 13. It is also true that He might come before that time, and it is true that He might come long after that time. The Lord has not revealed the time of Jesus' coming. He will not reveal it to any self-appointed prophets.

There are no secret schemes in the Bible that specially spiritual and enlightened men can understand and thus tell us when Jesus will come. I urge the reader to beware of any and every scheme which men use to try to prove even the approximate time of the Lord's coming. Beware of such. Beware of it if it be the prophetic scheme of the churches in Revelation, or if it be the something special every two thousand years scheme, or if it be the six thousand years for man and the seventh thousand for the Lord scheme, or if it be the forty years from Israel becoming a nation scheme, or if it be the Psalms 88 scheme, or whatever it might be. All these are the inventions of men. God has not revealed the time of Jesus' coming. He has made it clear that man cannot know this. I long ago learned to beware of men who seemingly think themselves such astute students of the Bible, or such favorites of heaven as to see things in the Bible that are hidden from us ordinary and average Christians.

Understand that if Jesus does not come before, He may come on September 12, 1988. But even this does not and will not relieve Mr. Riley and Mr. Whisenant from the charge of being false prophets. A man's prophecy may prove to be true, and yet he, himself still be a false prophet. He made a prophecy that came true. But he did not learn it from God. He had no authority for his prophecy from the Word of God. He was not Bible taught and Spirit led in making his prophecy. Therefore, he is a false prophet no matter what happens to his prophecy. These men are false prophets. They are preaching a lie when they say that they know from the Bible that Jesus will come on September 12th. They are liars and deceivers.

I do not know what has prompted these men to take and proclaim their position. I have read their so-called Scriptural proofs. I doubt I have ever read more nonsense and foolishness. I doubt I have ever seen men twist, turn, pervert, assume, and stretch the Scriptures in order to prove their false doctrines any more than these men have. If it were not so serious, if it were not so wicked, if it were not so absurd; it would be amusing to hear and read these men. But then, lies about the Word of God are never amusing.

If the Lord should come before you read this, that will be fine with me. I look and long for His coming - the sooner, the better so far as I am concerned. I would not desire to see His coming delayed a moment. But, if the Lord does come before you read this, it will not be in connection with the lies of these false prophets, but it will be in harmony with God's eternally predestinated purpose.

Well, if you do read these words, where are Mr. Whisenant and Mr. Riley this fine day? What are they doing? What will they do? Talk about embarrassed and red-faced!

Well, whatever and whenever, Jesus is coming, the saved dead will be raised in glorified bodies, the living saved will be changed in a moment, and we will be caught up to meet Him in the air and be forever with Him. Oh, glad and gladsome day! I don't know when it will be, but I'll see you in the rapture.



## TRUST

(Continued from Page 2)

married again, and the cycle begins again. Oh, how sad! How very sad! Someone said, and it should never be true, but it is that marriage has broken up many a romance. Sad! Sad! And this happens in other areas.

There are those who were once my dear friends. We walked together into the house of the Lord. We had such sweet fellowship together. One would have thought we were inseparable. Now that one hates me almost as much (or more) than he once

loved me. I can name several who were the closest of friends who now are bitter enemies to me. They once loved me and would do anything for me (at least I thought this). Now they despise me vehemently. There are churches where I was once a favored preacher. Now I cannot preach there. Their love has changed. I do not now discuss the reasons for such. I only say that man may change in his affections.

But this is not so with God. Whom He now loves, He always has loved, and always will love. He loves with an everlasting

love. His love is not an on and off or cold and hot matter. His heart always is filled with a burning love for His people. He loved them before they were saved - that is why He saved them. He loves them when they are good children. He loves them when they are bad. He loves them when they serve Him faithfully. He loves them when they fail Him. He will never love them more. He will never love them less. He loves them all alike. He does not love one of His children any better than He does another. Oh, the love of God! The love of God! You can trust the one who

loves you. Yes, you can. He loves His people. He will never change in that love. We can put our trust in the Lord with total confidence and assurance because He never changes in His affections.

6. Because man is limited in power, but God is omnipotent. Man makes a promise. He is honest in it. He means it. He has every intention of keeping that promise. But something happens. He is unable to keep his promise. This saddens him greatly. He is not responsible for this failure, but still, he cannot keep his promise. He did not mean to, but

he lied. Confidence in him has been disappointed.

But God is omnipotent. Nothing can ever take place that can keep God from fulfilling His Word and promise. God is greater than all conditions, situations, and circumstances. He hath stretched out His arm and no one can turn it back. What He purposes, He will do. No power can defeat Him. No power, or combinations thereof, can keep Him from doing what He has said. His power is able to perform whatever His heart moves Him to do. This is not true with man. Often, we are saddened because we are not able to do for another what our heart moves us to do. The deepest desires of our heart are frustrated because of our lack of power. But God is able to do whatever His heart moves, and His wisdom directs, Him to do.

7. Because man may reach the point that he does not care what you think about him, but God is always concerned with His own glory. Man may love you to start with. He may want you to think well of him and return his love. He may be willing to do about anything to bring this about. Then he changes his attitude towards you. He does not care what you think about him. He is not interested in maintaining your love for him. He just does not care.

But God is jealous of His glory. He will never do anything to lower a man's opinion of Himself. He desires the love and trust of His children. (I speak as a man) He has tried hard to obtain that love and trust. He will do nothing to endanger it. God will never behave Himself in such a way as to give a man a right to a low opinion of Him. He will never betray confidence placed in Him. He will never let one down who trusts in Him. Such a thing just cannot be.

My friend, we need, to some extent, to have confidence in man. What would our lives be without some of this. What would our churches be without this. What would the fellowship between preachers, between Christians, and between churches be without this. Let us have confidence in one another so long as we can. Let us trust a man as best we can until he proves totally unworthy thereof. Oh, I can name a vast multitude in whom I have great confidence. I trust them. I love them. It would grieve me greatly if they should prove unworthy of my confidence. But let me trust in man within the limits of what might be. Let me know that I cannot put confidence in man as I can put it in God. I am not preaching for no confidence in man. I am saying, have all the confidence in man you can. Trust him until he proves himself untrustworthy, and then weep over that.

But, I am preaching that there must be a difference between the confidence we put in man and the trust we have in God. We can trust God totally, fully, completely. We can cast our all on God. We can risk (a very human word) our all for time and eternity upon our God. We can believe His Word without a shadow of a doubt. We can stand on His promises. We can believe whatever He says, and go forth in full confidence that what He has

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OCT. 1, 1988  
PAGE THREE

## SOME HAPPY AND BLESSED DAYS

I left home about 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, July 13th. As I get older, trips get a little more difficult and not quite as totally enjoyable as in other days. Still, I like to go and preach in other places from time to time. My first stop was in Owensboro, Ky. I visited Joe and his family there for a few days. I don't get to see them much since they moved from Ashland, and it is always a blessing to visit them. Joe and his good wife, Karen, always do their best to make my visit an enjoyable one. They are a very fine Christian couple. I say to my shame (and likely to many others), that this is the only home I remember visiting in a long time where family devotions are conducted each evening. Each time, I plan to go home and resume such myself; but I allow other things to defeat this purpose. Surely, Christian people should resume this practice of their forefathers. Joe and Karen are always a blessing and an example to me.

My, how those children have grown. I guess that is normal and should be expected, but seeing them so seldom, it always comes as a shock to me. Deborah is fourteen now. Many people who know Joe ask me about Deborah. She is doing fine. She is a very sweet granddaughter. The boys are getting big - still no girl friends - we will see. I saw the boys play two ball games, splitting the two. I am not the overboard, foolish grandparent that most are, but still I do love my grandchildren and enjoy visiting them very much. Deborah and Jonathan went with me on my further travelling. Deborah had never gone with me on a trip before, and it had been two years since the boys had gone. Steve stayed home to watch out for father and mother. The two grandchildren going with me added much to my trip.

We left Owensboro about 5 A.M. Sunday and travelled to Pacific, Mo. I had promised the grandchildren that we would eat breakfast on a boat at McDonald's on the Mississippi in St. Louis, but they were not open when we got there. We have some members of our church who live in Pacific, Mo.: Roy and Dorothy Archer; their daughter and her husband, Tim and Mary Weatherspoon; their son, James. Tim was on the road as a truck driver. The rest and some others were gathered at the Archer's home for a preaching service. These people are a real blessing to me. When I make a trip close to them, I have a preaching service in their home. Roy and Dorothy are sick, especially Dorothy. I ask our readers to pray for these fine people. In fact, Dorothy was in the hospital and

unable to be at the service. However, she got out of the hospital that week, and I visited with her awhile on my return trip.

We had a good preaching service. These people really appreciate the truths of God's precious Word. They avidly read The Baptist Examiner. They receive our tapes and say they are greatly blessed thereby. It humbles me greatly and also lifts me up exceedingly to visit these people. I praise God for the privilege of knowing them.

We had a fine lunch after our preaching service. I visited with them a while before, and a short while after the service. The children and I left the Archer's in early afternoon, and continued our trip to Tulsa, Oklahoma. We had a good, safe, and pleasant trip. The children were no trouble at all. In fact, they were good travelling companions and made the trip easier and more enjoyable for me.

Our church has a mission in Tulsa. This mission meets at the home of Sister Jeannie Maddux. Brother Murray Tyler looks after and preaches at this mission. For some time, I have been visiting and preaching for the mission for a few days each year. Oh, that the Lord would bless them, that others would visit with them. We long for the day when, if it be God's will, they will become a church.

Sister Maddux is one of the finest Christian women I have ever known. Katie and I became very close to her when I pastored in Tulsa. We have almost adopted her. She usually visits us one or more times a year, and we always enjoy her visits. Katie and I consider Jeannie as one of our closest friends. She is very sound in the doctrines of God's Word. She is very faithful in her life, and in her love for the Lord, the truth, and her church. We are happy to have her as a member of our church though we would truly like to see this mission become a church. We would lose our members who live in Tulsa, but still, we would like to see this.

Brother Tyler is a very fine, able, and faithful preacher of God's Word. He is aging, his health is getting poor; but he continues faithful in serving as he can there in our mission. I do thank God for this fine man. He is a real blessing to me. We write regularly. When in Tulsa, I always have a visit and a meal with him and his fine wife. I appreciate and enjoy this time very much, and consider it a valued part of my Tulsa trip. Brother Tyler is serving faithfully in our mission, but he would be happy for some preacher to move to Tulsa and take charge of the work there. Brother Tyler would labor faithfully with such a man. If any

preacher should be interested in doing this, please contact me. There are not many people in the mission, but Tulsa is a large city, and it just may be that the Lord would help some preacher to do a good work there.

Our daughter, Linda, is a member of the mission. Brother and Sister Roland Caves are members. We had several visitors during the week of meetings. I do appreciate all who came to any of the services. It was a blessing to have them. I hope that the Lord blessed them in the services. Some of them had been several times before, and some came for the first time. Sister Judy Chiles has been attending these services for some years, and has visited our home several times with Sister Maddux. We think highly of Sister Chiles and always enjoy her visits with us.

Of course, I visited with Linda and her family while in Tulsa. It was a blessing to have some time with them. We have two (three by time you read this) grand children there, and seeing them adds to my Tulsa trip. We have another grandchild there that I did not get to see this time.

I had a very good time this trip. It is always a blessing to see dear friends in Tulsa, and to preach there for a few days. I did get to visit with a few friends who do not attend the mission. Deborah and Jonathan seemed to enjoy the trip except for the few times that that "Papaw hollered" at them. My son, Joe, has a phobia against "hollering." I don't know where he got it, certainly not from me. In spite of this, the grandchildren and I had a good time together.

On Sunday afternoon, I was privileged to visit in Bowring, Oklahoma, and preach for the church there. This church is pastored by Dwayne Gilliland. He is a very fine Christian gentleman. He is an able preacher. He has kindly invited me to preach for him whenever I am in the vicinity. I have preached for this church most of my Tulsa trips, once holding a short week-end meeting for them. It is always a blessing to visit and have fellowship with this fine brother, and to preach for and fellowship with this fine church. They always have a meal for us after their afternoon service. Brother Gilliland visited with me a few hours on Saturday, and I enjoyed this very much. I preached for them on July 24th.

We left Tulsa at 4 A.M. on the 25th for our return trip. I left an hour earlier than usual as I wanted to visit Dorothy Archer on my return trip. We had a pleasant trip to the Archer's and another good, though brief, visit with them. We then travelled on to Dale, Indiana, about thirty

miles from Owensboro. Joe, Karen and Steve met us here to retrieve their treasure which they had committed to my care for a week. I don't know who of the total were the happiest to see one another. We visited briefly, and I was soon on my way to Ashland. Sister Jeannie Maddux came with me to visit with Katie and me and especially the church for a little over two weeks.

