

NOTE SOME ARTICLES DEAL WITH TODAY'S PERVERSION OF SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

HOGS, BOOZE AND GOD'S PROPHETS

by Jack L. Green

This New Year's Eve I drove from Fort Worth to Arlington to pick up my car at the repair shop. Midway, I noticed a long line of cars... the drivers trying to crowd in ahead of one another with much impatience and blowing of horns. I discovered to my disgust



Jack Green

that they were waiting in line at a Drive-In Liquor store to purchase their booze.

I mentally compared them to the hogs I used to feed on the farm where I grew up as a boy. As I compared these people with the hogs I came to the conclusion that the hogs were a good deal more intelligent than the people.

Israel's prophets were God's watchmen. It was their duty to cry aloud and warn the people. They denounced strong drink for

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THE NEW BIRTH

by Waldo Whiddon

"THERE was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except



Waldo Whiddon

God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the

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

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A PROCLAMATION FOR A DAY OF NATIONAL HUMILIATION, FASTING AND PRAYER

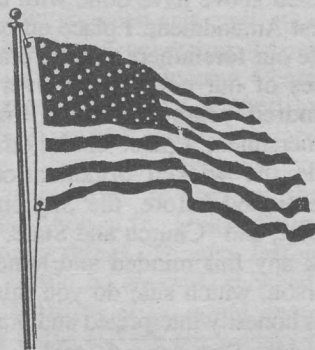
by his excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the USA

WHEREAS, The Senate of the U.S.; devoutly recognizing the Supreme authority and just government of Almighty God in all the affairs of men and nations, has, by a resolution, requested the President to designate and set apart a day for National prayer and humiliation,

And whereas, it is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions, in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon, and to recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord,

And inasmuch as we know that by His Divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to pun-

ishments in this world. May we not greatly fear that the awful calamity of the cruel war which now desolates the land, may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptive sins, to the needful end of our National reformation as a whole people.



We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven. We have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But We Have Forgotten God!

We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us. And have vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our hearts that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us!

It behooves us, then, to humble ourselves before the offended Power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness.

Now, therefore, in compliance with the request, and fully concurring in the views of the Senate, I do, by this my proclamation, designate and set apart Thursday, the 30th day of April, 1863, as a day of National Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer. And I do hereby request all the people to abstain on that day

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AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION - ALIVE AND WELL

by Randall James

Had the founders of this great nation and framers of our Constitution known how their intentions of separation of the church from the state would be so twisted in a few centuries, our Constitution would read very differently.

President Thomas Jefferson as-

sured his constituency that Christianity would be manifest in American government but, by virtue of the first amendment, the church would be protected from government intervention. He promised a group of Baptists this "one directional wall of separation" (the First Amendment) would keep Christian principles

in government. Can you imagine the state of shock he would experience if God Almighty allowed him back on earth today to witness a wall that now keeps Christian principles out of government?

Correct support of our forefather's original intentions were

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The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor Joseph M. Wilson

LET THE WALL COME TUMBLING DOWN - IF.

"...and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat...." (Josh.6:20).

I receive a paper, "Church and State." I detest, loathe, hate, abominate, abhor, and despise this paper with all the intensity of my soul. It seems to me that this paper is dedicated to destroying every semblance of the principles, standards, ethics, and morals of the Bible from all public functions, all education, and all government. Of all the

papers that cross my desk, and they are many, this is the most anti-Biblical, ungodly, un-American, and wicked that I receive.

In the last issue I received, this paper seemed to gloat with unholy and wicked glee over the Supreme Court's decision to banish prayer from school graduation programs. The paper reported that the daughter called her father (I suppose the two who had the matter brought before the Supreme Court) after hearing of the Court's blasphemous, wicked, and ungodly decision, and told her father, "We won, we won." As I

read that I thought to myself, "yes, you have won; you have won a victory for the devil, you have won a victory over true Americanism, and you have both won for yourselves a place in eternal, burning hell - if God does not grant you repentance and faith and thereby save your souls."

I feel sure that, when the ACLU or some atheist brings before the Supreme Court to remove "under God" from the pledge of allegiance and "In God we trust" from our coins - and you can be almost certain that the Supreme Court will go along

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SOUL WINNING EXPLAINED PART I

by Charles H. Spurgeon

The text does not say, "He that winneth sovereigns is wise," though no doubt he thinks himself wise, and perhaps, in a certain grovelling sense, in these days of competition, he must be



C.H. Spurgeon

so; but such wisdom is of the earth, and ends with the earth; and there is another world where the currencides of Europe will not be accepted, nor their past possession be any sign of wealth or wisdom. Solomon, in the text before us, awards no crown for wisdom to crafty statesmen, or even to the ablest of rulers; he issues no diplomas even to philosophers, poets or men of wit; he crowns with laurel only those who win souls. He does

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STUDIES IN ACTS

by Willard Willis

"And after three months we departed in a ship of Alexandria which had wintered in the isle, whose sign was Caster and Pollux" (Acts 28,11).

Paul and the others from the wrecked ship spent three months on the island of Melita which means that the "ship of



Willard Willis

Alexandria" could have arrived before or after their arrival there. It appears that they arrived afterward, since no reference is made of their being of any help to Paul and the others. "Castor and Pollux", the sign on the ship of Alexandria, were, according to tradition, twin brothers. It is said that they were sons of Jupiter and Leda. Leda is said to have been the wife of Tyndarus, king of Sparta. Tradition has it that after their death they were translated to heaven and made constellations under the name of Gemini, or the

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with such - when this happens (and it will happen if things don't turn around in our country; which thing I long for, but doubt) you can be sure that "Church and State" will again gloat with unholy glee.

"Church and State" bases all its thinking and writing on a wicked perversion of what is called the "Wall of Separation of Church and State." The Supreme Court has made many of its wicked, ungodly, anti-God decisions based on the same thing. A proper interpretation of the First Amendment, and a proper application thereof is one of America's greatest needs today. Along with this, there is greatly needed an overturning of the wrong, wicked, and ungodly decisions that have been made on the basis of mis-interpretation and perversion of the First Amendment to the Constitution.

All that we hear today about separation of church and state is purportedly made on the basis of the First Amendment. Someone needs to realize that that Amendment does not mention "church," "state," or "wall."

What we need in "Church and State," in the Supreme Court, and in those who side with them in their wicked decisions is a little honesty. These people need to face the Constitution of the United States - I mean face it honestly - and face the history of what our forefathers meant and practiced under the Constitution they established. This great

country was established on the principles and laws of the Word of God. The Word of God had the place of honor and respect in the founding of this country. Our forefathers based the constitution and the laws of this land on the laws of the Word of God. Now, wicked men and godless organizations are seeking to remove the Word of God from public functions, from education, and from government - and they are trying to do this under the hypocritical pretence that they are acting according to the Constitu-



JOE WILSON

tion, and especially the First Amendment thereunto.

Look at the first hundred and fifty years of life in this country under the Constitution and the First Amendment. Surely, those men knew what they meant by these documents, and surely those men who followed closely thereafter understood what these documents meant. During those years, we had prayer in school, the Bible in schools, we had prayer at public functions. The Bible had its place in government. Our country in those days honored the Word of God. The Constitution and the First Amendment have not changed since those days; yet we are now told that those things that our forefathers then practiced are now unconstitutional. What kind of a wicked, perverted mind can come up with such? It is most certainly not the thinking or an honest mind. The Supreme Court, under the guise of interpreting the Constitution, has in fact rewritten the Constitution in several areas. The Supreme Court has been aided and abetted - often coerced and prodded - in these things by the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, and Secular and Religious Humanism.

What did the First Amendment mean to our forefathers? We can easily determine this by honestly examining the language of the First Amendment, by the writings and practices of our forefathers relative to this matter, and by the practice of our country for well over a hundred years after the passing of the First Amendment. Note that I used the word "honestly." By using it, I mean to declare that the editors of "Church and State," that the majority of the justices on the Supreme Court since the late 1940's, the ACLU and like organizations, and all who agree with the things I am attacking in this article - I mean to say that these are not honest people. If any of my readers disagree with me, let them tell me how our country lived under the Constitution and the First Amendment for well over a hundred years and practiced certain things, but that the practicing of those things now are against the Constitution. Remember, the Constitution has not changed. The Constitution, with its First amendment, means what its

framers meant by it and practiced under it; it does not mean what wicked men of today have perverted it to justify their wicked and ungodly ways. What did our forefathers mean by the First Amendment? They simply and only meant that the Government was not to exercise control over religion, especially over different Christian denominations. They meant that the government was not to establish a State Church, financed and controlled by the Government. They meant that the government was not to favor one church over another in its governing activities. The government was not to prohibit or force the individual in the matters of religion. This is what they meant, and this is all they meant. They did not mean that God and God's Word was to be banished from public life, from education or from government. This is what the organizations previously mentioned, the Supreme Court, and "Church and State" are trying to do under the lying and hypocritical guise of Separation of Church and State. Our forefathers would be absolutely astounded and totally horrified to see what those mentioned above have done with the First Amendment. I place on one side our forefathers and the practices of our country for over a hundred years under the First Amendment. I place on the other side the wicked organizations mentioned before, the Supreme Court, and "Church and State." I ask any fair minded and honest person, which side do you think has honestly interpreted and practiced the First Amendment?

Well, with this introductory explanation, let me get to my subject: "Let The Wall Come Tumbling Down...If." I mean by my subject that, if the wall of separation between church and state means what the above mentioned groups, the Supreme Court, and "Church and State" now says it means - I mean, "Let the wall come tumbling down." I know of no one thing that has done more damage to true Americanism, to righteousness and decency in our country, to God's righteous cause than the perversion of Separation of Church and State as the above mentioned perversion it in our day.

If "the wall" means that we cannot have prayer in our schools, let the wall come tumbling down. In 1962, the Supreme Court decided that the First Amendment meant this. But it did not and does not mean this. Our forefathers believed and practiced prayer in school for well over a hundred years after the First Amendment was made a part of the Constitution. I know that the matter of prayer in schools poses some problems. I know that some of our brothers and sisters will disagree with me on this point (though in agreement with nearly all of what I will say herein). But I say that a prayer to the Heavenly Father, by a Christian, in the name of Jesus Christ is not out of place in the school class room. You will say to me, "What about students who don't believe in Jesus Christ?" Well, what about them? Our country was founded on the principles of Christianity. If people do not like the honoring of the name of Jesus Christ in our country, let them leave it. Why should this country change the principles upon which it was founded to please a few atheists and unbelievers?