We arrived in Ashland at 9 P.M. Before leaving Tulsa, I had planned to be at Pacific, Mo.; Dale, Ind.; and Ashland at certain times. I was able to make that schedule within minutes, arriving home two minutes before the planned time. Katie will tell you that I am like that. It was certainly good to be back in Ashland. It was especially good to see Katie. I miss her very much when I am away. She is a part of me, and when I am away from her, I feel that part of me is missing. It was very good to be back in my pulpit in Calvary Baptist Church on Wednesday, July 27th and since then. It is good to visit. It is good to preach in other places, but it is always especially good to get back home.

May the Lord open more doors for me as He sees fit. May He give me strength to preach whenever and wherever He leads. May He use me to His glory. Especially may He use me in my ministry here in Calvary Baptist Church. Pray for me and for the work here. God bless you all.

## WHAT'S

(Continued from Page 1)

forefathers would have excluded for, quickly. Beloved, it is not enough just to talk about morality and holiness; we must do something about it.

I could relate to you many other stories. A failure to practice church discipline is one thing that is wrong with our churches. Let us clean up our churches. We have no right to protect others in the church, no matter who they are. We talk about wanting to see some lost people come forward. Brethren, I would like to see some saved people come forward, repent of the way they have lived, and get right with the church. Another problem of this nature is the practice of some of our people to take in excluded members from other churches. This practice no doubt caused many of our Baptist forefathers to turn in their grave. You had best realize that church authority binds in heaven and on earth. Not just to that one local church, but on the whole earth. Then we have this new idea that if

(Continued on Page 10 Column 2)



# The Baptist Examiner Forum I

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT  
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER--P.O. BOX 60--ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41105-0060

Did Moses marry a black woman? Explain Num. 12:1.

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Numbers 12:1, "AND Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman." Please read the rest of the chapter as well.

As to the first part of the question, I believe that the woman spoken of here was probably not black, but possibly Arabian brown or the same color as the mixed multitude that had come up out of Egypt with Israel. I do not believe that she was from Ethiopia, the Nubian kingdom as we understand them; but was, as Zipporah; from the Cushite tribes of Arabi where Midian was, or from the mixed multitude containing some of those people who were traveling with Israel. Men are divided as to whether this was a racial incident, as well as to who this woman was; that is, Zipporah, or a second wife. The last time that Zipporah is mentioned is just after the defeat of Amalek (Exodus 17) when Jethro returned her to Moses. True, there is no mention of her death any where. I personally lean toward this woman being a second wife for two reasons. The first is that it seems unlikely, if Miriam was reproaching Zipporah here, that the writer would add the clause, "...for he had married an Ethiopian woman." If he were not emphasizing her actual ancestry. Secondly, it seems to me that Miriam may have called her a Cushite because of the vile and contemptible race they generally were considered to be, but she would hardly start such a reproach after Moses having been married to her for 40 years. Moses had made this marriage when he was a fugitive in a foreign land and long before God had called him. I am aware of the arguments for and against who this woman is, but the point here is the real reason for speaking against Moses. Whoever Moses' wife was at this time, she was only an occasion, a convenient device, a sought after opportunity, used to manifest the discontent and rebellion of Miriam and Aaron against Moses. God had given Moses a portion of the power of His Spirit and also had given him the choice of 70 elders to assist him in the great burden he bore as leader. Moses was elevated to a high position, a monopoly, if you will, by God. Miriam was a recognized prophetess above all women in Israel and Aaron held

the high-priesthood. Envy and rebellion, as well as the pride of the natural heart overcame reason and modesty as man's depravity will often promote. In spite of their positions, they questioned Moses unique position in verse 2 of Numbers 12. Jehovah heard the questioning and the challenge of Miriam and Aaron toward their brother and immediately called the three aside. In verse 6-9 of that chapter, the Lord quickly settled the matter. Miriam being the instigator received the punishment of leprosy. Aaron quickly repented and asked Moses on Miriam's behalf for her healing. Envy and a striving to be equal to, or greater than someone placed of the Lord are two sins that have touched many. We find over in Numbers 16 that God even took some lives that should have learned from this lesson. Let us remember the words of the Lord Jesus in Matthew 23:12 which tell us, "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted."

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"AND Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman" (Num.12:1).

Going back to the three sons of Noah we see that one of Ham's sons was named Cush who is also called "Ethiopia".

Therefore his descendants were called Ethiopians or Cushites. The descendants of Cush settled in Northern Africa, part of which is present Ethiopia. But it also included part of what is now Egypt. This woman who Moses married, if she is his second wife as some Bible scholars believe, could have been one of the "mixed multitude" who accompanied the children of Israel. The Bible is silent as to the color of her skin, therefore I can not give a Bible answer. Although the color of this woman's skin is not given, there is a very important lesson for us to learn from this chapter. We should learn from this account that it is a very serious sin for us to speak against one of the Lord's servants. We can be sure God will deal with it in His own time. In the case of Miriam it was sudden and with out warning, "and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow:" (Num.12:10).

It is a sad mistake to speak against any of God's servants, regardless of what he may have done. If he has done some thing wrong, the Lord Himself will deal with him, and if we meddle

in the affair; like Miriam, we may find it is to our own hurt. To speak evil against one of God's people, one who is dear to His heart is a sad, sad mistake for which God will hold us accountable. "...Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm" (Psa. 105:15).

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Dear Editor and Church:

From my childhood I remember seeing T.B.E. lying around the house. My dad, Alfred Pruitt was a subscriber almost from the day that he was saved, around 1948, or 49, I can't remember exactly. He read it from one end, to the other. Through the help of many great men and their articles he became a Bible student, a teacher of the Word, and a faithful servant until the time of his death in 1984, over 35 years.

Never in all those years did I dream of having the privilege of sharing my own thoughts in this great paper. I came to love T.B.E. as soon as I was saved in 1968; though Dad had been sending it to me for years before that. I have come to know it as a friend since that time. I am thankful to have had a part in its pages since 1984; but now I wish to extend my humble thanks to you for allowing me the privilege of being one of the regular Forum writers. I count it an honor. I shall do my best to help continue the high and godly reputation that T.B.E. has carried since its beginning. Brother Wilson has worked hard to maintain that reputation, and I appreciate his firm stand on the "unpopular" issues. May God bless you all. Amen.

Sincerely In Christ,  
Elder John Pruitt

From the sources that I have access to, the word "Ethiopian" is the same as "Cushite." According to Smith's Bible Dictionary the word Cush means black. However, there is some question as to whether the wife in Numbers 12:1 is the same as Zipporah in Exodus 2:21. If that is true, then she probably was not a true African Cushite. She could have been an Asiatic or an Arabian. It really depends on which commentary you wish to follow. It seems that they are as much in the dark on this question as you and I. Coming from either area she would most likely have dark skin. My personal thought is that, whether she was an African black, or an Arabian black is not the most important issue to consider in Numbers 12:1. The emphasis seems to be more toward the sin of Miriam and Aaron. Sorry I could not help you more on this question. Perhaps my other colleagues will have more information.

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Numbers 12:1: "AND Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman."

The question asked is not a new one, but has been asked for many years and for various reasons. I have had many try and use this example as a justification of interracial marriages. Let me state at the beginning that this verse does not justify such marriages. I personally do not believe that Moses married a black woman. I personally believe that Moses was only married one time and that was to Zipporah. There is no Scriptural evidence that I can find to prove this theory wrong. Many have gone to great lengths to try and prove Moses did wrong in this occasion. However, it does not seem that God thought he had done anything wrong. What God thinks is all that really matters. God did not punish or even rebuke Moses in this event. On the contrary, God punished his accusers. The wrong here was on the part of Miriam and Aaron, not Moses. Some have said that Zipporah had died, and then Moses married this woman. Some have said that Moses had divorced Zipporah. Some say that they rebuked Moses because he was neglecting Zipporah and was too busy about God's work. I do not believe that any of these things are true. I believe the Ethiopian woman referred to in our text was indeed none other than Zipporah, Moses one and only wife. Let me explain why I believe this and elaborate on some possible reasons behind their anger at Moses.

First, let me state why I believe the woman here referred to is none other than Zipporah. There is no evidence that Moses was ever in the black Ethiopia other than when he was on campaign during Pharaoh's reign. This was before Moses had ever left Egypt and could not be woman referred to by Miriam and Aaron. It is almost impossible to imagine that Moses met a woman from Ethiopia while he was in the wilderness. I think this alone is sufficient proof that he did not marry a black woman. Add to this that there was a part of Arabia that was called Cush. In this region there dwelt many Midianites of which Zipporah was one. It was Zipporah that Moses married and is now being rebuked for in our text. Ethiopia means Cush. This is where Zipporah was from and is where Moses met and married her. The question arises then as to why were Miriam and Aaron complaining. Let me offer a few possible reasons.

First, they may have complained because she was not an Israelite. Perhaps they thought it was wrong to marry her, even though she was of the seed of Abraham. I do not believe that Moses was wrong in this marriage. I believe if he had been, God would have rebuked him for it. Rather than God rebuking Moses, he severely punished his accusers.

This implies to me that God saw nothing wrong with Moses marriage to Zipporah.

Let me now mention a couple of reasons for Miriam's and Aaron's strange and unjustified behaviour. First, I mention jealousy. I think that verse two will bear out that fact. They were having trouble accepting the fact that Moses was God's appointed leader, and though they were his helpers, the task of leadership rested upon the shoulders of Moses. After all, they were both older than Moses. It is possible that this jealousy had been brewing for some forty years. Finally, this jealousy raises its ugly head and they speak their true feelings. Oh, how jealousy destroys God's workers. Secondly, it is thought that Miriam and Aaron were angry at not being consulted in the choice of the seventy elders. They thought that Moses had been influenced by Zipporah and were not happy that they had no say in the selection. These are possible reasons for their behaviour. There is no excuse for their actions. This is manifested by God's punishment. Did Moses marry a black woman? No, I do not think that he did. May God bless you all.

## TRUST

(Continued from Page 3)

promised, He will do. I am pleading for this full and total trust in God. Oh what strength, confidence, peace, contentment, and joy comes from this full trust in the Lord.

We trust Him alone, Him completely for salvation. Jesus died on the cross. He rose from the dead. He is our Lord and Saviour. We trust Him. We do not trust in the church and the ordinances. We do not trust in ourselves and our works. We do not trust in others. We trust in Jesus Christ and rejoice in the assurance of complete and eternal salvation in Him. We trust Him to keep us saved, and He will do this, praise His name. We are not those who trust in Him to get saved, and in ourselves to stay saved. What a miserable conglomeration is this. We trust Him at all times. We trust Him for all things. We trust Him in all places. He will never fail us. He will be true to our trust in Him. He will do all that we trust Him for. We trusted Him yesterday. We trust Him today. We will trust Him tomorrow.

Listen to this. The more you trust Him, the more you trust Him. Read that over a few times. That is not always true of all men. It is eternally true of our God. You trust Him. He lives up to that trust. You trust Him more. The more you trust Him, the more you trust Him.

Have you trusted in the Lord for salvation? Are you trusting in Him day by day for all things? If so, everything will be all right, for He will never let you down. It is better to trust in the Lord than it is to put confidence in man. God bless you all.

## ASPECTS

(Continued from Page 1)

with only theology or with only methodology. Do most of us fall into this error?

Most modern day evangelism is Arminian in nature. It is an appeal to the will, wisdom, and reasoning ability of man. Modern day evangelism is propagated by

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# The Baptist Examiner Forum II

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT  
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER—P.O. BOX 60—ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41105-0060

How does God "speak" to His people today? Also answer as to His "speaking" when the Bible does not give an answer.

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"GOD, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds." (Heb 1:1-2). There should be no question as to whether or not we are living in the last days. The Scriptures resound over and over with the signs that point to these days as the end time. "THIS know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come" (II Tim 3:1). "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming?" (II Peter 3:3-4). "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time." (1 John 2:18).

Since we are living in those last days, the method that God has chosen to speak to His people is by His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Do not expect to hear an external, audible voice when God speaks. One of the several (divers) manners in which he spoke in times past was in an external audible manner, but that is not for today. He has spoken from bushes, from animals, from clouds and in other divers ways, but not in these last days. Any man that claims to have been spoken to by God is, in my opinion, not hearing God, but an impersonator. One that is an impersonator personifies the one he is imitating. "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." (II Cor 11:14). The devil will always attempt to duplicate that which God does, even duplicating a trinity of deception which the lost will follow. The method is clearly and simply the Word of God. We call it the Bible.

The Bible is the complete Word of God from beginning to end, complete without error. Now, it says that He speaks to us by His Son. That in no way refers to an audible, external sound. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God." (John 1:1) Jesus the Son, is God. He was in the beginning with God; so He is the Word. That Word was made flesh and dwelt among the peoples of the earth. The word is

used interchangeably with truth. Jesus, in His prayer in the seventeenth chapter of John, links the Word and the truth. "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." (John 17:17). And then He joins the Word and truth together with himself. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6).