If the "wall" means that we cannot have Bible reading in public schools, let the wall come tumbling down. I remember my days in school. I remember the prayers we had. I remember praying myself as a senior in Hanes High School in Winston Salem, N.C. I remember having six weeks of Bible study in my senior class on English Literature. I tell you that the prayers and the Bible study did not do any of the students any harm, and for my part I was thankful for and helped by both of them. If the "wall" means that children and young people cannot take the Bible to school with them, or cannot have Bible study together when not in classes, or cannot talk with other students about the Word of God, Jesus Christ, and salvation; if it means this, let the wall come tumbling down. Oh, the children can talk filthy, use dirty sex talk, curse and take God's name in vain; but can they talk to other students about salvation? I doubt it. The teacher can live in sex sin with all the children knowing about it, can talk dirty and suggestive in class, can even curse in class (don't you believe this

doesn't happen); but can the teacher talk about God, the Bible, Jesus Christ and His wonderful salvation in class? He or she better not try it. If this is what the "wall" means, let it come tumbling down. I read of a teacher who was forbidden to read his Bible in school during his spare time. Of course, he could read Playboy or Hustler; but not the Bible. I read of a case where a man was convicted of murder, but then the conviction was overturned because the prosecutor had quoted the Sixth Commandment, "Thou shalt not kill" in prosecuting the case. If the "wall" means these things, let the wall come tumbling down.

If the "wall" means that we cannot teach the Biblical truth of Creationism in public schools, let the wall come tumbling down. Oh, we can teach the lie of Evolution - that evil, devilish doctrine that has never had any proof whatsoever; yes, we can teach that lie, but we cannot teach the truth that God created the heaven and the earth. I say, tear the wall down if that is what

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FROM THE EDITOR

"...for blood it defileth the land; and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it" (Num.35:33). The Bible teaches capital punishment in the Old and New Testaments. People who do not believe in capital punishment do not believe the Bible on this subject. I have said several times that I believe that abortion and sex sins (especially that of queers and pervers), along with the present attitude towards these things, may be the thing that brings down the curtain on America - that brings down God's judgment upon our country. While discussing this with my son, Joe, he added that the failure of our country to practice capital punishment is a third thing that may well bring God's judgment upon us.

My text sets forth a most solemn truth. Look at it. The shedding of innocent blood in a land defiles that land in God's sight. That land cannot be cleansed from that blood except by putting to death those who shed it. Oh, what does that say about our beloved America? Think of the blood of millions of innocent babies, murdered in their mothers' wombs, in our country over the last few years. The Bible says that our country cannot be cleansed from this blood except by putting to death the doctors who shed it. No wonder the judgment of God is falling on this land.

Our politicians talk about the problem of crime in our country. They say something needs to be done about it. They promise that, if they are elected, they will do something about it. Some people act as if there is no solution to the crime problem in America. Well, there is; and it is a very simple one. Read on.

I once asked Brother Earl Smith, a very fine preacher who was also a lawman, what percentage of crimes were committed by those who should be in the grave, or in prison, for previous crimes. He replied, "Well over half." So, you see that we could immediately cut crime in half in America by properly punishing convicted criminals. It would seem that, with such a simple way of greatly cutting the crime rate, the government would put this in force.

I read today of a trial beginning in Huntington, W. Va. The man on trial is charged with kidnapping a young woman from the Marshall campus, wounding her, raping her, and leaving her on a highway, naked and bleeding. There seems little doubt of this man's guilt, though I do not know what the court will decide. Now, read this; this man was just recently released early, from prison where he was serving a sentence relating to stabbing a woman, and I believe that sex crime was also involved. Now, read this: this man had already been convicted of five cases of sex crimes against women. The courts and the parole system will have to answer to God for the rape of this woman mentioned afore. Why wasn't the man in jail where he belonged? Why was he free to roam the streets and commit a further crime? The fact of the matter is that I believe that proved rape should be a capital offense and should be punished by putting the guilty one to death. But, at least, this man should have been in prison. The proper punishment of this man would have kept this terrible crime from taking place.

Do you see how easy it would be to greatly reduce crime in America? Just start punishing properly the convicted criminal. Proper punishment would decrease crime since those who commit many crimes would be in prison for previous crimes. Some foolish people say that capital punishment will not deter crime - it will surely deter the executed criminal from committing any further crimes.

Well, politicians seem to be struggling with the question of what to do about the crime rate in America. Listen you politicians, the answer is very simple; just start properly punishing convicted criminals.

Someone will say that our prisons are not large enough to hold those convicted of crimes so as to punish them long enough for their crimes. Well, the answer to that is also very simple. Just put to death the criminals who have been convicted of capital crimes. This will make room for the proper imprisonment of others - and it is cheaper than building new prisons.

Is it not amazing how many problems have an answer in the Bible?

LET THE

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it means. Why must our children be taught lies? Why can't they be taught the truth?

If the "wall" means that we can teach some physical aspects of sex education in our schools, but we cannot teach the Biblical morality about sex, let the wall come tumbling down. Let unholy men and women teachers keep their unholy hands and unholy mouths off of God's ordained and holy "sex truth," if they cannot teach the sex standards of the Bible. If we cannot have sex education teachers teach that sex is wrong outside of proper marriage, that pre marital-sex is wrong, that sex with persons of the same sex is vile and filthy; if the "wall" keeps us from teaching this, then I say, let the wall come tumbling down. The majority attitude towards sex by our schools is, without doubt, responsible for a large percentage of teen pregnancies and teen sex diseases. This is the result of the ungodly Humanism that has dominated education for many years now. There was a day when teachers living in public and known sex sin would not have been allowed to teach our children (and they should not), but now it is unheard of to expect morality and decency as a qualification for a school teacher. See what the perversion of the "wall" has done to our schools.

If the "wall" means that we cannot post the Ten Commandments of God on the walls of every class room in a public school, and in prominent places in all public and government buildings, let the wall come tumbling down. There is nothing wrong with the Ten Commandments. They are the greatest compendium of moral and ethical truth in all the world. Boys and girls need to be taught the Ten Commandments. (Might I just add that churches and Sunday schools ought to be far more faithful in teaching the Ten Commandments). Why, a person should not be allowed to graduate from Junior High School unless he or she could name the Ten Commandments. What's wrong with the Ten Commandments? Can anyone find anything wrong with them? Why then are they barred from public schools? Let us post these in every class room in every school in the land. Let teachers teach them to their classes. It won't do any harm. It will do great good. And if the "wall" means we cannot do this, let the wall come tumbling down.

If the "wall" means that we cannot have censorship of that which any and every decent and right thinking man and woman knows ought to be censored - if it means this, let the wall come tumbling down. Please read the piece in this issue by Randall James relative to his being sued by the ACLU for ordering a man to stop giving out pornographic literature in the Orlando, Florida City Hall. Does any honest person believe that our forefathers meant by the First Amendment that people were to be free to pose for, publish, and sell explicit, detailed pornography? Any person who says they believe this is a hypocrite and a liar. It is impossible for anyone to really believe this.

There are things that ought to be censored. Pornography ought

to be shut down totally. Brother James did not deprive the man who was distributing explicit pornography in the Orlando City Hall of his rights. The man did not have the right to do this. Listen, no man has the "right" to do "wrong." All of the laws of all the world cannot make "wrong" "right." All adult book stores and movies should be shut down forthwith. Men do not have the right to participate in such crime and filth. If the "wall" means that we cannot censor the filth of pornography, let the wall come tumbling down. I tell you that one of the greatest needs in America today is for a bonfire like the one in Acts 19:19, "Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it to be fifty thousand pieces of silver." Yes, we need a burning of many books. In the 50's one could not find on the news stands of America the filth that is now there. And remember that in the 50's we were living under the First Amendment. The First Amendment has not changed; then why is it that we have all the filth on our news stands that we have today? Yes, if the "wall" means we can not censor anything that the depraved mind of man is willing to print, let the wall come tumbling down.

If the "wall" means that we cannot condemn, arrest, and punish homosexuals; let the wall come tumbling down. When I was a boy, "queers" and "perverts" hid in the darkness and in the gutters for the indulging of their vile affection. It was against the law. People were arrested and punished for this vile crime. Remember, when I was a boy, we were already under (had been for many years) the First Amendment. If it was wrong for men and women to engage in these vile affections then, it is wrong now. Was the so called wall erected to protect such creatures in their criminal and wicked actions? Not so, not so. If the "wall" is to protect such actions, let the wall come tumbling down; and the sooner, the better.

If the "wall" means that a woman can hire a murderer to murder a life within her womb, let the wall come tumbling down. Murder is not a constitutional right of anyone, and abortion is murder. Anyone who says that he or she does not believe that abortion is murder is a liar and a hypocrite. There is no fact for which more proof can be given than the fact that life begins at conception. Any who pretend that they do not believe this are just lying because they are in favor of the murder of abortion. Maybe some doctors will lie about this because they want to be hired as "hit men" to make money out of this murder. Maybe some politicians will lie about this because they want to get the votes of women who want to hire paid killers to murder the life in their wombs. On this question of life beginning at conception and therefore, abortion being murder; there are two classes of people. There are those who know this fact, gladly admit it, and unalterably oppose abortion. Then there are those who know this fact, but lie about it in order to promote and defend the murder of abortion. There is no third class.

Sex sin, and especially that of

queers and perverts; and the murder of abortion may well be the two things that bring down the curtain of God's judgment upon America; and along with these two things, especially the attitude many have towards them. Surely, God's hand is just about to fall upon America. And the perversion of Separation of Church and State will surely be one of the major causes of God's judgment upon our country. Oh, let America repent. Oh, let America return to the God she has forsaken. Let this be speedily done. It just may be that it is not too late. But a few more years of what we have seen in the past fifty years, and it will surely be too late to avert the judgment of God upon our country.

I have shown what our forefathers meant by the First Amendment. I have shown what they did not mean thereby. I have shown that the hundred and fifty years or so following the First Amendment proves beyond controversy to any honest person what our forefathers meant by this amendment. I have shown that the things we have seen in the last fifty years or so are not from a true interpretation and application of the First Amendment. I have shown that the Supreme Court; prodded, aided, and abetted by wicked organizations named herein, has, under the guise of interpretation, re-written the Constitution of the United States in many things. Thomas Jefferson would be amazed, shocked, and horrified if he could come back today and see what wicked, ungodly, and unprincipled men have done with what he referred to as a "wall." He never meant any such thing. This is beyond dispute. Any honest man will agree with this. I have shown that what people are doing today (as referred to herein, and many more examples could be given) things they pretend are authorized by the separation of church and state - these things are but a sinful, hypocritical, dishonest, and wicked interpretation and perversion of the true doctrine of Separation of Church and State.

Joe Wilson is not opposed to the Separation of Church and State as our forefathers meant it and practiced it. No honest person will so accuse me. Joe Wilson is vehemently and adamantly opposed to the perversion of the Separation of Church and State that is responsible for so much that is criminal, ungodly, wrong, and wicked today. Few things are more ungodly and wicked, more un-Biblical and un-American, or more opposed to God and His Word than the perversion of Separation of Church and State that is prevalent in America today. I make this same charge against the magazine "Church and State" that I referred to in the beginning of this article and against its editors.

I could give many more examples of the terrible sins that are excused and protected by this perversion of Separation of Church and State than those I have given, but these should surely suffice to prove my point.

I have proven my case. The facts are clear, and they are all on my side. No honest man can or will even attempt to prove me wrong in my thesis. I hereby challenge any reader to dispute with me as to what I have written in this article.

Well, what can we do? I honestly don't know if there is any real hope for victory in this battle or not. I am not at all sure but

that the battle for America is already lost. I am not at all sure that the things I have written in this article are not piled up evidence that God's hand of judgment is not already upon us and will not be withdrawn. But, again, I am not totally sure that all hope is gone. I am sure that we should all do whatever we can in an attempt to turn the tide and to bring our country back to where she was fifty years ago, or even better than that.

We desperately need to pray most earnestly that God might be pleased to intervene, to spare our beloved land, and to turn things around for us. God is able. Whether He will do this or not, I do not know; but I do know that He is able, and I do know that Christian people should become very, very earnest in weeping over the sins of America, and in crying to God for a revival in our land.

We need, as Christians, to live more earnestly for God than we ever have. Oh, we need men and women, boys and girls, who will live by the standards of God's Holy Word. It may be that we can accomplish something by godly conduct towards influencing others - at least we can and should try. Really, we should live these kinds of lives no matter what the results as to others might be. We Christians need desperately to engage in the business of winning souls to Jesus Christ. The godly conduct of Christians, and the winning of many others to Christ - these things might well be our only hope in this dark hour. I do not mean winning souls to a profession of faith that will leave them living as they have always lived. I mean a winning souls to bow to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to begin to live according to His will for them.

We need to pray that God will change our Supreme Court. The men on the Supreme Court occupy the most important position in America. They are in more authority than any other man or any other group in this country. We need to pray about this.

Then we need to elect a president who will appoint men to the Supreme Court who will abide by the godly laws upon which the Constitution of the United States was founded. We should never vote for a man who should appoint a liberal to the Supreme Court. We should never vote for a man who would appoint a pro murder (favoring abortion) man to the Supreme Court. Then, more important than this, we should elect a congress that will approve of the appointment of proper men to the Supreme Court. We should elect a congress that favors the Constitution on which this country was founded. We should elect a congress of honest, decent men who believe in righteousness, who believe in the laws of God, and who desire to honor God and His Word in this country. Can we do this? I don't know. But we should do our best in this matter.

Well, I am done. I have stated and proved that Joe Wilson is not opposed to the Separation of Church and State as our forefathers meant and practiced it. I have stated that I strongly disapprove of the perversion thereof that is prevalent in the land today. I have stated and proved that that "wall" of men's present misinterpretation and perversion should come tumbling down. Let the true "wall" be re-established

and let it stand as long as we are a nation. Let the false and perverted "wall" established by hypocritical, dishonest, wicked men come tumbling down. Comments welcome. May God bless you all.

HOGS

(Continued from Page 1)

its debauching and debasing of youth, family life and national leadership. They pictured it as being associated with all vice, graft, greed and other forms of corruption that rotted away the foundations of national greatness. They felt it their responsibility to God and man thus to expose the wickedness of strong drink. I believe preachers ought to feel the same way today. You frequently hear foolish people say: "I think a preacher ought to preach the Bible and stay away from the liquor question. 'That's politics! Read your Bible. Micah preached against liquor and foretold that it would be fashionable and popular for false ministers to favor it. He declared: **'If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie, saying, I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this people'**" (Micah 2:11). Isaiah preached on it. He declared: **'Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night till wine inflame them.'**" (Isaiah 5:11). Joel preached against it. He linked liquor drinking with corrupt voting and juvenile delinquency when he declared: **cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for a harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink.'**" (Joel 3:3). Habakkuk preached against it. He thundered: **'Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!'**" (Habakkuk 2:15). Amos preached against it and predicted that people would seek to muzzle their prophets on this issue, when he declared: **'And I raised up of your sons for prophets, and of your young men for Nazarites. But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophesy not.'**" (Amos 2:11-12).

Statistics show that 10,000 people are killed by liquor where only one is killed by a mad dog; yet we shoot the dog and license the liquor. What sense is there to this? Sam Morris remarked: "When somebody says to me, 'It is better to have legal dealers than it is to have bootleggers,' I look at him and say, 'Mister, is it better to have polecats or skunks? They are both in the same stinking business.'" Here is one example of why you don't hear any preaching against liquor today. Some time ago, the following was released by U.P.I.:

Dallas (UPI) The United Methodist Church Wednesday removed a clause from its minister's code which prohibited

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The Baptist Examiner Forum I

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

Who is the man of sin, the son of perdition in II Thessalonians 2:3?

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The man of sin is the same as the little horn in Daniel 7, 8, the vile person in Daniel 11:21, the abomination in Daniel 9 and Matthew 24:15, and the Beast in Revelation 13, and commonly called the anti-Christ by John in I John 2 and II John 7.

It is the devil who is manifesting himself again in the flesh as he did in Judas. Jesus referred to Judas in John 17:12 as the son of perdition. Luke 22:3 tells us that Satan entered into Judas and he betrayed the Lord for 30 pieces of silver.

The revelation of the man of sin will involve a worldwide massive deception. That deception has to do with a world peace program which will involve a total religious liberty, especially the Jews. (Dan. 9:27) Remember the "great whore" in Revelation 17:1? Notice in verse three that she is sitting upon a scarlet (red) beast. She will be the controlling influence in world government until the Little Horn, who is called the man of sin, sets himself up as God. He is called the abomination of desolation in Matthew 24:15, and in Daniel 9:27. He is called the Little Horn in Daniel 7:8 and the Beast in Revelation 13.

In Revelation 17:13 the scarlet beast has seven heads and ten horns. Verse 12 tells us that the ten horns are the ten kings, or world leaders. Verse 16 reveals that they will turn against the whore (the great religious system) and align themselves with and follow after the beast. This brings us to II Thessalonians 2:4, 9, 10. Please read.

The great power and wonderment of this man of sin will cause the whole world to follow after his doctrine. The world of unbelievers will be deceived into thinking that he is the salvation of the world (See Rev. 13:3-9).

If you are left here after the rapture, you will be a part of the great deception and great blinding of God (I Thes. 2:10-12).

There are two very important matters that everyone needs to consider. First, you must receive Christ as your Lord and Saviour now in order to escape the great deception of the Wicked one, and the blinding by God of those who have not received the truth. Next, it is very important after you have been saved to become a member of one of the Lord's true

churches. Those who are faithful in the Lord's churches will also be a part of Christ's Bride.

When Christ comes back He will come not as Saviour of sinners, but a conquering King!

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"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition: Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God." (II Thessalonians 2:3,4).

I believe that the man or sin (lawlessness) spoken of here is the Antichrist. Certainly he is marked for perdition (destruction, hell) from the first. He is the incarnate spirit of the Evil One who is permitted by a Sovereign God to work the workings of lawlessness and opposition to God during the tribulation period which will cause the destruction and death of multitudes of people.

This second chapter of II Thessalonians tells us several things about the Antichrist. He will set himself up as God, claiming to be God (2:24). His coming and work will be in accordance with the work of Satan and will be accompanied by signs, wonders, and counterfeit miracles (2:9). He is doomed to destruction (2:3) and that at the coming of the Lord Jesus (2:8).

This lawless one is the same person called the Beast coming out of the sea in Revelation 13:1. He is the "little horn" of Daniel 7:8 and he is the one who will try to rule the world as promoted by the False prophet in Revelation 13:15-17. He is the future ruler of Daniel 11:36,37 who will exalt himself above all Gods. He is the Antichrist of I John 2:18 that shall come.

Most certainly the time of Antichrist's appearance cannot be far away; hence even closer the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The spirit of Antichrist is already among us as it has been since the time of John, but certainly has grown stronger and permeated our society. The spirit of lawlessness seems to grow stronger every day in preparation for the revelation of the Antichrist which will be in God's own time. We should be conducting ourselves accordingly

as God's children. Our conversation and our conduct should be exactly the opposite of the spirit of this age. Let us strive to live so before Him in example to the wickedness that surrounds us.

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"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition: Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God" (II Thes. 2:3, 4).

By comparing these verses with Daniel 11:36-38; Revelation 13:11-18; 16:13, 20, we see that all these passages are describing the same person. In Daniel he is called "the king", in Revelation he is called "the beast" and the "false prophet." In I John 2:18-22; 4:3; II John 7 he is referred to as "the Antichrist."

A study of these passages as well as other passage show this person to be a man who will set himself up as a god to be worshipped as God. Under the power of Satan he will be able to perform miracles, "Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders" (II Thes. 2:9).

It is after Christ returns for His own that this one whom John called the "Antichrist" shall set himself as God. He is called the Antichrist because he sets himself up as the king of the Jews, the Messiah for whom they are looking. When Christ came the first time the Jew rejected Him, but the one who is yet to appear, when he comes they will receive as the Messiah. Christ had told them "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive" (John 5:43). When this one comes they will worship him as their Messiah. Not only will the Jews receive him as God, but all who received not the truth will worship him, "And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong

delusion, that they should believe as (the) lie: That they all might be damned who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (II Thes. 2:10-12).