The second part of the question refers to His speaking when the Bible does not give an answer. Well, if the Bible does not speak on a certain subject, and it is the complete Word of God; it must contain the answer. This is how I believe the question can be answered. It is through the Holy Spirit. Some things in the Bible are not written to us, but for our instruction. We are told of an inward hearing in the Old Testament. "An though the Lord give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, Yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers: And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left" (Is.30:20-21). The Holy Spirit is our teacher. "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26). Then, the communion that we have with the Spirit will direct us when we wander from the way to the right or to the left. "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our Spirit," (Rom 8:16). The witness is, first of all, that we are children of God, and then, secondly, He directs us because we are children of God.

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The same way that He spoke to people in the Old and New Testament. He spoke through the Spirit. John 4:24 says, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

Sometimes God spoke to man in a dream. Sometimes He appeared to man in the form of an angel or a man, a burning bush, a pillow of cloud, and a pillow of fire. We find in the New Testament when our Lord was baptized that God spoke out of heaven. Matthew 3:17 "And lo a voice from heaven, saying,

This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." In Matthew 17:5 we have almost the same quotation when Jesus and the disciples were on the mount of transfiguration, and God spoke to them out of a cloud.

God does not speak to us today orally as some claim. He speaks to us today through His Word. He, sometimes speaks to us by leading us through His Spirit to do certain things or not to do certain things. Some in our day claim that God came down and spoke to them as plain as you and I would speak to them. Beloved, I for one do not believe this. Even if one is a special person in our time, God does not change His way of communicating with mankind just to please him. God does not change.

God speaks to me today, but not orally. He speaks to me through His Word and by His Spirit. I hope this will be of some help to the inquirer.

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"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: " (II Timothy 3:16). "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (II Peter 1:21).

God speaks to His people by His holy inspired Word. The Inspired Word is called the Word of God. It is called the written Word. The Word of God is inspired by the Holy Spirit of God. It is God-breathed. God moved upon men to write His Word. When men wrote the Bible they did not write what they wanted to write, that is they did not put down their ideas; but they wrote down what God would have them to write. So the inspired Word of God is God's; it is not man's word.

So the way God speaks to His people is by His Word. When the Bible is read, God is speaking to His people. His people should be very attentive when the Word of God is being read. It is very irreverent for anyone to be moving around, or getting a drink of water, or anything else unless absolutely necessary, while God's Word is being read. This is God speaking to His people, and there should be no interference or distraction. God's people need to pay heed to what God has to say.

When ever God's man in God's house expounds God's Word, this is the way God has in giving the meaning of the Scriptures to the

people. God calls men to preach His Word. God's preacher is God's mouth for the giving forth of the Word of God. The Word of truth is upheld by the church, God's church, and the minister is the mouth for the church, that is God's people, His assembly. This is the way God speaks to His people today.

God does not speak through prophets as He did in the old time when there was no written Word. The prophets then were the spokesmen for God. God spoke to the prophets sometimes in a voice that they could hear. He gave them; signs whereby they would know that God had spoken to them signs as when God gave Gideon signs to let him know that he would win the victory over the enemy. God even told Gideon how to go up against the enemy.

We do not need signs and wonders today, nor miracles such as some claim; in healing the sick, causing the lame to walk again, the blind to see, or the deaf to hear, or the dumb to speak. We have the complete Word of God. If the Word of God, when expounded and attended by the Holy Spirit of God, doesn't turn a sinner, then nothing will. For one to turn to so-called healing of the body, is to turn to rudiments of the world instead of the Word of God.

When God speaks and an answer is not given, the answer is implied. We should know the answer. God in times past spoke to the Fathers by the prophets in many different manners. He has in these last days spoken unto us by His Son. (Hebrews 1:1-2). Should we not hear Him? If men do not give the more earnest heed to His Word, how shall they escape? How shall we escape? (Hebrews 2:1-3). The answer is not given, but we know it; there is no escape.

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God speaks through the Holy Spirit as He has always spoken. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God." also "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (II Peter 1:21).

God speaks to us through His Word, the Bible. At times the Spirit of God illuminates the hearer and applies God's Word in a special way. Faith in Christ begins with faith in the gospel of Christ, which brings the new birth. Faith in the promises of God's Word brings hope and steadfastness. Faith in the teachings of God brings stability and assurance. God uses His Word under the direct illumination of the Holy Spirit to speak to us directly through study. He speaks indirectly through preachers and teachers that study His Word and present it truthfully.

Every situation, every problem, every question, that may be encountered in life may not be dealt with explicitly in the Bible, but every question, every situation, is answered in principle. We must be willing to study and seek the leadership of the Spirit to answer our questions.

God speaks through the Holy Spirit honoring His Word, and there is an answer for every question either directly or indirectly through study and leadership of the Holy Spirit. I do not believe He has or ever will reveal more than He has already revealed for this age in the Holy Scripture. So called special revelations, or a new light shed on various subjects, are not from God.

## ASPECTS

(Continued from Page 4)

day evangelism is propagated by the false idea that man reacts to his circumstances and can choose good or evil. Charles Finney, a 19th century evangelist, pastor, and educator spread the foundation of modern evangelism in the United States. Finney practiced the Arminian theology. Billy Graham and many imitators have widened the base and perfected the appeal. Believing that man has the ability to respond to the gospel and that regeneration is the result of human will, man has devised a deceptive method of "soul winning" or "easy believism." Disregarding the fact that Biblical evangelism deals with man as being totally depraved, his whole nature is saturated sinfulness, his will is in bondage to sin and held captive by his nature, his manner of life is an expression of his heart. Man in Ephesians 2:1 is "dead in trespasses and sins;" Man's condition renders him incapable to reason, decide, or change. "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; (Isa. 64:6). "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil" (Jeremiah 13:23). Man's will is continual stubborn refusal. "Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein" (Jeremiah 6:16). Man in his unregenerate state can't understand or appreciate spiritual things. "Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;" (Eph. 4:18). So apart from grace a sinner will say, "...How can these things be?" (John 3:9). They will only gain understanding when they receive a supernatural touch. The veil of darkness and blindness must be penetrated by the Word and the Spirit. Man is so disabled that it is not a matter of persuading him or pleading with him to make a decision, but he must be enabled to come. His heart and his mind must be freed from the shackles which bind him. "No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me, draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44).

Biblical evangelism deals with men knowing that they are lost, void of any spiritual perception, stubborn, and alienated from God,

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## ASPECTS

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unable and unwilling to come to Him. Yet knowing that God has an elect people and that these will be granted faith, drawn to Him, and made willing in the day of His power. Biblical Evangelism assures us that "...he shall save his people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21), and with the Biblical method of His church obeying Matthew 28:19, 20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Biblical evangelism believes Romans 10:17, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Biblical evangelism asks the question, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?"... (Rom. 10:14). So, using the Biblical method, they filled Jerusalem with their doctrine according to the book of Acts.

Modern day evangelism has an accursed gospel which is not a gospel. Everything that is preached is the gospel today? People are left with the impression that the gospel can be church membership, baptism, feeding the hungry, loving your neighbor, loving God, bearing your cross, receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit and His gifts, experiencing some miracle. Paul faced the same in Galatia where Judaizers were seeking to mix the pure gospel with alien elements. Galatians 1:6-8, "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." The gospel then is of divine origin, and it can not and must not be changed, added to, or diminished. It is the ever lasting gospel. It is not just another suggested remedy for sin, nor is it to be set along side the options or opinions of men. Galatians 1:11, "...the gospel which was preached of me is not after man." Paul tells us in Galatians 1:12, "...I was taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." The gospel is from heaven. It is therefore fixed, final, certain; and if you tamper with the gospel you have the strongest curse on you. If you believe the true gospel then you must preach the gospel without mixture or rival. The accursed gospel today is growing, and we must be careful not to borrow from its ways.

It is very popular today to enter into a religious dialogue. That is a representative from various religious groups who get together and exchange ideas, seeking a

common ground for work and fellowship. This is ecumenicalism. The ecumenical evangelism is a serious problem which seeks to combine the efforts of Bible believers, cults, Unitarians, blatant liberals, and non-Bible believers. Jehoshaphat, a godly king in Judah, made an unholy alliance with Ahab, the ungodly king of Israel and the prophet Jehu asked in II Chronicles 19:2, "...Shouldst thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord?"

Modern evangelists hold the view that in order to win sinners we must adapt ourselves to their life style, their dress, and their music. Just be sure that you play down the differences: sexual freedom, living together before marriage, smoking pot; and accommodate all of these by providing Christian rock and Christian night clubs. The Holy Spirit will not own this as evangelism, for it is recorded, "Abstain from all appearances of evil" (I Thes. 5:22).

Modern evangelism holds a high standard for success. It is graded always by the outward and visible. It is the man, the church, and the organization that is on display. Success is numbers, crowds, the fastest growing, the most magnetic personality, the greatest gifts. Satan uses all of this to plague me with the feeling of inferiority. Success is not how many names I can add to my list of professions. Success is not how many doors I knocked on last week, how many people were in church yesterday, nor how many came forward in the invitation. Be careful, don't call success spiritual power and be sure that you don't call smallness spiritual power. There is nothing wrong with spiritual success, for God promised it to Joshua and to his church. God honors faithfulness, and we will be successful and reap a harvest if we are busy daily giving the gospel. I am not talking about delivering a five, ten, twenty minute canned presentation of the gospel; or traveling through your "Roman Road" and expecting a profession of faith. I am talking about a Spirit filled man or woman, using godly wisdom, sharing Christ and the truth of God. Paul gives us the example in Acts 17:22, 23. "Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you." Paul makes his evangelistic appeal in a theological frame work. Note that God is a person in verse twenty-three, Him declare I unto you. Paul goes on in that seventeenth chapter of Acts and declares that God is Creator in verse twenty-four, and that He is sovereign. Paul doesn't present a God who is struggling with the per chance happenings in His universe; a God who is upset with sin and sinners and trying to overcome both, and is pleading with man to give Him a chance. No, it is recorded "He is Lord" in verse twenty-four. This sovereign, powerful, personal, authoritative God has commanded and commissioned us to preach-teach the gospel to every man. This is practical Biblical evangelism.

"Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed" (Acts 17:34). Bringing the revelation of God and the obedience of man together accomplishes practical Biblical evangelism. It is not to count heads or people who walk an aisle or pray a prayer; but they attend to the work, the Lord opens the heart, they are baptized, a change in their life is evident, they want fellowship, and are ready to be helpers in the work. "And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us" (Acts 16:14, 15).

Here are some things we should ask ourselves about any method. Does it honor God and His Word? Does it call attention to the message and not the messenger? When you leave a church service are you impressed with the holiness of God, the awfulness of sin, the mercy of God in Christ or are you impressed with the ability of the workers, the beautiful building and the organization? Do the methods appeal to the flesh? "For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile: But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloak of covetousness; God is witness" (I Thes. 2:3-5).

## WHO

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singing and playing specials, I have had many opportunities to watch people who are under the influence of music. I hate to admit it, but I have been the song leader and lead all the verses of "Just As I Am" twice, and then maybe about nine verses of "Where He Leads Me I Will Follow", and ending with six verses of "Almost Persuaded." Then as we left the auditorium, someone said something like if they had sang just one more verse of the invitation I think Joe might have got saved. Now folks, the Lord doesn't need that. If He hasn't got the power to save a soul without the hypnotic use of music, then there are many souls who have trusted Christ in vain. I have found that many people have received Christ even before a verse was sung. Others have received Christ in a church such as ours where seldom a song is sang or an invitation given at the end of the service. Frankly, I do not know how to give an invitation, I think maybe I will leave this part of my ministry to the Holy Spirit. I must not be alone in this matter; as I study church history, I find that invitations are rather new. It makes me wonder how the church ever got along without them for about 1900 years. I have heard preachers tell other preachers how to give an

invitation. One even covered it during one of my courses in college. He told us it was exciting to plan this moment and prepare for it. He stated that everything that was done in the week was for this moment. For example, if you have about 50,000 people in the stadium, then you need about 5,000 starters (people who came forward when the invitation starts for effect) ready. I attended one of these meetings and thought for a moment that everyone in the Cow Palace was going forward. What a powerful, effective way to get results. Now in our churches the instructor continued, after preaching the sermon immediately get the people to stand, then get as many as you can to commit themselves by the raising of hands, then quickly get the song started. As the organ plays softly and the choir sings sweetly, the starters start coming, the preachers beg and plead, then people are saved. I say sheepdip! It stinks worse than hogwash. I wish that I was wrong, but how can I be when ever since this method began the church has become full of the world and the world has become so religious that one can not tell the difference. If only preachers would forget their ungodly methods and believe John 1:13, "Which were born, (those that received him) not of blood, (Not who your parents are or the place you were born) nor of the will of the flesh, (not by anything that we can do) nor the will of man, (we are not persuaded by human endeavors) but of God."

Music is persuasive. Now, I am going to prove this statement with a lot of various arguments in these articles. I am going to use them as they come to mind not in any particular order. Have you ever noticed that the companies that, for example, sell the most soft drinks have the best tunes when they play their commercials over the T.V. or radio. You may forget the name of the beer they are selling, but you can't forget the little jingle that you keep humming or whistling. If you are a Christian, you will find that you probably hate the product, but you can't get the tune out of your mind. If music were not that important, companies would not go through all the added expense to produce the commercial with it. Why not just make plain old talking commercials? The answer is obvious, the music sells the product.

Now this next statement is very important, underline it and remember it. Music goes straight to the subconscious whether we want it to or not. Webster defines the subconscious as being in or of the mind without one being openly aware of it. In other words, when we hear music we do not choose the effect it has upon us, but we automatically receive it. The reason that I believe this to be so important is that you will remember the music that you hear and believe its content. Thus, you can be persuaded to believe and possibly do things after listening to certain music that you would not have done if you had not heard this music. The Rolling Stones intentionally played certain music and created a full fledged riot in 28 minutes at a Rock Concert near Phoenix, Az. This may seem impossible to some, but this only because some do not understand the power in music. Another example is that dentists

have proven that if they can have about 90% of their patients listen to a hard rock music sound through head phones, they can then drill on their teeth without using any drugs to deaden the pain. Through the use of music and drugs people can perform great feats such as walking on hot coals and other things done by jungle tribes. These tribes use music, and most importantly the drum beat, to prepare the tribe to fight or have a wedding. The music of the jungle has come to America and it is greatly affecting those who hear it. In our opening scripture, we find no place for music that does not glorify the Lord.

## STUDIES

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many times have you heard today that there is nothing wrong with homosexuality, it is just another way of life; just another life style? But remember God sent fire from heaven to destroy those cities for that sin.

They, "speak evil of dignities". As the children of Israel in the wilderness murmured against Moses and Aaron, these filthy dreamers "speak evil" (blaspheme) of dignities (glories). They blaspheme God and His Son. In word or deed they speak evil of the Lord Jesus Christ. They deny that He is the eternal Son of God. They deny His virgin birth. They deny that He performed miracles. They deny that His death was for sinners. They deny His resurrection and they deny that one day He will return. In this they "speak evil" and blaspheme Jesus Christ.

To review the description given of these false teachers as given by Jude, we see they crept, slipped into, the Lord's churches, they are ungodly, they turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, and they blaspheme God and His Son. They are dreamers living in a world all their own. They despise the authority of God and enter the churches in order to corrupt and destroy. The apostle Peter said this would take place in the last days, (II Peter 3:3). The last days refer to those before the Lord returns for His own. Surely, we must be seeing those days!

"Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee" (V.9). We are not told when or why this dispute took place. All we know about the death of Moses is told in Deuteronomy 34:5-8 where we are told. "So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD. And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab,--- but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day".

The point that Jude is making is that although the apostates whom he is describing speak blasphemies against the Lord, Michael would not rebuke the devil, but left that to God. "The Lord rebuke thee". Jude is describing false teachers, but Peter warns that "many shall follow their pernicious ways" (II Peter 2:2). I fear that many Christians have followed their practice in speaking evil of fellow Christians. How much

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## PLAIN PROPHECIES FOR PLAIN PEOPLE BAPTISTS AND THE SECOND COMING PART II

by John Gilpin Sr.  
(Now in glory)

In the light of those historical facts concerning the church that Jesus built, what will happen church-wise when the Lord Jesus Christ comes back to this world again?

When I say church-wise, I am not talking about all the saved in the world. I am talking about Baptist churches, the only kind that the Lord Jesus Christ established when He was here in the days of His flesh. I say, beloved, what is going to happen church-wise when the Lord Jesus Christ comes back a second time?

First of all, all the false churches, and all the pretending churches, and all the churches that have started by men, and all the churches that have been instituted by the devil, are going to be destroyed forthwith and immediately when Jesus Christ comes again. Listen: "But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up" (Mt. 15:13). Notice, if it hasn't been planted by God, it is going to be rooted up.

Well, I come down through the ages since the day that Jesus built His church and I read of Martin Luther, John Calvin, Alexander Campbell and the various leaders that have brought into existence the churches which are here today. I read of those individuals and I come back to this Scripture and I find that when Jesus Christ comes again, all of these false churches that have been planted by man, and have not been planted by the Lord Jesus Christ, are going to be rooted up. When I read this, I come to this conclusion, that when Jesus Christ comes again, all of these false churches are going to be rooted up and destroyed at the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

That isn't the only verse that presents this same truth. Listen: "And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters; With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness; and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication; And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" (Rev. 17:1-5).

Now without reading the balance of this chapter and without taking time to give to you a detailed verse by verse, word by word, exposition and exegesis, let me say that I consider this old

whore that is described in Revelation 17 is a picture of Roman Catholicism. I believe that the Roman Catholic church is thus pictured as the old whore that we see here in Revelation 17. I haven't time to enter into a detailed discussion of it, as I have many times in the past, but I will say in passing, I am positive and certain in my own mind that we have in Revelation 17 a definite, detailed picture of Catholicism under the descriptive word "whore." This Scripture also says



John Gilpin Sr.

that this whore is the mother of harlots and abominations of this world. This passage is thus referring to the Roman Catholic church and all the Protestant churches that have come out of Rome. It refers to them as the harlot daughters of this old whore.

Beloved, what does the Word of God say is going to happen to them? Listen: "And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire" (Rev. 17:16). In other words, there is complete, utter, positive destruction to come upon the old whore and her harlot daughters.

Now, beloved, if I understand Scripture, and I think I understand this chapter in Revelation, then this would tell us that what seems so far-fetched is ultimately coming to pass. If I were to announce that some of these days all the Roman Catholic churches in the country and all the Protestant churches that have come out of Rome are going to be destroyed, folk would think that I was absolutely crazy. The fact of the matter is, I imagine that I would bring down upon my head the wrath and the anathema of thousands of people if I were to make such a statement publicly. I do make such a statement now and, beloved, I believe it to be true, for it is the Word of God, and God says that there is a day coming when they are going to be completely and utterly destroyed, being burnt with fire and being made desolate and naked.

Not only is it true that these false churches are going to be destroyed when Jesus comes back to this world, but the saints of God are all going to rejoice at their destruction. If you will turn to the book of Revelation, you will find that four times the saints of God are said to rejoice over the destruction of these various false churches. Listen: "And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God..." And again they said, Alleluia, And her smoke rose up for ever and ever... And the four and twenty elders and the four

beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia... And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth" (Rev. 19:1, 3, 4, 6).

Here are four verses which tell us that when these false churches are destroyed all the saints of God are going to shout "Alleluia" over the destruction of the whore and her harlot daughters. I say then, when Jesus Christ comes back to this world, the false churches are going to be destroyed and the saints of God are going to shout over their destruction.

I am satisfied that there are in these Protestant churches some individuals who are saved, and children of God. His command to these who are saved, yet members of Catholic and Protestant organizations, is "...Come out of her, my people..." (Rev. 18:4). I am satisfied that there are many people who are members of various Protestant organizations who are saved folk. Beloved, somehow God is going to get them out of the false churches and they, along with all the balance who have stood for the truth, will shout then over the destruction of these false churches, when the Lord Jesus Christ comes a second time.

The marriage of the Lamb is going to take place when the true churches, which are Baptist Churches that have been Scriptural through the ages, are going to be married to the Lord Jesus Christ. "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white; for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints" (Rev. 19:7, 8).

I wish you would notice that word "righteousness," for it says that "...she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white; for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints." With that thought in mind, come back to the Gospel of Matthew when John the Baptist was baptizing. The Word of God says that Jesus came to him to be baptized and John objected at first. Then we read: "And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him" (Mt. 3:15).

Mark it down, beloved, when the marriage of the Lamb takes place, the individuals that are married to the Lamb will be those who have Baptist baptism. I say then, between Matthew 3:15, wherein the baptism of Jesus Christ is referred to as an act of righteousness, and Revelation 19:8, there is a very definite connection. The only individuals who will have on the proper dress, and will be properly attired at the marriage of the Lamb, will be the individuals who have received Baptist baptism at the hands of Baptist churches.

Beloved, when I say that, lots of folk who don't understand, sneer

and think that that is hard doctrine. I say to you, the only individuals that will be any part of the bride when Jesus Christ comes back will be those individuals who have fulfilled Matthew 3:15 in the light of Revelation 19:8. The people who have laughed and sneered and made fun of the Baptists down through the years for certain things that mark us off as peculiar and distinct and different, those individuals will then wish that they had had Baptist baptism. They will wish that they had had the kind that Jesus said was a fulfillment of righteousness, the kind that John speaks of in Revelation 19:8, the kind that the individual will have to have to be a part of the bride when the marriage of the Lamb takes place.

III  
What should be our attitude until then? Our attitude until that day should be that we never give up, but keep at the task everlastingly and unceasingly until the Lord Jesus comes again.

I recognize the fact that I represent a mighty small minority of Baptists. The things that I preach would be accepted by a very, very small minority of Christendom. However, if the things that I contend for to be true, then I should keep preaching them everlastingly until the Lord Jesus Christ comes back again.

You remember that the Bible talks about ten virgins. Five were wise and five were foolish. Beloved, don't be a foolish virgin. Don't go to sleep in view of the second coming of Jesus Christ, but keep busy.

Do you remember the parable of the pounds? One man took his pound and gained ten thereby, and another five, and another took his pound and wrapped it up and hid it in the ground. Beloved, don't be like that man who hid his pound, but be busy until Jesus comes again.

You remember that Jesus talks about a man who had some talents. He gave to one man five, and to another man two, and to another man one, and then He went away and said, "Occupy until I come." When He came back, He found that the man who had five talents had traded and had gained five more talents. The man who had two talents had done likewise, but the one that had one talent had wrapped it up in a napkin and covered it over with earth in order that it might be well preserved when Jesus came again.

Beloved, I think that the Lord Jesus Christ is saying to you and to me, "Occupy until I come." He is coming some of these days. I think that the parable of the talents is a parable of His churches. I think that every Baptist church ought to be mighty careful that it utilizes every available opportunity to stand for the truth of God's Word. I don't want to be the kind of man that when Jesus Christ comes back, He will say, "You believe these truths. Then why did you wrap them up and put them in a napkin and put them away where people would not know anything about them?" Beloved, I want to be the kind of a man that when the Son of God comes, He will find me having used the talents, and having utilized them in such a way that would be pleasing unto Him.

Somebody says, "Brother Gilpin, you must realize the fact

that nearly all the world believes other than what you believe. Mighty few people believe that only Baptists will make up the bride of Christ. Mighty few people will go along with you on the matter of Baptist baptism and closed communion. Mighty few people will agree with you on the doctrines that you should contend for."

Well, that is all right, beloved, but do you know what I am looking forward to? The second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. The time that I am looking forward to is when Jesus Christ comes back to this world a second time and then vindicates me for my stand.

A fellow came by and saw some Negro boys playing a game of ball. He said, "Boys, what is the score?" One boy spoke up and said, "Thirty-seven to nothing in their favor." "Well, they are really beating-you, aren't they?" "Yeah, but our side ain't come up to bat yet."

Beloved, that is the way with us. It looks like so far as we are concerned that the Roman Catholics and the Protestants are running off with the world. It looks like the heretics are having a field day, and we are doing mighty, mighty little. Listen, beloved, our side "ain't come to bat yet." Our business is just to keep busy and do the best we can until the Lord Jesus Christ comes again. When Jesus comes, all the false churches are going to be destroyed, the saints are going to rejoice over their destruction, and Jesus' church is going to be married to the Lord Jesus Christ. When I think about it, I want to keep busy until Jesus comes.

I grant you that there are temptations that come to us all the time to slack off. There are temptations that come whereby we think that we might just as well give up. Then I think about the time when Jesus was here in this world when He fed the multitude. The Word of God says that He sent His disciples away and they started to cross the Sea of Galilee in that little boat. He went up into the mountain and prayed. Get the picture, beloved, Jesus up in the mountain praying and the disciples down there on the Sea of Galilee crossing it, in their little boat. Presently, a storm came on. They didn't stop. They just pulled at the oars. They couldn't put an end to the wind. They couldn't say to the wind, "Cease blowing." They couldn't calm the waves. They couldn't say to the stormy waves "Be calm," but they could pull at the oars. They kept at the task until presently they looked up and saw Jesus. He had been up in the mountain praying.