Who is this "man of sin," "the son of perdition"? He is a man, a Jew, who, empowered by Satan will set up headquarters in Jerusalem and by his "power and signs and lying wonders" shall cause all who received not the truth to worship him as their god, the one who is called "the Antichrist."

HOGS

(Continued from Page 3)

smoking or drinking. The church's committee on ministry said the minister should "Exercise responsible self-control by personal habits, conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, social responsibility and growth in grace and the knowledge and love of God."

Let us do a brief analysis on this pontifical announcement by the Methodists as they drop the ban on Booze.

1. "Bodily Health" - I suppose in layman's language this means to stop short of drinking the amount which causes cirrhosis of the liver.

2. "Mental and Emotional Maturity" - I wonder if this high-sounding phrase might mean they ought not to drink so much they get delirium tremors.

3. "Social responsibility" - This one is easy to interpret. Don't get drunk and run over someone with your car. (Or could it mean if you are at a social gathering, you must not get the hiccups?) At this point I must confess my ignorance, but for the life of me, I can't figure out what drinking booze has to do with "growing in grace" and "the love of God."

At the Dallas meeting, several Methodist clergymen told reporters that they would "have difficulty explaining the change to their home congregations." But somehow or other I reckon they would manage to "explain it!"

A town, not long ago, was about to vote dry. The wife of the liquor seller -- the only saloon in town -- said in tones of almost despair to her Negro wash woman: "If this town goes dry, I won't be able to pay you to do my washing any more. I don't know how we can live ourselves." The generous-hearted Black woman sympathetically answered, "Don't you worry, honey. If your husband has to shut up his liquor place, my husband won't be able to get drunk and we will have plenty and you can come and do our washing."

BIRTH

(Continued from Page 1)

kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and

whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit. Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?" (John 3:1-9).

Verse seven, in our text is without a doubt one of the most familiar in all of the precious Word of God, especially among the true Baptists of today. John, chapter three, records the conversation that took place between Jesus and a man called Nicodemus. John is the only "Gospel Writer," here in chapter three, that records the conversation that took place between them. How thankful we should be for this record of the valuable information that we have here concerning what is called the "New Birth," because the words that were spoken to Nicodemus apply to us all! Verse three tells us that without this marvelous birth, we will not, cannot, see the kingdom of God. This, of course, means that without it, we are eternally lost. Doomed to everlasting destruction. This is one of the most precious gifts ever given to man, the new birth. The second most precious gift is, in my considered opinion, after the new birth, is to be allowed with love to be a member of a New Testament Church!

Our admonition today, is, how careful we should be to see to it we have experienced this new birth. May the blessed Holy Spirit be our guide and teacher as we study this most important subject. There are four good points that I would like to share with you at this time concerning the "New Birth."

(I). "The way of the New Birth."

Jesus was very explicit when He spoke of being born again. He did not say, "You ought to be born again," or, "It would be better if you were born again," but rather, my beloved readers, He said; "Ye must be born again." The man to whom these words were spoken was no ordinary man. Nicodemus was a Jew, a member of God's chosen nation! He was, no doubt, an outstanding man among the Jews of that day. The Bible tells us that he was a Pharisee, and a master of Israel. If there had been such a thing in that day as an "outstanding man of the year award", Nicodemus would, no doubt, have been a candidate to receive it. He was truly the "Mister nice guy," of that day.

Yet, in spite of all that he had going for himself, Jesus told him that that was not enough. Jesus looked him straight in the face and said, "Ye must be born again!" In spite of all his good works, Nicodemus was yet, still, a sinner, and unfit for heaven by the natural birth. What was true of Nicodemus is true of every descendant of Adam! Beloved, by the natural birth, we have all been born with a sinful nature. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Rom. 3:23). The very best that the lost sinner has is unclean in God's sight. "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away." (Isa. 64:6). There must be a great change, a new birth, before we can see or enter into the kingdom of heaven.

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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

Explain "fathers, provoke not your children to wrath" in Ephesians 6:4.

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Why is it that fathers are mentioned rather than mothers? It is not that mothers may not provoke them to anger; but rather, I think, it is that they may be more severe than the mothers; or that they may be more harsh, or that they may rebuke too hard; or that they may chastise them too severely.

I think the main reason that the Lord speaks to the fathers is that they are the heads of the home. Being the head of the home, they are to see that the home is kept up properly. They are the breadwinner, or at least should be. But we are living in a time that the husband is not the provider in many cases, and not the head of the home. But just because the husband is not the head of the home and not the provider or the main provider for the family, or does not provide at all, does not relieve him of his responsibility, neither does it discharge him from his accountability to God.

The husband, being the head of the home, is the care-taker, the overseer and so is to see that the children are provided for in everything. He is not to unduly chastise them. If the children are chastised more than is needful, this may drive them to wrath and drive them away rather than bringing them near.

If the father does not see that the children are taken care of in food and clothing and the necessary things of life, this may cause them to be driven to wrath.

If a father chastises in anger he may provoke the child to wrath. Children are certainly to be corrected, and are certainly to be chastised; but it is to be done in love. If it is done in love the children will surely recognize this, and will not be provoked to wrath.

Children are not to be teased or joked with or at until such provokes them to wrath. Children can take a certain amount of teasing, but too much will be upsetting to them and is apt to provoke them to wrath.

Fathers can be too rough with children in playing with them. This may wound their inner feelings. They will feel like that they are being taken advantage of.

If fathers do not find time to spend with children in their activities; playing, entertaining, etc. a certain amount; this will and can be harmful to them and they will feel neglected and so provoked to wrath.

Fathers need to, as much as is possible, provide for the future of the children. This would include

teaching them to take care of what they have and to learn the value of things. Providing for their future would include bringing them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord and in so doing would turn them away from wrath and a wicked life.

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Thank you for your question on a much neglected subject; neglected as far as being covered in detail.

Parents know all children are different, just as all parents are different. Studies have proven that some children are born more sensitive than others. Sensitive to high pitched sounds, or low tolerance to different levels of voices. Some children are born more fearful of loud noises than others. Different things affect different children in various ways. Therefore what might provoke one child to wrath will not affect another. You must consider, with an open mind, the tolerance your child has. What one child considers fun or teasing may be taken as ridicule by another.

Many parents, perhaps unknowingly teach, command, or demand their children to keep their feelings to themselves. There is a definite need for people to express themselves. If a child is kept from doing this, here is another way he may be provoked to wrath, probably when he becomes an adult. Their feelings will come out eventually. This is one reason we have a world that is so wrathful. Let me also say there are acceptable ways you can show your children how to express themselves.

God has always taught by example. His love knows no limit toward His children. Only after much long suffering would He punish the disobedient, that they might consider their ways and turn. He is our best example in rearing our children. Just as God set forth distinct rules and communicated them in love to His children; mom and dad must agree on set standards of behaviour for their children from birth to adulthood, and be sure their children know the rules. Inconsistency causes confusion and provokes wrath.

Be quick to teach rather than use the rod. The rod used only to hurt will provoke wrath. Your children copy you. Do you argue or act hatefully in front of them? Do they see you throw things or even hit one another? A soft answer turns away wrath, and a smile goes a long way. Be in

good behaviour before your children; don't set double standards by your actions and words. If it is not good for your child, it is probably not good for you. Do you condemn your child for listening to rock music while you listen to country? Do you condemn your child for speaking evil of another person while you have roast preacher for Sunday dinner? Consider your ways; after all you are the adult!

Consider the age and abilities of your child when giving responsibilities. Urge them to do more and take on more but don't be over-demanding.

Be consistent with the rules. Don't let what you are doing, or how you feel set the rules. What is right is always right, and what is wrong is always wrong, day in and day out. "...Let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation." (James 5:12b)

Teach your children how to behave, by your example before you use the rod. The rod does not contain any "how to do's" only "not to do's". It may stop bad behaviour, but in itself will never teach how to behave. Some may not agree with me but I believe in spanking as a last resort, and then only in cases of rebellious misbehaviour. There is wisdom in the rod. It teaches very clearly not to do "it" again; after the instruction and warning is ignored. Some parents use the rod in anger, then deny the fact. You need to search your heart concerning this. Some young parents use the rod because they may not know any other way. They don't even stop to think, does the punishment match the crime? Does it teach a valuable lesson? There are other ways. Like loss of certain privileges, or restitution to the owner of something that was broken. Space here does not permit more suggestions. But the reason I say this, is because Katie and I have been guilty of misusing the rod ourselves.

If parents were only half as understanding with their children as God is with His children they would not provoke them to wrath. They would go to the limit to understand and love them.

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"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). In this verse, Paul is writing concerning the duties of fathers relative to their own children. It

is connected to the verses that spoke of the duties of the husband, wife, and children. There is a distinct relationship between the husband and wife, the children and the parents, and especially between the father and the children. The father, as head of the home, has been made responsible for the upbringing of the children. That upbringing is to be with nurturing (discipline), which includes training and instruction and the admonition of the Lord which relates to training by the Word. That training by the Word can either be by encouragement or by reproof.

Now, the object of this nurture and admonition is to instruct with love, and discipline, and warnings. It is not to become a matter that will only antagonize or alienate the child. The child has been instructed to obey their parents. The father has been instructed not to provoke his child to anger. The word "provoke" means to irritate beyond measure. The word anger in the Greek is the same word as provoke. Anger as used in this verse means to arouse to wrath. In the Greek, both words are not used. Only the word provoke. "And ye fathers, do not provoke your children, but bring them up in the discipline and admonition of the Lord." When a father instructs or disciplines his child, it is not to be excessive, but firm and with compassion. Colossians 3:21 says: "Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged." The instruction or disciplining of children is not meant to be a disheartening experience, but one that will enable them to grow and mature into useful adults.

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There are many parents that have no love for their children, or are too busy to pay any attention to them. This includes Christians as well as lost parents. I realize that there are many who love their children who never express their love to them. My parents loved me very much but somehow never expressed their love unless I became sick or got into trouble. We turned out all right because we knew they loved us.

My wife and I always tried to let our children know that we loved them; we expressed our love to them vocally as well as by example. Our children always knew we loved them. When they brought home their report cards, we looked them over, and if there was a bad grade we would tell them to try to do better next time; and we always let them know that we appreciated the hard work they spent getting the good grades.

We, as parents should never pick out the bad grades and blow our top and scare them half to death; this sort of thing provokes your children to wrath. I have heard children say of their parents; they never give us any credit for the good we do, but are always running us down for our faults, but never praise any good

that we do.

What I'm trying to say is this; children have feelings just like we do. We don't like to be put down all the time. We need to counsel our children. Don't be afraid to tell them that you love them; they need to hear it from you. Just don't take it for granted that they know that you love them. If you ignore them or never share in their interests, they never really know that love you say you have for them.

Beloved, unless you spend some time with your children and show them that you love them, they may never know. Don't treat them like slaves, they are part of you. Show them you love them even after disciplining them. Otherwise, you might provoke them to wrath, and they will either hate you or lose respect for you.

BIRTH

(Continued from Page 4)

(II). What is the New Birth?

The New Birth is one of the great mysteries of the Bible, one that we cannot clearly explain, and yet, one that we know is so very real. "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit." (John 3:8). We cannot explain the wind, how it blows, why it sometime is a gentle breeze, yet, at other times it is a mighty force that uproots trees, and causes great destruction. However, we do know that it is real. So it is with the new birth, while we cannot explain it, we who have experienced it know that it is real! There are several things about this experience that we do know.

a. We know that the new birth is of God! "Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." (John 1:13). In this verse we can see three negatives and one positive. We are told that the new birth is not blood. Beloved reader, this means that it is not ours by heredity. You may have inherited certain things from your parents, but salvation is not one of them. Just because one's parents are saved does not mean that the children are born saved. Please Lord, perish the thought.

b. The second negative is, "nor of the will of flesh." Salvation is not of man, it is not of his own will or power that he is saved, in fact, left to himself, man would never have the will or desire to be eternally saved.

c. The third negative is, "nor of man." Beloved, no one is ever saved because of the power of a given preacher, or any other man. No man has the power to resolve another person's sins and bring about his salvation. Only the power of the Holy Spirit can do this. Beloved, no man has the power to resolve another person's sins. No man can lay his hands on another person and announce that because they have confessed their sins to him, they are now forgiven.

d. Now the positive statement in this verse is, "...but of God." Beloved, the new birth is

(Continued on Page 7, Col. 1)

STUDIES IN JOSHUA

C.T. Everman
Chapter 24

'AND Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God' (V.1).

Joshua's farewell address to all of Israel took place at Shechem. How long this address took place after the one with only the leaders, we are not told. The place where Israel was gathered is of special interest. Shechem was a few miles northeast of Shiloh and was the place where God first promised Abraham that his seed would be given the land of Canaan. Abraham manifested his faith in this promise by building an altar there.

On Jacob's return from Padan-aram he stopped at Shechem and buried all the idols which his family had brought with them (Gen. 35:4). After Israel had taken Jericho and Ai, Joshua built an altar in Shechem (in Mount Ebal) and on this altar was written a copy of the law of Moses. It was there that the law was reviewed for all the people of Israel (Josh. 8:30-35). It was for a very good reason that Joshua gathered the people at Shechem for his last address. No doubt the altar with the law of Moses written on its sides was still standing, and it would remind them that some years before they had gathered in this same spot and heard all the law spoken unto them.

In my mind I can see the whole congregation of Israel assembled as they had before, half on mount Gerizim and half on mount Ebal, with Joshua standing in the valley between. No doubt, with much emotion and a trembling voice he begins his farewell address. In verses 2-13 Joshua reviews the past blessings which God had given them:

"And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods" (V.2). Here we see that before God called Abraham, he and his father before him served other gods. It has been said that Abraham may have been a priest to these false gods. **"And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac" (V.3).**

We need to note that it is God Who is speaking in reviewing the history of Israel. Note the times the personal pronoun "I" is used, **"...I took your father Abraham...and gave him Isaac" (V.2).** **"...I gave unto Isaac Jacob and Esau..." (V.4); "I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt...brought you out" (V.5).** **"I brought your fathers out of Egypt..." (V.6).** **"I brought you into the land of the Amorites, which Iwelt on the other side Jordan; ...and I gave them into**

your hand...and I destroyed them from before you" (V.8). **"And I sent the hornet before you, which drove them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; but not with thy sword, nor with thy bow. And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat" (vs. 12,13).**

From the calling of Abraham to Israel's obtaining possession of the land of Canaan all was of the Lord their God. From first to last their victories, their deliverance, their obtaining the "good land" was all due to the sure mercy of God, **"not with thy sword, nor with thy bow", "I have given you a land"**.

Is this not true of every child of God? What we are, what we have, must we not acknowledge that it is by the grace of God? It is said that John Newton, a slave trader, after coming to know Christ, wrote in large letters and hung on his wall these words: **"...thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt, and the LORD thy God redeemed thee..." (Deut. 15:15).**

"Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (Josh. 24:14,15).

After reviewing the history of how God had blessed and cared for them from the calling of their father Abraham down to the present time, he now urges them, first, to **"fear the Lord"**. This does not mean to be afraid of Him but to reverence Him, to trust Him as the only true and almighty God. With such trust and reverence of Him they would follow Him with complete confidence in God. To do this they would avoid the snare of sin and walk by faith.

In the second place, Joshua ask Israel to **"serve him in sincerity and in truth"**. This means to lay aside all pretense and really serve Him. It means to **Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Eph. 6:11).**

In the third place Joshua told Israel to **"...put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD"**. It would seem that Joshua was aware of the fact that, although God had brought them throughout their history of trials and troubles there were some in Israel who were still worshipping the gods of their fathers, some who were still holding to the gods of Egypt. He now tells them, like their forefather Jacob told his family, **"...Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments" (Gen. 35:2).** God is the only true

God and to worship Him in sincerity and in truth there can be no other gods which Israel could hold to; neither can we, **"...ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Matt. 6:24).**

"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (Josh. 24:15).

What Joshua is telling Israel is that if they think it evil to serve the Lord in this way, in reverent fear, in sincerity and in truth, and put away all other gods; then they should make their choice as to which of the false gods they will serve: the gods of their fathers or the gods of the Amorites. In other words, if they are going to serve a false god it does not make any difference which false god they serve. After telling them to choose the false gods which they were to choose, Joshua lets them know where he and his family stood:

"...but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD". "And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods; For the LORD our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed: And the LORD drove out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the LORD; for he is our God" (Josh. 24:16-18).

The people answered Joshua's plea by saying it would be unthinkable for them to forsake the Lord who brought them from bondage in Egypt into this land protecting them all the way, driving out the enemy before them, **"...therefore will we also serve the LORD, for he is our God"**.

"And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good" (Josh. 24:19,20).

Joshua again spoke unto them. This time it was a word of warning. It would seem that he was not entirely satisfied with their response. It would seem their response was only words without action. If they were sincere in what they said why did they not bring forth their idols to be destroyed as Jacob's family had done several hundred of years before (Gen. 35:4)? In no uncertain terms Joshua told them they could not expect continued blessing from the Lord if they forsook Him and served strange gods. If they did forsake the LORD and served other gods He would turn from them and even though He had done them good all this time He would **"do you hurt, and consume you"**. Once more the people responded to Joshua, **"And the**

people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the LORD" (V.21).

"And Joshua said unto the people, Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him. And they said, We are witnesses" (V. 22). Joshua told them that their word would condemn them if they turned from the Lord, then he spoke to them a fourth and final time. This time he came out very plain and told them what they must do if they were to serve God, **"Now therefore put away, said he, the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the LORD God of Israel" (V. 23).** The people had pledged that they would serve God; now Joshua tells them to put that pledge into action by getting rid of the strange gods that some of them were still worshipping. They could not serve God and at the same time hold on to their idols. Do we have idols today? Do we say we serve God yet we have things which we put ahead of our service to Him? Our job, our home, our family? Idols come in many shapes and sizes. Anything that we put ahead of our service to our Lord is an idol.

"And the people said unto Joshua, The LORD our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey. So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that was by the sanctuary of the LORD" (Josh. 24, 25, 26).

As a final reminder, after renewing the covenant, he wrote the agreement in the book of the law of God. He then set up a great stone and told the people, **"...Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of the LORD which he spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God" (V.27).**

After renewing the covenant and the people pledging to follow the Lord their God and setting up a stone as a witness to their pledge and recording their agreement in the book of the law of God, Joshua's last public act was completed.

"And it came to pass after these things, that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD died, being an hundred and ten years old. And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnathserah, which is in mount Ephraim, on the north side of the hill of Gaash" (Josh. 24:29,30).

It must have been a sad day when Israel came to bury their old and faithful leader, one who had lead them through many battles, one who had set the example of what it means to live by faith. **"...Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD..."** What greater tribute could be said of a man than he is **"the servant of the LORD"**? In reviewing the life of Joshua we can see why he was called **"the servant of the LORD"**. Joshua believed that God was the only true God. From the time he left Egypt he never forsook the one true God. In addressing Israel, note the times he referred to the **"LORD your**

God" or "The God of Israel". In reviewing the victories in Canaan he gave God all the credit. Like Moses before him, he was a humble man. Instead of putting himself to the front, he gave God all the honor and glory for fulfilling His promises.

In the second place Joshua loved God with all his heart. It follows that if we truly believe that God is the only true God, we shall love and serve Him. Joshua did this all his life and he taught his children to do the same, **"...as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (24:15).** After the death of Moses when God told Joshua to take the leadership of Israel He told him, **"Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest" (Josh. 1:7).** The overall story of Joshua's life was one of complete obedience to the Lord in everything. There were times when he failed God, but the overall direction of his life was obedience to his God. He truly was **"the servant of God"**.

They buried him in the place which he had chosen for his inheritance. The next verse tells us the influence Joshua's life and teaching had on his generation, **"...Israel served the LORD all the day of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the LORD, that he had done for Israel" (V.31).** While this generation served the lord, it is said of the generation that followed, **"there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel. And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim:" (Judges 2:10).**

Is it not strange that the children of those who crossed Jordan on dry ground, the people who were told to teach their children the meaning of the memorial of stone set up at Gilgal (Josh. 4:20-24), could turn from serving the Lord to serve other gods? But then look at things in this day. What a change has taken place in our government, our schools, our churches in the last few years. Are we not the generation, **"which knew not the LORD"**?