Where is Jesus now? He is on high. He is there to make intercession for us. What are we doing now? We are here in this world just like those disciples. We are here in this world and it is our business to stand for the truth and while we can't stop the storm, we can pull at the oars. Some of these days, just as it was in the case of the disciples, when Jesus comes again, His church is going to be safely gathered unto Himself.

God help you and me to keep busy until He comes. Maybe you  
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## PLAIN

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can't do much, but you can keep busy pulling at the oars until Jesus comes.

### CONCLUSION

Do I speak to somebody who is lost? If you are lost, then God help you to trust Jesus Christ as your Saviour and be saved. God help you to realize that being a member of a church, or being baptized won't save you. May God help you to realize that all the baptism in this world and all the church membership couldn't ever save one single soul. May God help you to realize that the only hope that you can have now, is Jesus Christ who died on the Cross.

Unsaved man, unsaved woman, listen: "...prepare to meet thy God, O Israel" (Amos 4:12). "...behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2).

Do I speak to someone who is a member of one of these false churches? If you are a member of one of these false churches, some of these days your church is going to be destroyed. I have read to you from God's Word how the old whore and her harlot daughters shall be made naked and desolate and shall be burned with fire. My message to you is: "...Come out of her, my people..." (Rev. 18:4). Beloved, that was God's message when He spoke about false churches.

Do I speak to somebody who is un-churched? Maybe you are saved, but you haven't been baptized. Maybe you are saved, but you have never become a member of the church that Jesus built. Now is the time that you ought to do it. Jesus said that you ought to let your light shine. Listen: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify you Father which is in heaven" (Mt. 5:16).

Are you trying to hide your light by not being a member of a church - the church that Jesus built? Jesus said for you to put your light on a candlestick. And what is the candlestick? The Word of God says that the candlestick is the church. Listen: "The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches; and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches" (Rev. 1:20).

If you are saved, the proper place for your light is in the church that Jesus built. May God save you, and add you to the church. If you are lost, may God save your soul today.

May God bless you!

## STUDIES

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harm they do to the cause of Christ! What a sad thing it is to see one Christian attacking another Christian. This is in direct disobedience to the Word of God. The Word of God tells us. "To speak evil of no man" (Titus 3:2). I am afraid that some do not know that this is in the Bible. Even Michael

the archangel of the Lord could say, "The LORD rebuke thee". Should we as lowly humans say more?

"But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves" (V.10).

Jude is saying that while Michael the archangel of God had no authority of his own to condemn the devil, therefore, must leave that to God; yet, "these speak evil of those things which they know not:..." These men, these false teachers blaspheme against things they know nothing about. The old saying, "men speak freely of things they know nothing about for they are not hampered by the facts", is true of these men. They are like the beast of Revelation 13:6 who, "...opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven". The only area which they understand is that of the natural world. They know only what they can handle and what they can see. Like the "brute beasts" what they know is only by instinct. They may be very intelligent, very well educated by this world's standards, yet the Holy Spirit says they are like the brute beasts, having no comprehension, no understanding of the things of God. The reason for this is because they are spiritually blind and deaf. In I Corinthians 2:11,14 we are told, "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned".

The fact is that they speak evil of the things of God, having no higher knowledge than of natural things and, "...in those things they corrupt themselves". In verse 8 the word "defile" is used which means "to dye" or to "stain"; but in verse 10 the word "corrupt" is used, which means "spoiled" or "ruined". What is shown here is that the stain of sin ends in total destruction. The picture of the false teacher given in verse 10 is that of one who speaks evil, rails at the truth of God's Word, is limited in knowledge to things of this world, and finally is destroyed in his own corruption. The path which he follows is steadily downward to total ruin.

"Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core" (V.11).

"Woe unto them!" shows the condemnation due these false teachers. Jude again takes us back to the Old Testament to give us three more examples of the types of sins these men practice and the punishment that awaits them. Cain, Balaam, and Core (Korah) are prime examples of men who rebelled against God's authority, each in his own way. Jude said these "certain men" had rebelled in the same way as the three men of old had rebelled and would likewise receive like punishment.

Looking at each of the records of these three men, we first ask the question, What was the way of Cain? In what way did these follow him?

In Genesis we find Cain and Abel bringing offerings unto the Lord. Abel's offering was accepted by the Lord, but Cain's was rejected. Why? Cain being a "tiller of the ground" brought the fruits of his own labor. Now, by clothing Adam and Eve with the skins of slain animals God had made it clear that forgiveness for sin is only through the shedding of blood. This way is the way of faith, which Hebrews 11:4 tells us was why Abel's offering was accepted by God and Cain's rejected. "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain." Cain had rebelled against God's way of redemption. Cain's way is the way of religion without faith. It is by works apart from faith. It is man's attempt to establish his own righteousness thereby rejecting God's way which is by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. Just as Cain rejected the type of the Lord Jesus Christ by failing to bring a slain sacrifice. These men have "gone the way of Cain" in refusing to come to God through faith in His Son.

The second example given is they have "run greedily after the error of Balaam." What was Balaam's error? Balaam was a prophet who attempted to become rich through his gift of prophecy. According to the account as given in Numbers 22 - 25, the children of Israel had reached the border of the promised Land and were now ready to enter it. Balak, the king of Moab, fearing the Israelites, sent men to Balaam offering him a reward to curse Israel. Balaam sought the Lord about the matter and the Lord told him, "...Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they are blessed" (Num. 22:12). The second time Balak sent word to Balaam offering him great honor as well as wealth, Balaam again sought the Lord Who gave him permission to go with the men. But he found that God would not allow him to curse Israel. "...the LORD thy God would not hearken unto Balaam; but the LORD thy God turned the curse into a blessing unto thee." (Deu. 23:5).

Although Balaam was not permitted by God to curse Israel he did come up with an evil plan to tempt Israel to sin so that God would punish them. He told Balak to have the women of Midian and Moab to seduce the sons of Israel. This is called "...the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication" (Rev. 2:14). The last we hear of Balaam is that he was slain along with the enemies of Israel (Josh. 13:22). The error of Balaam was that he tried to use the gift of prophecy to obtain this world's goods. This is the error of these false teachers. They are out for what they can get in the way of wealth and pleasures of the world. It was turning the grace of God into lasciviousness.

The third character Jude brings before us is that of Core (Korah). His story is found in Numbers 16. His sin was rebellion against authority. Korah and those who followed him resented the leadership of Moses and even dared God

to do anything about this rebellion. In "gainsaying" speaking against Moses, he was speaking against the Lord God Who had given Moses his authority. As a result of this rebellion Korah and all those with him perished, "And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They-- went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation" (Num. 16:32,33).

Cain rebelled against God's authority as to salvation, for he refused to bring a blood sacrifice as God required. Balaam rebelled against God's authority in the matter of separation from the world, in order that he might have fame and riches. He led Israel to mix with other nations. Korah rebelled against God's authority in service. He denied Moses as God's appointed leader for the people.

Cain's way was a false religion. Balaam's doctrine was a false ministry, while Korah's error was a false worship. Jude said that false teachers had gone the way of Cain, ran greedily after the error of Balaam, and note the last, "perished in the gainsaying of Core". Why was it said they had "perished"? It is as sure to come as if they had already perished. In verse 4 it was said of them that they "were before of old ordained to this condemnation". There can be only one place for these false teachers, and that is in the pit of eternal damnation in the lake of fire (Rev. 20:15), along with Cain, Balaam, Korah, and all the ungodly, as well as the devil, the beast, and the false prophet (Rev. 20:10).

## ALIEN

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which is less Arminian today than in by gone times? Yet, even this begs the question. Do mission boards have a right to exist? Do they have a right to exist? This single theme shall occupy us throughout.

I recently made my home in the state of Florida which geologically is swamp country. In swamp country there are multitudes of "alien growths"... spores which germinate in slime and rotting vegetation, and which take on a predator life of their own. You need not be a geologist to know this. Swamp land is a breeding ground for alien growths. So too is the world of religious mania.

Once upon a time I viewed a film made in the 1950's entitled "The Invasion Of The Body Snatchers". Not all science fiction is entirely fiction. Spores from another sphere invaded the earth, found entry to human bodies, and suborned their functions. Fiction? Not entirely.

Every mission board invented by man is quite accurately a "body snatcher". Every mission board is in live competition with Christ's churches, and where and when they can they invade and by deceit, take over the life functions of church bodies. Do not tell me it does not happen for I can show you scores of cases where it has.

Darwin was not wrong on every point. All of nature is in competition. Plant life, animal life, insect life, and all life forces and functions compete. Trees in

the forest compete with each other for air, water, and soil. The weak become stunted and die. Tares compete with the good crop sown, as the devil competes with God. Every godly entity constructed by God has competition fostered by the devil.

Mission boards are built by Lucifer who used good men gone wrong to do his bidding. Mission boards are alien growth, planted by the devil, to do ill to Christ's churches and their ministries. I cannot speak soft words on this subject. Too many have been deceived, too much treasure has been wasted and misspent, too many churches have been harmed or destroyed, and too much error has sprung up in the train of mission boards for me to speak soothingly of them. I detest every mission board among the Baptists as I detest the Catholic church, for they both have the same author.

I care nothing of the creed of mission boards. I care nothing of their alleged "good" works. No mission board has ever in the world's history done a "good" work for good works are empowered by God, and in this age of time God has chosen to use His church to execute His commission work upon earth. The works of mission boards do not interest me. I am concerned with their existence. If God were the builder of mission boards I would not quarrel with their blunders, for even God's churches blunder. The gross mismanagement and malfeasance of mission boards do not interest me. I deny the validity of their very existence. Mission boards are alien spores which originated and grew to fruition in the swampy minds of devil-led men. They are alien growths planted to take nutriment and goodness from Christ's churches. They are "body snatchers" because the suborning of Christ's churches is their ultimate aim -- though their adherents shall deny this. The end result of any church's involvement with any mission board is that the church is first influenced and in latter times ruled by the board.

Baptist churches support mission boards innocently sometimes; yet, not often. Baptist pastors who speak of "church authority" out of one side of their mouth and who support a mission board in the midnight hours are like politicians who attempt to face two ways at the same time. I have personally witnessed and been victim of this style of two faced and double tongued demeanor.

What of the missionaries who slavishly serve the interest of the mission board? They are servants of the board one and all. Is there a mission board in existence where the missionaries are not servants of the board? It is claimed that there is one. It is claimed that the missionaries of one mission board are sent forth by their churches and are under the directive control of their churches alone. This is fiction. When any missionary enlists under the banner of a mission board, he becomes primarily and first a servant of that mission board. His home church holds second allegiance with him. I challenge any soul on earth to deny this. I am speaking of the day by day operations of the board. The board fuels the life and works and area of service of every missionary as surely as the KGB rules it's agents in the field. The KGB "controls" it's intelligence agents, and all mission boards "control" their missionaries. The board is supreme master, and the mission-

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## ALIEN

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ary is servile to the wishes of the ruling board. I challenge any soul on earth to deny this. I shall flood the world with factual, documented rebuttal to denounce the denial.

Missionaries who serve under the despotic rule of any mission board are mere tools of the board. They may perhaps report to their home churches on occasion, but the board directs their labors. If you give yourself in servitude to a master, then you are controlled by his will. Baptist missionaries who serve time under a mission board are not the servants of God so much as they are the servants of man. Let this be denied and I shall reply with some interesting commentary.

Two incidents. After I had written the papers I alluded to earlier denouncing the right of any mission board to exist, I met a missionary of this particular board I referred to who had just resigned from and denounced the board himself. He told me personally and repeatedly that what I had written about this particular board was absolutely true in every detail, and that the board had no right to exist. He denounced this board and all boards in scathing tones. Today this gentleman is back under the ruling power of this same board as a foreign missionary. Interesting!

Incident number two. A young pastor sat at meat in my home. We spoke of mission boards. We spoke of papers I had written. He agreed that what I had written was correct to every detail. He denounced the right of mission boards to exist. For several years now this young man has been a missionary under the very mission board he denounced at my table. Interesting!

What kind of blindness is it that afflicts Baptist preachers and Baptist churches whereby they can perceive evil and then embrace it without blushing? Why do men sell themselves into bondage to perform a work without the sanction of God? How can men be so sound in so many particulars and yet align themselves with an anti-Christ work. Anti-Christ? Indeed, yes. Every mission board men have built is built in opposition to Christ's stated dictates wherein he has established his church as the sole agency upon earth to execute his commission work. Please do not offer me mitigation. There is no mitigation for mission boards. Do not tell me of national laws which require a mission board. This is fictive nonsense. If a nation cannot be entered according to God's directives, then God has closed the door to that nation for a time. If a work cannot be done God's way, it is gross rebellion to even attempt it. God's way or no way must be our credo. Yet, men follow their affections at the expense of godly service.

What of men's affections? Do men make mission boards a test of fellowship? Do independent Baptist preachers (allegedly) make mission boards a test of fellowship? Do they allow a mission board to affect their friendship toward, and their regard for, Baptist ministers who in no way support mission boards? I assure you dear reader that they do. Would any deny this? Then deny it at great risk.

There are churches I may not enter and doors closed to me. For what cause? There are churches and ministers who would agree that I am sound in the faith and called of God. Yet, they are withdrawn from me. For what cause? Because I

have for all my Baptist life denounced the anti-Christ construction of mission boards. Do men, even men who say they are "independent" Baptists, make mission boards a test of fellowship? I assure you, dear reader, that they do. They place this alien growth of devilish design before fellowship with brothers who denounce its growth for what it is. Thus men make mock of God and the provisions of brotherly love. Their alleged "independence" is a fiction for no man is independent if he sells his affections and his allegiance into alien bondage. There is no such thing as an "independent" Baptist preacher or church who is affiliated with a mission board. You may quote me, sir. This supposed "independence" is as much of a fiction as the mission board is false. You may quote me, sir.

I hereby issue an international challenge. I hereby challenge anyone on earth, from pulpit or pew, to debate the legitimate existence of mission boards. I offer the following forum. The Sovereign Grace Baptist Church of Hazard, KY has a weekly television broadcast entitled "The Message of Grace". I offer this forum for the debate. I offer to debate any man on television concerning the Biblical authorization for mission boards. The television broadcast is a half hour in length, and I am willing to devote four programs to this debate.

Dear reader do you support and abet mission boards? Do you find their origin and authority in the Bible? I challenge you to prove this from the pages of the Bible on a television broadcast which goes out to many thousands of people. Tapes will be made of this television debate and distributed to any interested parties.

The challenge has been made and shall not be withdrawn. Is there any mission board devotee who will take up this challenge? If so please write to me at P.O. Box 1597, Hazard, Kentucky; and arrangements shall be made.

I do not issue the above challenge in a mean spirit. I genuinely wish to see one soul on earth offer some Biblical support for mission boards. I have been waiting for many years for just one soul to attempt to justify mission boards from the Bible. Not one soul has ever done so to my knowledge.

Dear reader do you believe that mission boards are of God? I challenge you to prove your case Biblically on television and before many thousands of people. Will anyone take up this challenge? We shall see. We shall see.

I close this paper on a note of charity. I repeat my detestation of every mission board in existence, for their existence is detestable unto God. Yet, I cannot do less than have charity toward followers of this anti-Christ scheme. To love individuals while you detest their inventions, is demanded by God Who also loves His children while He denies their errors. I speak no less than charity for every mission board supporter and every mission board official. Yet, love isn't blind.

If no one takes up the challenge issued above, I shall report the same in due course. If a man accepts this challenge, I shall also report this and the resultant events. Fare thee well.

"And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Beth'-pha-ge, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples." (Matt. 21:1).

## HAND

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need for more cemeteries. The seemingly harsh reality is that death does exist. We know of only two who have passed through this earth that have not had to taste of it. It is a sure reality for man, for such is appointed of God. This is also a promise kept. The lost, undone, those not saved, it seems to me, must have very little joy in their lives; for they eventually must, at some point in time, consider that there is an end to all things. Without Christ, without the Word of God, without the promises of God; what is there to look forward to at the end of life's road? Without the precious knowledge of the Word of God to lift us up by faith, what else is there? Men may amass wealth and goods through honest labor or by deceitful standards, and in the process of time they may win many admirers and friends, but the bottom line always is, "You can't take it with you." Not so with the Word of God, beloved.

The hero's of faith discussed in Hebrews chapter 11 have this said concerning them: "These all died in faith..." (Heb. 11:13). These indeed met with death and were overcome, but they did not pass from this life as one who fears the unknown and loved this present world. Rather, they died in faith being fully consoled and persuaded of better things to come as promised of God! These passed from life to death to life, having great profit thereby. In Philippians 1:21 Paul unshamefully states, "to die is gain." The Psalmist declared: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me" (Ps. 23:4). The saved gain beloved, because he does not enter death's valley alone. There is one who has braved the valley before, even the Christ of God. No child of God has ever entered death's valley alone! He gains also because as he enters he has no reason for fear, having died in faith. We consider life in this world as equal to the nine month period a child grows in the womb. Death for the saint then, is merely the end of the nine months and we are fully born into the new world into eternal life. There awaiting your eternal birth stands the Great Physician to attend you as your earthly body gives you up. There attending the Great Physician are His ministering spirits which continue to assist you. And there awaiting to see you is the family, yea, the family of God. Into the new world in which you are now born is much to see and learn. In fact, there is an eternity's worth! None shall take your joy from you. None shall do you harm. No brier will be in your path. No enemies await you. You will labor, but not in vain. You will serve the King and walk in His presence. He will give you the place He has prepared for you.

"And I give unto them eternal life." It follows beloved, that since these most gracious words proceed from the Lord Jesus Christ, that He can indeed be none other than the God of all eternity. This is no idle boast, but rather a sure promise! A promise which a mere mortal has neither the power nor the ability to grant. "And I give unto them eternal life" is an expression spoken by One who is able to exercise a sovereign will, and issue forth a sovereign's decree. For one to make such a declaration it must naturally follow,

He is possessed of the power over life and death. For certain ones, in a world filled with uncertainty come words of eternal security. If there were no other verses in the Bible that teach eternal security of the believer, this should suffice all skeptics. Those who do not believe in eternal damnation cannot honestly believe in eternal life. Skeptics say "you can have eternal life only if you persevere unto the end." We answer, we will persevere because He has ordained that we be preserved. All is of grace, and grace declares eternal life. Who has declared the words of our text: a mere mortal, or the Author and Finisher of our faith?

Notice the words "I give". The Arminian may seek to argue that what is given must be accepted. Such an idea is fine if we are dealing with man. Should it not at all be considered that this is the Word of God. The same God of whom it is written in Isaiah 46:9-10 saying, "Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient time the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure." Again in Psalm 135:6, "Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and earth, in the seas, and in all deep places." Thus, this same God, the Word, Jesus Christ, by His own counsel and pleasure declares, "I give unto them eternal life." Why does the Arminian seek to find fault and reply against a sovereign will that he may exalt the will of man above it? Is it the will of man to reply against the weather? But he can no more control nor stop the exercising the will of God in it. If He chooses to send the hurricane, the tornado, typhoon, scorching heat, bitter winter, man can do naught but receive it. And that without the will since he remains powerless against such mighty forces. When one foolishly argues for man's ability to accept or reject eternal life, he thus makes his preference known for eternal damnation; does he not? I have yet to meet one in this realm who would turn down a free gift of great value. Thus here our Lord declares unto us a sovereign promise by a sovereign will sovereignly bestowed through no merit of the will of man.

Let us briefly suppose that eternal security were not so. Let us suppose that no such promise exists in the Word of God. I once had a dyed in the wool Arminian tell me that the doctrine of Eternal Security was a damnable heresy, and that he would pray to the Lord for my deliverance from such. What then would I have should I be delivered? I would have a Christ who could not save. I would have a Bible that was meaningless. I would spend my days foolishly working to get to a place I wasn't sure existed, nor that I would ever attain it. In short, I would have no guarantee nor certainty of anything beyond this life. What then would be my purpose in pursuing that in which I was uncertain would ever be attained? Furthermore, why bother with a god who could not certainly know if I was saved until my life ended on earth? Where is any assurance? Where is any security? The words of men cannot be trusted. Are we to believe that the very God who brought all into existence by merely speaking cannot be relied upon to keep His word? There is no substance to

this kind of faith, for it is as useless as faith in man. It is pure blindness and ignorance of the Word of God that states that John 10:28 does not teach the eternal security of the believer.

Our text states, "And I give unto them." The "them" referred to here are the "my sheep" of John 10:26. This expression of "my sheep" puts a restriction as to whom eternal life is to be given. The restriction is seen in that these particular sheep belong to the flock of the good Shepherd. They are His for He paid for them with His own blood. He was and is "not" "willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Pet. 3:9). Eternal life given to the sheep, the elect of God, is proof positive that He is not willing for them to perish. He will do all His will with His own. Of His chosen people Israel He declared in Psalm 78:52-53, that He "made his own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock, And led them on safely, so that they feared not..." Does this not assure us of the same? Are we not guided by His Spirit through this wilderness of sin? Does not the promise of eternal life tell us that we will be led to safety? Well then does Psalm 79:13 declare, "So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks forever: we will shew forth thy praise to all generations." It is not possible to give thanks forever without eternal life! It is not possible to give thanks forever if we are not His sheep. Psalm 95:7 adds, "For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand." Thus beloved, we see the restrictions to eternal life. We must belong to Christ. We must own His ownership. We must be in submission as our Shepherd. The election of Christ upon us must make us humbly submissive as we are made to know our own inabilities and helplessness. The first restriction to eternal life is that we must realize we are not our own; for He calls us, "My sheep." The second restriction to eternal life is that we recognize our helpless condition as "sheep".

The third restriction or requirement for eternal life is found in John 10:27; "My sheep hear my voice." A sheep that will not hear the voice of his shepherd is left to its own destruction. Either this or too often feel the prod of the shepherd's rod. You know what a shepherd will do to a rebellious sheep that will not hear? He will kill it! Why? Because it will cause others of the flock to stray. A rebellious and sinful church member who will not repent must be put out of the church; away from the flock that he might not leaven the whole lump. There are so many these days deceived into thinking they are saved while they yet have uncircumcised hearts that will not hear nor have Christ as Lord over them. Many so called preachers want nothing but their own voice to be heard. These desire gain, and popularity while hiding behind the name of Christ. Would we believe that these perverters of the Word of God have eternal life when they themselves will not hear? Beloved,

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## HAND

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many hear but they know not the voice.

A fourth requirement to eternal life is, as our Lord states, "they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life." With hearing must come understanding. Once understanding is received in what is heard, our Lord expects that His sheep will act upon His words and follow Him. A child learns to walk by understanding, observing, and hearing the parent. Once a child learns to walk you will always find them underfoot. They like to follow you withersoever you go. They, though often trying the patience, set forth the example that our Lord here gives us as concerning Himself and eternal life. You might say He expects us to be underfoot; hearing and following wheresoever He chooses to lead or send. What motivates us to this other than the Spirit? Jeremiah 32:40 states "I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me". By these things, and in particular, hearing and following; though we may stumble, we can be assured of having eternal life.

Why the emphasis on hearing and following? Consider again that eternal life is a promise of eternal security. It is an assurance to us that by His grace we shall overcome. Overcome what? To overcome means or is expressive of battles won. Overcoming means winning the victory. Battles are seldom won by poor leaders. Hence Christ assures us of the right way to win; hear and follow! He knows the enemy. He knows the battlefield. He knows the weapons of the enemy and his plans of subtilty. We do not! There can be no victory for those who win no battles. The purpose of hearing and following is the lesson we must often learn. This lesson is taught in Titus 2:12; "Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." Children, we are not home yet. It did not so please the Lord to give Israel Canaan land without battle, yet He gave them Joshua to lead them. Him they must hear and follow. He led them to victory. Christ promises the same and encourages us to it. We do only well to hear and follow the victorious One! What does He add further?

"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish." - We won't be overcome on the battlefield, nor when wounded, be left to ourselves. By the gift of eternal life He promises we will be impervious to destruction. Only those things which are subject to corruption do we see perishing. Life eternal means indestructibility, for where life always exist, there can enter no harm.

"Neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." - Note the word "man". It is in italics. Therefore to add to our assurance of eternal life, Christ assures us that there is absolutely nothing that can separate us from Him. We are in His hand. What or who is strong enough to prevail against the Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 8:35 asks, "Who shall separate us from the

love of Christ?" Nothing "shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 8:39). Our Lord has decreed eternal life to every believer. Who can disannul it? The same hand that etched out the mountains and spanned the seas holds His own. As the saying goes, "We do not know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future." In light of our text, is this really so? We say beloved that we do know what the future holds because we know who holds it. If there be an end to eternal life, then there must also be an end to heaven, hell, and God Himself. If we disbelieve His promise, it is because we are trusting in self to keep us. The words "eternal life" and "never perish" cannot be meaningless; else there is no assurance, no security, no joy for the believer. Today beloved, take the promise of our text to heart and be encouraged and uplifted thereby.

## WHAT'S

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another church takes that member in we are not to pass judgment in the matter. This is pure hypocrisy and foolishness. A sister church that takes in an excluded member should be shunned by sister churches until that action is made right. To use the excluded member of a sister church in your services is a slap in the face at that church's authority. I cannot understand the attitude of some of our preachers who go to conferences, and invite to their conferences pastors who have led their church to receive excluded members. You show that you only believe in church authority as long as your church is the one excluding. This is a major problem in our churches. I wish I had time to continue on this point. I would even like to be more explicit on the actions of some churches recently. However, space, and the editor, will not allow it. May each member of each church make a new concerted effort at holiness.