"And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for an hundred pieces of silver: and it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph" (V.32).

Joseph's dying request has been that his bones be buried in the Promised Land when God brought them out. Now after forty years of wandering in the wilderness and upon completion of the conquest of the land, his bones were placed in the family cemetery in Shechem, the field his father Jacob had bought hundreds of years before.

The last verse of Joshua records another death, **"And Eleazar the son of Aaron died; and they buried him in a hill that pertained to Phinehas his son, which was given**

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JOSHUA

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him in mount Ephraim" (V.33).

It may seem strange to end the book of Joshua by recording three burials, but these three graves testify to the faithfulness of God to these three men. Joseph, Joshua, and Eleazar all once lived in Egypt where they had received the promise from God that He would take His people back to Canaan. Now all three bodies were resting in the Promised Land. God had kept His promise to Joshua, Joseph, Eleazar, and to all Israel. Is this not proof of the unfailing faithfulness of our God?

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,

There is no shadow of turning with Thee;

Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;

As thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided-

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

William M. Runyon

BIRTH

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nothing short of an act of God. "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).

Not only is He the giver of physical life, but in the new birth, He is the giver of eternal life. "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth..." (James 1:18).

(III). He is the agent of the new birth. Let us look again at this most precious statement; "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5). This verse is often used as a "proof text," by those who teach baptismal regeneration. However, let us face it; baptism is a burial, not a birth. "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4).

There are some who say Jesus used water as a symbol of the Holy Spirit. "In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified)." (John 7:37-39). Jesus used water as a symbol of the Word of God, according to Paul. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself

for it: That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word." (Eph. 5:25-26). Both of these, the Spirit, and the Word, are necessary in the New Birth.

The Holy Spirit is the agent of the new birth. It is the Spirit that convicts the sinner of his sins, reveals Christ to him as the only Saviour, the only way, the only hope, thus drawing him to Christ, quickening him, and after salvation, seals him unto the day of redemption. Beloved, the precious Word of God is the instrument that the Holy Spirit uses in bringing this about. Oh, why can't we believe? No one, I repeat, no one, is saved apart from the Holy Spirit and the Word of God.

Man cannot build his salvation, God must, and will do the building, and the keeping. "Say unto them which daub it with untempered mortar, that it shall fall: there shall be an overflowing shower; and ye, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall rend it. Lo, when the wall is fallen, shall it not be said unto you, Where is the daubing wherewith ye have daubed it? Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even rend it with a stormy wind in my fury; and there shall be an overflowing shower in mine anger, and great hailstones in my fury to consume it. So will I break down the wall that ye have daubed with untempered mortar, and bring down to the ground, so that the foundation thereof shall be discovered, and it shall fall, and ye shall be consumed in the midst thereof: and ye shall know that I am the LORD. Thus will I accomplish my wrath upon the wall, and upon them that have daubed it with untempered mortar, and will say unto you, The wall is no more, neither they that daubed it" (Ezek. 13:11-14). Homemade salvation will not work! The mud that we daub with is nothing more than pure mud. Our mud is tempered with self righteousness. The true mud that will hold in true salvation is tempered with the finished work at Calvary done by the One who uses properly mixed mortar that will never fail. Our fence, defence if you please, was mixed with the proper ingredients, love, life, death, blood, grave, resurrection into new life forevermore by the giver of life Himself; Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Anything else is nothing but untempered mortar. It will not hold throughout eternity. To be born again by His method, His mixture, we will live forever, and the wrath of the Father will not fall upon us ever. His mortar is the only mortar with the proper mixture for everlasting life.

Salvation, or everlasting life, is promised to the believer. But how do they come to believe? "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Rom. 10:17). This is one reason why we need to be better missionaries here at home than we are. We are to preach the gospel to every body because it is the precious Word of God that the Holy Spirit uses to point people to the Saviour.

(IV). Evidences of the New Birth. Just as there are evidences

of physical life, there are also evidences of spiritual life. When there is no evidence of physical life, we say the person is dead. By the same token, when there is no evidence of spiritual life, there is serious reason to question whether there has been a new birth. The main evidence of the new birth is the witness of Him, the Holy Spirit. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but Ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." (Rom. 8:14-16). "What? know ye not that Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" (I Cor. 6:19). These Scriptures make it plain that the Holy Spirit indwells each saved person and bears witness to, or of, his salvation.

Another evidence is the inward struggle, the spiritual warfare, that goes on inside a true believer. "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would" (Gal. 5:17). There is a continual warfare caused by Satan himself at all times. The believer also has the evidence of endurance. Jesus said; "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:" (John 10:27). He did not say, they might follow Him, or that they should follow Him, but rather, that they would follow Him.

If you would like to see born again's "Birth Certificate," read I John 5:9-13. These Scriptures clearly announce that all who have received Christ have been born again. Beloved, everyone should have two birthdays, one physical, and the other spiritual! Dear readers, how many birthdays have you had? Think it over. Amen.

SOUL

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not declare that he who preaches is necessarily wise; and alas! there are multitudes who preach, and gain much applause and eminence, who win no souls, and who shall find it goes hard with them at the last, because in all probability they have run and the Master has never sent them. Solomon does not say that he who talks about winning souls is wise, since to lay down rules for others is a very simple thing, but to carry them out one's self is far more difficult. He who actually, really and truly turns men from the error of their ways to God, and so is made the means of saving them from going down to hell, is a wise man; and that is true of him whatever his style of soul winning may be. He may be a Paul, deeply logical, profound in doctrine, able to command all candid judgments; and if he thus wins souls, he is wise. He may be an Appollos, grandly rhetorical, whose lofty genius soars into the very heaven of eloquence; and if he wins souls in that way he is wise, but not otherwise. Or he may be a Cephas, rough and rugged, using uncouth metaphor and stern declamation; but, if he

wins souls, he is no less wise than the polished brother or his argumentative friend, but not else. The great wisdom of soul winners, according to the text, is proven only by their actual success in really winning souls. To their own Master they are accountable for the ways in which they go to work, not to us. Do not let us be comparing and contrasting this minister and that. Who art thou that judgest another man's servants? Wisdom is justified in all her children. Only children wrangle about incidental methods: men look at sublime results. Do these workers of many sorts and divers manners win souls? Then they are wise; and you who criticize them, being yourselves unfruitful, cannot be wise, even though you affect to be their judges. God proclaims soul sinners to be wise, dispute it who dare. This degree from the College of heaven may surely stand them in good stead, let their fellow-mortals say what they will of them.

"...he that winneth souls is wise," and this can be seen very clearly. He must be a wise man in even ordinary respects who can by grace achieve so divine a marvel. Great soul winners never have been fools. A man whom God qualifies to win souls could probably do anything else which providence might allot him. Take Martin Luther, for instance. Why, sirs, the man was not only fit to work a Reformation, but he could have ruled a nation or have commanded an army! Think of Whitefield, and remember that the thundering eloquence which stirred all England was not associated with a weak judgment, or an absence of brain-power; the man was a master-orator, and if he had addicted himself to commerce, would have taken a chief place amongst the merchants, or had he been a politician, amid admiring senates would have commanded the listening ear. He that winneth souls is usually a man who could have done anything else if God had called him to it. I know the Lord uses what means He wills, but He always uses means suitable to the end; and if you tell me that David slew Goliath with a sling, I answer--it was the best weapon in the world to reach so tall a giant, and the very fittest weapon that David could have used, for he had been skilled in it from his youth up. There is always an adaptation in the instruments which God uses to produce the ordained result; and though the glory is not to them, nor the excellence in them, but all is to be ascribed to God, yet is there a fitness and preparedness which God seeth, even if we do not. It is assuredly true that soul winners are by no means idiots or simpletons, but such as God maketh wise for Himself, though vain-glorious wise-acres may dub them fools.

"...he that winneth souls is wise," because he has selected a wise object. I think it was Michaelangelo who once carved certain magnificent statues in snow. They are gone; the material readily compacted by the frost as readily melted in the heat. Far wiser was he when he fashioned the enduring marble, and produced works which will last all down the ages. But even marble itself is consumed and fretted by the tooth of time; and he is wise who selects for his raw material immortal souls, whose existence shall outlast the stars. If

God shall bless us to the winning of souls, our work shall remain when the wood, and hay, and stubble of earth's art and science shall have gone to the dust from which they sprang. In heaven itself, the soul winner, blessed of God, shall have memorials of his work preserved forever in the galleries of the skies. He has selected a wise object, for what can be wiser than to glorify God, and what, next to that, can be wiser than in the highest sense to bless our fellowmen; to snatch a soul from the gulf that yawns, to lift it up to the heaven that glorifies; to deliver an immortal from the thralldom of Satan, and to bring him into the liberty of Christ? What more excellent than this? I say, that such an aim would commend itself to all right minds, and that angels themselves may envy us poor sons of men that we are permitted to make this our life object, to win souls for Jesus Christ. Wisdom herself assents to the excellence of the design.

To accomplish such a work, a man must be wise, for to win a soul requires infinite wisdom. God Himself wins not souls without wisdom, for the eternal plan of salvation was dictated by an infallible judgment, and in every line of it infinite skill is apparent. Christ, God's great Soul Winner, is "the wisdom of God" as well as "the power of God." There is as much wisdom to be seen in the new creation as in the old. In a sinner saved, there is as much of God to be beheld as in a universe rising out of nothing; and we, then, who are to be workers together with God, proceeding side by side with Him to the great work of soul winning, must be wise, too. It is a work which filled the Saviour's heart, a work which moved the mind of the Eternal Jehovah over the earth was. It is no child's play, nor a thing to be achieved while we are half asleep, nor to be carried on without gracious help from the only wise God, our Saviour. The pursuit is wise.