The fourth thing I mention is that we are too involved with the wrong things. In other words, we are too worldly. It is not the major sins that are destroying our churches. It is in a large degree the fact that we are too involved in the wrong things. I remember a young man asking me one time "How can I be a good Christian and still be popular in the world?" My answer to him was that you can't. Beloved, our minds are too taken with the things of the world. Many of these things might be innocent in themselves. However, when we allow them to distract us from our service to God, then they are hurting the church. When things like sports, politics, and work occupy most of our thought life this becomes a major problem in our churches. The world is a place of great danger to God's people. This attitude is carrying over into our churches. Let us put God and His church first, and forget about the things of the world. Worldliness is killing our churches. May we think more about the world to come and less about the present world. Worldliness is another thing wrong with our churches.

The fifth thing I mention is that there is a great lack of reverence in God's house. I do not believe our forefathers would have come into God's house talking about ball games, work, politics, or other

worldly things. It is sometimes almost impossible to get people to talk about spiritual things, even in church. This shows where our minds are when they should be on the service before us. God's house is a place of worship. We should come together for the purpose of honoring Christ. We are there to worship the most High. It is an act of irreverence to this house to behave ourselves in an unruly manner. I have seen some terrible behaviour in God's House. Often children are allowed to run free and are then entertained by their parents. Children should never be allowed to disrupt services. They should be taught at an early age how to behave in church. I don't place the blame for this misbehaviour on the child. I place the blame on momma and daddy. I also add that your actions during the service are often times irreverent. When adults are whispering to each other; this is irreverent. When you are looking around during services, you are being irreverent. When you do not participate by singing, praying, and listening, you are being irreverent. If Christ were personally to attend our services, many would change their actions. Brethren, Christ is there at every service. We should conduct ourselves in church with that in mind. The idea of church is not to see who can get there last and out first. How do you behave at church; before, during and after?

The sixth thing I mention that is wrong with our churches is that there is a great lack of daily work and service to God. We need more than just church services. It is possible to get more out of our church services. If we would take time daily to read and study the Word of God, it would greatly increase our desire and the results of church services. Daily and fervent prayer will greatly add to the church services. You need to pray every day for your pastor. If you have not prayed for him, then you have no right to criticize him. There needs to be personal daily witnessing to the lost. This involves more than just inviting them to church. It involves giving them the gospel, then inviting them to church. It would improve our church services if we did not have to sit there with such guilty consciences for our failures during the week. You cannot neglect the things of God all week and then on Sunday expect your mind to be totally dedicated to spiritual things. I assure you a daily practice of prayer, study, and witnessing will greatly improve our churches. Will you take this step?

The seventh thing I mention is that there is a wrong feeling of contentment amongst us. This contentment often times leads to indifference. I see a great amount of indifference in our churches today. Members who don't seem to care if you have services or not. Members who are always too busy for church activities. We seem to think we have no need of Christ; that we are rich and increased with goods. Beloved, this is a dangerous state to be in. Most of us seem to be content if we are not losing members. I don't know how many times I have had people tell me in the last few years that "at least we haven't lost any." Should we be satisfied with this standing still? Does not still water become stagnant? Is it not true that if we do not grow that we will die eventually? How many people have you invited to church this week? How many people have you tried to win to Christ this week? How many saved people have you tried to lead to the truth

this week? Thus it is no wonder that our churches are dying. Let us not be content with laziness.

The eighth thing I mention that is wrong with our churches is that young people are not filling the gap. There is no reason that young people should not be just as good of church members as the older members. They have the same Bible and the same God to pray to. Why then is it that we have so few faithful young people. Young people grow up desirous of making big money. This desire often takes them to cities where there is not a true church. Does this not make them idolaters? Yes it does. Many young people have sold out Christ and the church for money. God have mercy. It is a shame that money means more to you than Christ and His church. Young Christians are going to answer to God, for they are going to be largely responsible for the death of many churches. I warn young people that you will not escape the judgment of God. When you became a member of the church, you made a commitment. Have you honored that commitment? Many of our churches have an "old" look to them. I am fearful of what will happen to many churches when the older people pass on. Young people, wake up. There is nothing more important than Christ's church. I might add that it seems like the vast majority of church problems concern young people. My advice to young people is to shape up or ship out. Quit being welfare Christians who are living church wise off the older members. Don't let our churches die. Make an effort and sacrifice to be in church every service. I add here, may God raise us up some good young preachers to fill the gap.

The ninth thing I mention is that we have too few Christian attitudes. This is something that God has really laid upon my heart in the last couple of years. We as Christians just do not have proper Christian attitudes. By Christian attitudes I have specific reference to the Beatitudes and other portions of the Bible where we are told how we should feel about people and things. Being a Christian is more than just action. It is action that is based upon proper attitudes. The main reason our actions are so deplorable is that they come from improper attitudes. We need meek and humble saints. We need those who hunger and thirst after righteousness. We need peacemakers rather than war mongers. Do you have the same attitudes towards others that Christ had? I think not. May God give us the attitudes we should have, and this will greatly enhance our churches individually and collectively.

The tenth and last thing I mention is that we are lacking in Christian charity. I know that this could fit in the same category as attitudes, but because of the great importance of this point I chose to make it separate. I could write a whole article on this one point. I must be very brief. This article is already about three pages longer than it is supposed to be. (I hope the editor is in a good mood.) Let me just mention a few things about charity or love. The major reason for all of our problems is the lack of love. Think about the two greatest commandments and you will know that this is true. First, we need a greater love for Christ. Many of our problems have come about because we love ourselves more than we love the Son of God. That is the reason for the jealousy and backbiting. We

have indeed left our first love. Secondly, we need greater love for each other in the church. This would end most church squabbles that start over petty things. Thirdly, we need more love for sister churches. We are on the same side, not enemies. We ought to join together in the fight against sin and heresy. Instead, we are too busy fighting one another. If we loved our sister churches as we should, we would not receive their excluded members, but would respect each other's discipline. Fourthly, we need more love for the truth. How we should thank God for the truths He has revealed unto us. Love for these truths should make us more faithful to the church, which is the "pillar and ground of the truth."

Lastly, we need more love for the church of which we are members. I know people are lying when they tell me they love the church and then do not attend and tithe as they should. Love for the church which Christ has led you to will improve the whole church. If each member will do his part the whole church will improve. Do you love your church? Then act like it!

Let me very briefly conclude this article with the solution to what is wrong with our churches. First, there must be honest recognition. Honesty is a must. May each of us examine our church and try to find our weaknesses and improve them. Secondly, there must be realization. Realize that improvement must start with you; not the pastor or deacons but with you. Realize that you must give an account of your actions toward the church. Thirdly, there must be repentance. Surely, we need change in our churches. This change must begin with heart felt repentance. Are you not sorry for the church member you have been? Then repent. Fourthly, there must be resolutions. If you are sorry, then do something about it. Resolve to be the best member that you can be. Resolve to change your old ways and become more diligent in service to God. Lastly, this will bring about results. It will bring about results for your self. It will bring about results for other members in the church. It could spread to other churches. It will surely bring about results in our giving glory

(Continued on Page 11 Column 1)

## BOOK REVIEW

We have a new book in our book store. It is "Women of the Bible" by Frances Vander Velde. It is a paper back book of over 250 pages. With my position on the woman's place in the church, I am never enthused about a book by a woman author. Still, I am not certain that my position means that we cannot read such a book. We do have some things in the Bible that were originally set forth by women, though men were inspired to record such. I mention Hannah, Deborah, Mary, and Elizabeth. This book tells about thirty-one women of the Bible. It is well written. Some background material is given. The character of the woman is set forth. Many practical lessons are then set forth. There are suggestions and questions for study at the close of each section. The book seems to major on spiritual, devotional, and practical matters. It sells for \$7.95 and the profit goes into our book ministry. Order from our book store.



## WHAT'S

(Continued from Page 10)

to God.

What is wrong with your church? May God bring about revival to true churches. May we do the things necessary to bring about this revival. May God bless your church. You pray for us, and we will pray for you.

## GREED

J. E. Pierce

Text: Proverbs 1:17-19; 15:27.

Paul warns preachers in I Timothy 6:10 about this and told them it would ruin them. It will destroy life and cause you to err from the faith. I was thinking how it said that he that is greedy of gain, troubleth his house. Habakkuk says, "For the stone shall cry out of the wall, and the beam out of the timber shall answer it." How would you like it if you couldn't sleep because the walls of the house were talking about you? Many take sleeping pills because they can't sleep. It also says in Ecclesiastes 10:7, "I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth." I know this subject isn't one we like to talk about.

It says a man does this thinking to set his nest on high, to get set for old age. You can feather your nest and set it on high, but God can tear it down. Many things may be said of greed. Worst of all, it shows distrust of God who can supply all your needs. My needs seem to be endless, but the source of our supplies is infinite. So, we line up on one side or the other. God shall supply all your needs or Satan shall supply your greed. It is one of the most unbecoming characteristics in one of God's children. God has promised to supply all our needs. Greed

springs from a seed plot. We all have one (a depraved nature). The word "greed" means to break off, plunder and be given over to covetousness. That is the Hebrew definition. The English definition means strong desires of acquiring and possessing. All is in the face of Proverbs 15: 15-17. Greed leads to this.

You'd think people would see this. It says in Proverbs 15:17, "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith." You could eat the herbs all your life and still have hatred, but it says it's better to have little and have love. Greed is a monster, a disease that consumes. Jesus said, "Take now thought for what you shall eat..." I'll supply your need, Jesus said. It is a distrust of God to have greed. Do you believe God will supply your needs? Why do you watch out for number one? Do you have to do that indeed? How about trusting God for what you need? He'll supply all your needs. If actions are otherwise it shows distrust in God. It could be something else;

Can anyone here testify that God has not taken care of you? So, if God is the judge as well as the supplier, who can charge Him with failing to keep His Word. Greed will bring leanness to your soul. A commercial on television is a good example: It shows a daughter who has accomplished her goal in life and the father is commending her and she says, "Let's have a cup of coffee..." This is the way the world thinks, but you may die with leanness of soul. I don't want to die in poverty of soul. I'd rather die for want of cornbread than that. Greed is like an apple with a worm in it. It grows, looks delicious, but inside it is eaten up. Greed is a worm that will eat your insides out. I'll tell you this, it will dig a hole on your insides that acquisition cannot

fill. The hole will be bigger than you can fill. It's an awful trial of a child of God.

It is "me-firstness" me first, all the time. It disguises itself. One will be energetic, industrious and one way to check it out is to cut off his income, and you'll find out how industrious. It is just a cover-up to keep from admitting it. It is like when people die we say they've gone on instead of saying, they're dead, to soften the stark reality of death. People make greed appear commendable and justify it saying they are laying up for old age. I need this message. You might say, "Preacher, are you greedy?" I'm a man too. There was only One who was not greedy, that is Jesus. He didn't even have a coin, but He owned it all. He was rich, yet became poor, that we might be rich.

You say, "For old age though," and I don't believe that is so. You say you've got to do this. Some who have it, won't use it in old age. It's a false security. You can feather your nest with dishonest gain, now let me pause here and say, I don't believe anything is wrong with gain. Most would have more if they didn't spend it. I put aside a little out of each paycheck, but I don't have a credit card because I'm fearful about spending so much if I had one as I have seen others do, so I won't own one. At what point do you have to start looking out for yourself? Does God look out for you to a certain age and then forsake you? No, Daniel said, "I have been young and now am old, yet I've never seen the righteous forsaken, or his seed begging bread."

I said to someone, concerning old age, that if I didn't have fifteen cents to look forward to, I have confidence in the church that they would take care of me. They have all these years. Greed is not of faith, but of flesh. It is lack of faith. It is walking by sight. Greed cultivates pessimism. You have not forgotten the worm. You may have accumulated \$30,000, then you'll say, by handling it right maybe that's enough. But, no, something might come up, maybe we better save \$20,000 more. Greed feeds upon more and more, never satisfied. It says hell and destruction are never full and the eyes of man are never satisfied. Why? Because the worm is eating away. It is an evil companion and corrupts good manners.

There are people who have it (money) who are worse off than some who haven't. It is the love of money that hurts one. There was an incident in my life once

where I could have made a lot, but godliness with contentment is great gain. The business would work like this, one will buy something for a few dollars and make a great amount on it. Greed makes a mockery of contentment. Contentment ought to be an ornament of a child of God. I'd rather see a woman with an ornament of contentment about her neck, than a big diamond on her finger. Greed is a chain to bind you in a dungeon. Isn't it strange how a bird has more sense. It watches when you set a trap. Humans set a trap that will destroy them. It takes away the life of the owners. Now, I want to go to the next three verses. "Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein" (Psalm 24:1).