Mark ye well, my brethren, that he who is successful in soul winning, will prove to have been a wise man in the judgment of those who see the end as well as the beginning. Even if I were utterly selfish, and had no care for anything but my own happiness, I would choose, if I might, under God, to be a soul winner, for never did I know perfect, overflowing, unutterable happiness of the purest and most ennobling order till I first heard of one who had sought and found a Saviour through my means. I recollect the thrill of joy which went through me! No young mother ever rejoiced so much over her first-born child, no warrior was so exultant over a hard won victory. Oh! the joy of knowing that a sinner once at enmity has been reconciled to God by the Holy Spirit, through the words spoken by our feeble lips. Since then, by grace given to me, the thought of which prostrates me in self-abasement, I have seen and heard of, not hundreds only, but even thousands of sinners turned from the error of their ways by the testimony of God in me. Let afflictions come, let trials be multiplied as God willeth, still this joy preponderates above all others, the joy that we are unto God a sweet savour

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SOUL

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of Christ in every place, and that as often as we preach the Word, hearts are unlocked, bosoms heave with a new life, eyes weep for sin, and their tears are wiped away as they see the great substitute for sin, and live.

Beyond all controversy, it is a joy worth worlds to win souls, and, thank God, it is a joy that does not cease with this mortal life. It must be no small bliss to hear, as one wings his flight up to the eternal throne, the wings of others fluttering at one's side towards the same glory, and turning round and questioning them, to hear them say, "We are entering with you through the gates of pearl, you brought us to the Saviour," and to be welcomed to the skies by those who call us father in God--father in better bonds than those of earth, father through grace and sire for immortality. It will be bliss beyond compare, to meet in yon eternal seats with those begotten of us in Christ Jesus, for whom we travailed in birth, till Christ was formed in them the hope of glory. This is to have many heavens, a heaven in every one won for Christ, according to the Master's promise, **"...they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."**

I have said enough, brethren, I trust, to make some of you desire to occupy the position of soul winners; but before I further address myself to my text, I should like to remind you that the honour does not belong to ministers only; they may take their full share of it, but it belongs to every one of you who have devoted yourselves to Christ; such honour have all the saints. Every man here, every woman here, every child here, whose heart is right with God, may be a soul winner. There is not a glow-worm under a hedge but gives a needed light; and there is not a labouring man, a suffering woman, a servant girl, a chimney sweeper, or a crossing sweeper, but has some opportunities for serving God; and what I have said of soul winners, belongs not to the learned doctor of divinity, or to the eloquent preacher alone, but to you all who are in Christ Jesus. You can each of you, if grace enable you, be thus wise, and win the happiness of turning souls to Christ through the Holy Spirit.

I am about to dwell upon my text in this way--**"...he that winneth souls is wise;"** I shall, first, make that fact stand out a little clearer by explaining the metaphor used in the text--winning souls; and then, secondly; by giving you some lessons in the matter of soul sinning, through which I trust the conviction will be forced upon each believing mind that the work need the highest wisdom.

I. First, let us consider the metaphor used in the text: **"...he that winneth souls is wise."**

We use the word "win" in many ways. It is sometimes found in very bad company, in those games of chance, juggling

tricks and sleight-of-hand, or thimble-rigging (to use a plain word), by which sharpers are so fond of winning. I am sorry to say that much of legerdemain and trickery are to be met with in the religious world. Why, there are those who pretend to save souls by curious tricks, intricate manoeuvres, and dexterous posturing! A basin of water, half-a-dozen drops, certain syllables--neigh, presto!--the infant is made a child of God, a member of Christ, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven! This aqueous regeneration surpasses my belief; it is a trick which I don not understand: the initiated only can perform the beautiful piece of magic, which excels anything ever attempted by the wizard of the north. There is a way, too, of winning souls by laying hands upon heads, only the elbows of the aforesaid hands must be encased in lawn, and then the machinery acts, and there is grace conferred by blessed fingers! I must confess I do not understand the occult science, but at this I need not wonder, for the profession of saving souls by such juggling can only be carried out by certain favoured persons who have received apostolical succession direct from Judas Iscariot. This episcopal confirmation, when men pretend that it confers grace, is an infamous piece of juggling. The whole thing is an abomination. Only to think that, in this nineteenth century, there should be men who preach up salvation by sacraments, and salvation by themselves, forsooth! Why, sirs, it is surely too late in the day to come to us with this drivel! Let us hope, is an anachronism, and the sacramental theory out of date. These things might have done for those who could not read, and in the days when books were scarce; but ever since the day when the glorious Luther was helped by God to proclaim with thunderclaps the emancipating truth, **"...by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God,"** there has been too much light for these popish owls. Let them go back to their ivy manted towers, and complain to the moon of those who spoiled of old their kingdom of darkness. Let shaven crowns go to Bedlam and scarlet hats to the scarlet harlot, but let not Englishmen yield them respect. Modern Tractarianism is a bastard popery, too mean, too shifty, too double-dealing to delude men of honest minds. If we win souls, it shall be by other arts than Jesuits and shavelings can teach us. Trust not in any man who pretends to priesthood. Priests are liars by trade, and deceivers by profession. We cannot save souls in their theatrical way, and do not want to do so, for we know that with such jugglery as that Satan will hold the best hand, and laugh at priests as he turns the cards against them at the last.

How do we win souls, then? Why, the word "win" has a better meaning far. It is used in warfare. Warriors win cities and provinces. Now, to win a soul is a much more difficult thing than to win a city. Observe the earnest soul winner at his work; how cautiously he seeks his great Captain's directions to know when to hang out the white flag to invite the heart to surrender to the sweet love of a dying Saviour; when, at the proper time, to hang out the black flag of threatening, showing that, if

grace be not received, judgment will surely follow; and when to unfurl, with dread reluctance, the red flag of the terrors of God against stubborn, impenitent souls. The soul winner has to sit down before a soul as a great captain before a walled town; to draw his lines of circumvallation, to cast up his entrenchments, and fix his batteries. He must not advance too fast, or he may overdo the fighting; he must not move too slowly, or he may seem not to be in earnest, and may do mischief. Then he must know which gate to attack--how to plant his guns at Eargate, and how to discharge them; how, sometimes, to keep the batteries going day and night with red hot shot, if perhaps he may make a breach in the walls; at other times, to lie by and cease firing, and then, on a sudden, to open all the batteries with terrific violence, if peradventure he may take the soul by surprise, or cast in a truth when it was not expected, to burst like a shell in the soul, and do damage to the dominions of sin. The Christian soldier must know how to advance by little and little--to sap that prejudice, to undermine that old enmity, to blow into the air that list, and at the last, to storm the citadel. It is his to throw the scaling ladder up, and to have his ears gladdened as he hears a clicking on the wall of the heart, telling that the scaling ladder has grasped and has gained firm hold; and then, with his sabre between his teeth, to climb up, spring on the man, slay his unbelief in the name of God, capture the city, run up the blood-red flag of the cross of Christ, and say, "The heart is won, won for Christ at last." This needs a warrior well-trained, a master in his art. After many days' attack, many weeks of waiting, many an hour of storming by prayer and battering by entreaty, to carry the Malakoff of depravity, this is the work, this is the difficulty. It takes no fool to do this. God's grace must make a man wise thus to capture Mansoul, to lead its captivity, captive, and open wide the heart's gates that the Prince Immanuel may come in. This is winning a soul.

The word "win" was commonly used among the ancients, to signify winning in the wrestling match. When the Greek sought to win the laurel, or the ivy crown, he was compelled a long time before to put himself through a course of training; and when he came forth at last stripped for the encounter, he had no sooner exercised himself in the first few efforts than you saw how every muscle and every nerve had been developed in him. He had a stern opponent, and he knew it, and therefore left none of his energy unused. While the wrestling was going on, you could see the man's eye, how he watched every motion, every feint of his antagonist, and how his hand, his foot, and his whole body were thrown into the encounter. He feared to meet with a fall: he hoped to give one to his foe. Now, a true soul winner has often to come to close quarters with the devil within men. He has to struggle with their prejudice, with their love of sin, with their unbelief, with their pride, and then again, all of a sudden, to grapple with their despair; at one moment he strives with their self-righteousness, at the next moment with their unbelief in God. Ten thousand arts are used to prevent the soul winner from

being conqueror in the encounter; but if God has sent him, he will never renounce his hold of the soul he seeks till he has given a throw to the power of sin, and won another soul for Christ.

ACTS

(Continued from Page 1)

twins. They then, as twins, received divine honors and were called the sons of Jupiter. They, in their honored position, were to keep watch over sailors. Many ships, therefore, carried the sign of Castor and Pollux.

"And landing at Syracuse, we tarried there three days" (Acts 28:12) Luke, through the inspiration of God the Spirit, has seen fit to make mention of the fact that they spent three days at Syracuse. This particular place was on the small island of Ortygia. There is a bridge which connects the island with the mainland. Dionysius the Elder ruled Syracuse for a long period of time. It was after his death that Dionysius the Younger ruled there. I make mention of Dionysius the Elder because of the fact that Plato, the Greek philosopher and a friend and student of Socrates, made several visits to Syracuse. He, according to the historical record, lived for a time at the court of Dionysius the Elder. Plato, at a later date, returned to Athens, Greece, and founded an Academy where he taught mathematics and philosophy until his death.

"And from thence we fetched a compass, and came to Rhegium: and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteoli" (Acts 28:13).

Rhegium is a city in Italy, which, of course, meant that Paul was drawing closer to the promised city of Rome. Rhegium was conquered and destroyed by Dionysius the Elder, the ruler of Syracuse and friend of Plato.

The city of "Puteoli" is only eight miles from Naples, Italy. The fact that it was a Roman port, no doubt, explains why Paul found believers there. This particular port, in fact, was famous as Rome's port of entry for trade from the East. I'm informed that the shop owners in Puteoli were rich, due, of course, to the trade from the East. The city, due to the rich traders, was surrounded by villas, or country estates.

The reference in our text to fetching **"a compass"**, means that they coasted about, or sailed along the eastern side of Sicily. This particular course can be easily seen on a map. This course, as noted in our text, brought them to Rhegium and from there the south wind carried them to Puteoli.

"Where we found brethren, and were desired to tarry with them seven days: and so we went toward Rome" (Acts 28:14).

It is likely that the **"brethren"** in Puteoli were Jewish traders in mosaics, pottery and perfumes. I make this statement because these were the main items which were traded at this particular port. You will recall, from the example of Lydia, that she was also a traveling saleslady having travelled to Philippi from Thyatira.

"And from thence, when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as Appii forum, and the three taverns: whom when

Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage" (Acts 28:15).