Men live on the earth and divide it into countries ruled over by kings. They divide it into states and territories and give them names. They divide the land among themselves into farms and ranches, and issue deeds of ownership. But the earth is not man's; it is the Lord's. He said, "Whatsoever is under the whole heaven is mine" (Job 41:11). Men are but tenants, subject to eviction at any moment. The great land-owner and sovereign sits in the heavens and laughs at the title deeds of these worms in the dust. "The fullness thereof" may mean the fullness of its entirety, its wealth, its life, its past, present, and future; but God made the earth full and keeps it full. The sea is full of water, despite all the water that rises from it. It is full of fish and creatures, despite all that feed upon it. The air is full, notwithstanding all the lungs that breathe it. The soil is full though billions of trees, plants, and vegetables derive nourishment from it. All the earth and all that dwell on earth belong to

the streets." What I want you to see is, while the session is going on, talking about how to get rich quick, where is wisdom? She is out in the street and if you hear her, she's saying, "Don't believe it." I want you to join with the faint cry in the streets, "Don't believe it." You can feather your nest, but He can bring it down with one swoop.

Know how to get ahead? Don't envy the person who makes \$500.00 a week. It is simple arithmetic, if you spend everything, you can't gain. Nothing is wrong with gain, but greediness implies distrust of God. By the time the apple reaches maturity it is worth nothing. It destroys the possessors of it. I intend to apply this and hope you will too.

the Lord Jesus. They are His sons or His servants; they are His sheep or His goats; they are His vessels of mercy or His vessels of wrath; but all are His. Here is the chief reason given in Verse 2 of the same Psalm. "For He hath founded it." He created it! He has the right to do with His own what He will. O that men would be wise and praise the Lord, kiss the Son, and bow before Him in worship and subjection. "There is no want to them who fear the Lord and wait upon Him."

The tongue, when moved by anger, envy, jealousy, ambition, and like passions, is like a destructive, spreading fire which destroys without parity or pity. (1) It is like a fire in the heat of it, stirring passions like water boiling. (2) It is like a fire in the danger of it; no one in its path is safe. It can turn a happy home or a church into a barren wilderness. (3) It is like a fire in the duration of it; a fire out of control is hard to stop, and words spoken in anger live on and on.

This small member can destroy friendships that have stood for years. It can destroy homes and churches that have been happy and content. It can destroy character and reputations, plant suspicion and doubt, and turn men from truth to error.

Men have succeeded in taming beasts, birds, serpents, and even the fish of the sea; "but the tongue," James said, "can no man tame." That's true! No man can tame the tongue; but the grace of God can tame it, subdue it, and even make it an instrument for God's praise and glory. When the grace of God acts on the heart, it will subdue the tongue. Grace slays the corruption which uses the tongue as an outlet. Grace quenches the flames of hate and envy which motivate the tongue. Grace implants a new nature of love which influences the tongue to speak in kindness, truth, and sincerity for the glory of God and the good of the hearer.

Two friends met, and after a chat one said to the other: "Come and have a round of golf on Sunday morning."

"Oh, no; I have to attend service at church."

"Well," replied his friend, "I do not know what your religion is, but you keep it to yourself. I have asked you to play golf half a dozen times, but you have never invited me to your church."

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## THE THREE APPEARINGS

(Hebrews 9:24-28)

by E. Kirk

Our Lord hath once appeared

Our sins to put away;

The judgment rightly feared

Of His great solemn Day,

By grace no longer is our dread;

We are in Him, our living Head.

And now He doth appear,

Our Advocate, above,

Whilst we are living here;

'Tis in His changeless love

He liveth e'er to intercede

For us, His precious blood to plead.

And He a second time

From heaven shall appear

In majesty sublime -

The Day is very near -

No more a Sacrifice to be,

But then to rule from sea to sea.

Then may we ever serve

In honour of His Name,

Nor from His pathway swerve,

Lest we be put to shame,

And fail to hear a glad "Well done,"

Then from the lip of God's dear Son.

## APPRECIATED LETTERS

Dear Brother Wilson: Enclosed please find check for ... to renew my subscription to The Baptist Examiner for two years. I have been receiving the paper for quite a while now and I do not know who was responsible for sending me this wonderful publication with so much of God's truth in it. There was so much I didn't know about the doctrine of sovereign grace and still wouldn't know if it wasn't for this paper. I thank God for all the blessings I have received through the reading of these Spirit-filled messages. May God bless you,  
Alma A. Garafola, Naples, Fla.



## TUNE IN TO THE CALL TO CALVARY

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

### MY IMPRESSIONS

The conference was a blessing to me in many ways. It afforded me the time and opportunity to enjoy fellowship with some dear saints whom I had not seen for too many years. I also had the privilege in the conference to meet some preacher brethren whom I had never met before, and the Lord used them to bless my heart with their great preaching. I am grateful to God for having made their acquaintance. Church truth and God's all conquering grace was highlighted, and a spirit of meekness and joy seemed to pervade the conference. It was a tremendous blessing for me to be with Calvary Baptist Church, and to partake of the spiritual manna which God was pleased to rain down upon their Memorial Day Conference.

Oscar B. Mink, Texarkana, Texas

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I enjoyed the conference very much and was so strengthened and encouraged from God's Word. Each speaker had prepared and delivered great God-honoring messages. I thank the Lord for having attended and for Brother Wilson, Calvary Baptist Church and The Baptist Examiner. I pray that God may richly bless His work there to His praise and glory.

Mrs. John James, Rocky Mount, N.C.

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This was my first conference. God willing it won't be my last!

Ralph & Rosa Lee Wells, Appalachia, Va.

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In a world of so much liberal tendency to outright heresy and false doctrine, it is so refreshing to attend C.B.C. annual Bible

### BOOK REVIEW

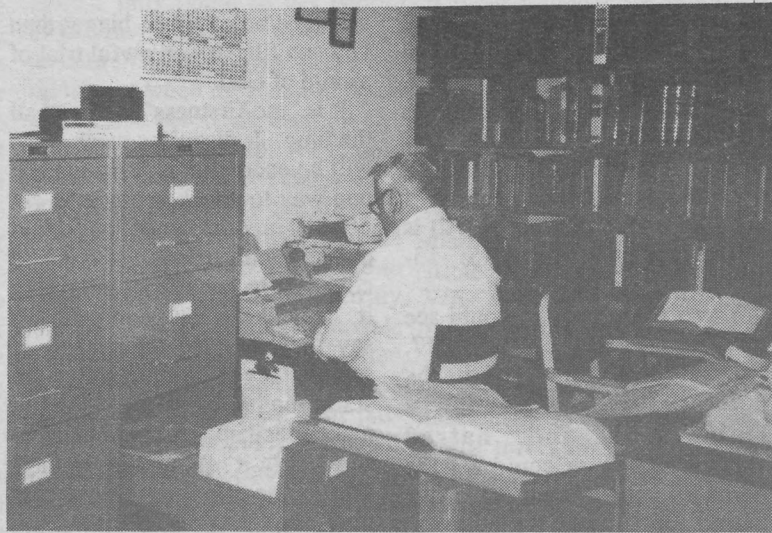
We have a new book in our book store. It is "My Bible Story Book". It is a paper back with over 500 pages. The book is by Dena Korfker. There are 270 Bible stories in this book. The book covers from creation in Genesis to John on Patmos in Revelation. The stories are short enough to read to a child at one sitting. There are a few questions after each story which will help the child to better remember the story. We have many requests for Bible Story books. Order from our book store. The book sells for \$7.95 which is a good price for such a large book. The profit goes into our book ministry.

Continuing in faith is not a condition of salvation but rather an evidence or proof of true faith; even as trials, which are God-given, do not produce faith but reveal faith and separate the false from the true. Like precious metal, faith is not destroyed by the fire; it increases in value and strength.

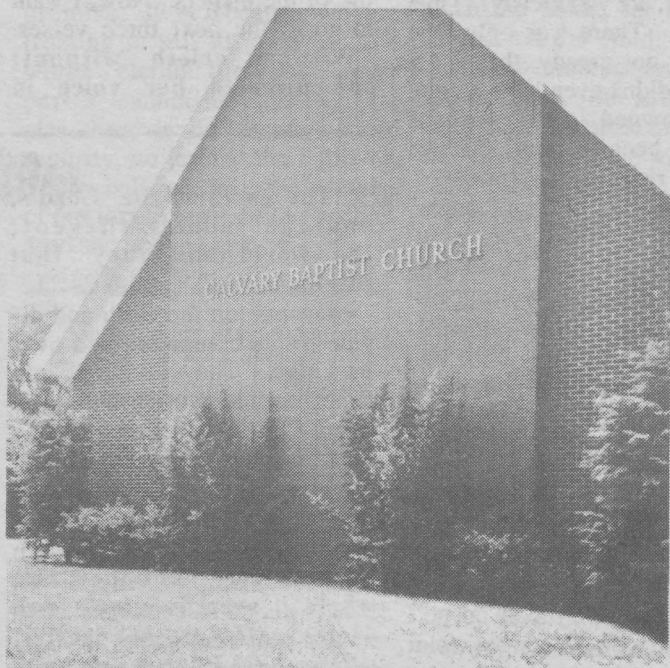
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conference where all the preachers preach the Bible in an uncompromising manner. Thank you Brother Joe, Sister Katie and members of C.B.C. for being a great host. The fellowship of all the brothers and sisters was just divine.

Arvel & Juanita Waddell, Warren Ohio



Where the pastor works in arranging the conference speakers and program.



Our church building, for which we praise God, and where our conference is held.



Leroy Pack brings a great message on "The Church Member and The Church Service."



Three singers at practice.



Medford Caudill brings a great message.

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The editor will be in revival services with the West Griffin Baptist Church of Griffin, Georgia October 3-9. Services will be at 7:30 nightly. There will be a special fellowship on Saturday beginning at 9:30 A.M. with different preachers. The church will provide a noon meal. There will be no services Saturday night. Sunday services will be at the church's regular time. Elder John Pruitt is the fine and able pastor of this church. For further information call him at 404 229 4485. Readers of this paper in the area are urged to attend these services. Pray for this church and this meeting.

## WHY BAPTIST ARE NOT TO BE CALLED PROTESTANTS

by George Ragland

There is a distressing tendency in the world to class Baptists with Protestants.

Such classification can only hurt the cause of Baptists and the truth for which Baptists stand. Baptists are not Protestants and ought not to act like Protestants. It is high time for Baptists to refuse to participate in Protestant practices which encourage the world to class them with Protestants.

That Baptists are not Protestants is a truth which the April 1939 issue of Southern Baptist Home Missions calls attention in an editorial which says in part the following:

I raise the question as to whether Baptists should be classed with Protestants. A Protestant is one who protests. Baptists are not Protestants—they are proclamationists. Their task is not to tear something down but to build the Kingdom of God.

They are not fighting other religious organizations but are preaching the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

There is another reason why Baptists should not be classed with Protestants: namely, the Protestant denominations have a recent origin—they all grew out of the reformation which was a movement of protest against the Catholic church and its methods. Baptists did not originate in this movement...

The reason why we ought to demand a separate classification for our Baptist churches is that we are grouped with a number of denominations wholly at variance with us in our beliefs and practices. We ought not be so grouped. Baptist churches are as distinct in doctrine and practice from most of the Protestant churches as the Protestant churches are distinct from the Catholic...

We are suffering quite a bit in more ways than one in being classed as Protestants. One of the ways in which we suffer is that we cannot get an hour over a national radio hook-up because Protestants have already been given a national hook-up; therefore since Baptists are regarded as Protestants, they are said to have a period over the radio.

This is absurd. The Catholics can have an hour, the Lutherans can have an hour, the Jews can have an hour, and the Protestants can have an hour, but Baptists, not having individual standing as a distinct and definite religious group separate from Protestants, cannot have an hour over the radio.

This matter is worth thinking about. The time has come when we should disassociate ourselves from the Protestants altogether and demand a separate and independent standing in the religious world as a religious or-

ganization.

The editorial of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention of which Dr. J. B. Lawrence is secretary sounds a needed note. "Baptists who take part in Good Friday and Easter Sunday celebrations cannot expect the world to see any difference in them from Protestants. Baptists who put on or enter into union meetings cannot expect their denominational and interdenominational activity to give a Baptist testimony to the world. Baptists who emphasize certain fundamentals while compromising other fundamentals cannot expect the world to respect their contention for Scriptural truth. They are neither Catholic nor Protestant. They ought to act in conformity with their Scriptural profession and in obedience to their Scriptural belief."

(copied from May 6, 1939 issue TBE)