Appii Forum, a city of which there are still some remains, is only fifty-six miles from Rome. This particular city was built on the celebrated Appian Way which was the road from Rome to Capua--the road which was built under the authority and direction of Appius Claudius. It is likely that he also founded the city of Appii Forum because of its being the market place for the entire area. All sorts of goods were shipped there from Capua--the agriculture center. History also records the fact that Appii Forum was a tourist stop-over and a famous resort for peddlers or salesmen.

Our text also makes reference to the Three Taverns which was about eight to ten miles towards Rome from Appii Forum. This city was also on the Appian Way and, no doubt, received its name because of it being a distinguished place to stop for refreshments.

The believers, to whom our text makes reference, had travelled the fifty-six miles from Rome in order to see Paul. They, of course, had already heard much regarding him and had even received a letter from him about five years earlier. Their travelling the fifty-six miles to see Paul caused him to thank God and to be encouraged. Our text, in fact, states that he **"took courage"**. He, in other words, even as a ship takes on various goods, **"took on courage."** He, at that point in his journey, no doubt, was low on courage, but God, by way of the brethren, sent him a sufficient supply. The following passages of Scripture inform us of Paul's great desire to see the brethren.

"For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers; Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you. For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me" (Romans 1:9-12).

"And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him" (Acts 28:16).

The prisoners had been gathered from the various Roman provinces, as was the usual case, and were delivered to the captain of the guard once they arrived in Rome. Paul, without the special favor shown to him by the centurion, would have been just another prisoner, and would also have been delivered into the hands of the captain of the guard. The centurion, however, after observing all the things that Paul had done, chose to show special favor to him. We, of course, know that God was using the centurion as His instrument in performing His will for Paul. **"And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the**

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DOCTRINE OF SANCTIFICATION

by Paul Jackson

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (I Thessalonians 5:23).

The sanctification of the believer is the most misunderstood and abused doctrine which comes from God's Word. There are some basic facts about sanctification that the serious Bible student needs to be aware of; these being that every believer is sanctified; that God is the One who authors it; that the Holy Spirit sees that it is accomplished in every believer and that God's Word is the tangible agent used in it.

Thayer's Lexicon defines "hagiazō", the Greek word for sanctification, as meaning "to render or acknowledge to be venerable, to hallow, to separate from things and dedicate to God, to consecrate; to purify". A good example of sanctification is found in First Timothy and Hebrews. Pertaining to things to eat, Paul says, "For it (things to eat) is sanctified by the word of God and prayer" (I Timothy 4:5). It is clear that sanctification can pertain to things as well as persons. There were many ceremonies in the Old Testament performed for the purpose of sanctifying. This is better understood as external sanctification. Then there is sanctification by appeasement. The Apostle says, "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all" (Hebrews 10:10); and "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, ..." (Hebrews 13:12). This is something done for every believer by the saving grace of God.

If one is truly saved, one is truly sanctified. Sanctification is something done for every believer in the past. When the apostle Paul was defending himself before Agrippa he said, "To open their (saved) from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they (saved) which are sanctified (past) by faith that is in me" (Acts 26:18). Paul explains to Agrippa the reasons for his peculiar doctrine that brought accusation from the ranks of the self-righteous Jews. He explains his life as Saul of Tarsus, the persecutor of Christians and what happened to change his own attitude toward Christianity, simply, God saved him. This salvation is God's sanctification (separation) of His own to be used of Him (God).

The doctrine of sanctification is grossly abused by legalistic religionists. These are the people who teach there must be some form of earthly work to obtain or keep salvation. These religionists keep the unlearned in constant fear of losing their salvation and in constant thought about what can be done to earn or keep salvation. When one makes a commitment under legalistic influence, one is taught to wait upon a second form of blessing under the disguise of "being sanctified". There is not one verse of Scripture which teaches believers to wait upon sanctification.

I will relate an experience I had

a few years ago. I was working in my yard when two men came by visiting for their particular religious organization. The spokesman for the two introduced himself and the other person in the following manner: "My name is 'John Doe' and this is 'Bill Smith'; I'm sanctified and he's not. We represent 'so-and-so' church." Well, I looked at the poor unsanctified soul and he looked so pitiful. It made me feel sorry for him. I'm sure this poor unsanctified soul had been waiting on some kind of a feeling that would give evidence of "being sanctified". There are deceived souls sitting in these heretical organizations today bewildered because they can't get the feeling like "Sister Hooping-Holler". If someone would just teach them that sanctification is not a feeling, but it is a process that comes from God rendered to every true believer of Christ.

If sanctification is something done in the past for every believer, if it is not to be sought after or waited upon, and if it is not a feeling, then how does it come to believers today? Jesus teaches, "They (believers) are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them (believers) through thy truth: thy word is truth. And for their sake I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth" (John 17:17, 19). Christ speaks of sanctifying Himself. This should give us a clue as to sanctification not being an earthly work. Jesus needed nothing. He was perfect. He set Himself apart from the earth and through His Word He sets His own people apart from the earth. This is why the Word of God is so important in the life of a believer. This is the reason there is so much confusion about religion today. Modern religion has forsaken the teaching of the truth. Where the truth is not taught, people don't know what to follow. This is the reason modern religion is turning to fleshly emotions and deceitful feelings. Sanctification through the Word of God is God's way of implementing the whole process. Apostle Paul teaches the church at Rome that sanctification is something to which God's children yield themselves. "I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness (Gk: "hagios" sanctification). But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness..." (Gk: "hagios" sanctification)" (Romans 6:19; 22). God's process of sanctification is His instruction given to His children through His Word. When His children hear the Word and heed the Word, this is sanctification in action. Apostle James teaches, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass (mirror): For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect

law of liberty (God's word), and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed" (James 1:22-25). This man will be in the process of sanctification.

As God's child matures in the faith, God works more and more in his life; as God works more and more in his life, his attitude toward the things of God changes. It moves him to serve the Lord in church, to study God's Word, to pray, to love others and to witness of the beauty of Christ.

The process of sanctification goes on in the life of a believer during the whole of the saved life. A believer will never be perfect. His natural sins of the flesh will always be present with him. The apostle Paul stated, "For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members" (Romans 7:22-23). Saved people will have to do battle with the flesh all their natural lives. This proves sanctification is not an act that does away with sin in the flesh as some teach. This proves sanctification is not a feeling some seek to obtain.

ACTS

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Jews together; and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans: who, when they had examined me, would have let me go, because there was no cause of death in me. But when the Jews spake against it, I was constrained to appeal unto Caesar; not that I had ought to accuse my nation of. For this cause, therefore, have I called for you, and to speak with you; because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain" (Acts 28,17-20).

We, if we observed a man handcuffed to an officer of the law, would be convinced that the man had committed a crime against society. We, before hearing both sides of the story, would probably consider the man to be guilty. The "chain" by which the great apostle was bound, also indicated that he was a guilty man. Paul, however, in the Scriptures which are before us, explained to the "chief of the Jews" that he had "committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers". The next question, then, which crossed the mind of the "chief of the Jews," was, "Why are you bound with a chain?" Paul's reply was, "For the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain". The "hope" to which Paul referred is expressed in the following passages of Scripture.

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ: who gave himself

for us; that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2,13-14).

The chain, then, by which Paul was bound, was an emblem of great honor. Paul, due to the promises given to the persecuted by the following passages of Scripture, will thank God through out eternity for that "chain".

"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you" (Matthew 5:10-12). "And they said unto him, We neither received letters out of Judea neither any of the brethren that came showed or spake any harm of thee" (Acts 28,21).

Witnesses are essential before a person can lawfully be condemned for a particular crime. The "chief of the Jews", however, informed Paul that they had not received one letter or one brother who had witnessed against him. They therefore desired to have Paul state to them his thoughts on the matter. Here, of course, was another opportunity for Paul to witness regarding his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ-the Messiah-Israel's hope. It was good that they had not received any word regarding Paul, since their curiosity would give Paul their utmost attention.

"But we desire to hear thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that it is every where spoken against" (Acts 28,22).

The "chief of the Jews" wanted to know from Paul more about "this sect," that is, the followers of Jesus Christ. I'm sure that the following passage of response which Paul was to give to the "chief of the Jews". "O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged" (II Corinthians 6:11).

Paul, then, had the message if they had the time to sit and listen.

"And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging: to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening. And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not. And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Spirit by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers, Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive; for the heart of the people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed, lest they should

see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. Be it known, therefore, unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the gentiles, and that they will hear it. And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves. And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him, preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no man forbidding him" (Acts 28:23-31).

PROCLAMATION

(Continued from Page 1)

from all their ordinary secular pursuits, and to unite in their several places of public worship and their respective homes, in keeping the day holy to the Lord and devoted to the discharge of the religious duties proper to that solemn occasion.

All this being done, in sincerity and truth, let us then rest humbly in hope, authorized by the Divine teachings, that the united cry of the nation will be heard on high, and answered with blessings, no less the pardon of our national sins, the restoration of our now divided and suffering country, to its former happy condition of unity and peace.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Seal of the U.S. to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington the 30th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1863.

Signed by Abraham Lincoln, President of the U.S.A. William H. Seward, Secretary of State.

(President Lincoln considered the Civil War as a Divine judgment visited upon the nation. Clear insight and logical conclusion based on reasoning of a high order make his proclamation. It bears a prophetic stamp in its declaration of truth and values. He saw a direct connection between his perilous times and the pride and sin of his nation, and recommended the only remedy, national humiliation and prayer. There was no other remedy then, there is no other remedy now.

COMMENTS BY THE EDITOR

Wow, shades of the ACLU, what is this, wow! I wonder what the editors of that wicked magazine, "Church and State" would think of a proclamation such as this in our day. Boy, If this had been done in our day, the ACLU would already have Abraham Lincoln in court. Why, in this day, the Supreme Court would surely condemn President Lincoln for such a palpable contradiction of the Separation of Church and state. President Bush had better not try to publish such a proclamation today. He would be in trouble with - why I suspect he would be impeached by Congress.² The ACLU would spend all the money and furnish all the lawyers necessary to put such a president in his place, should he try such a proclamation (Continued on Page 10, Col. 1)

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PROCLAMATION

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in this enlightened age in which we live.

See what I said in my article in the Baptist Pulpit in this issue. I told you that our forefathers did not mean or practice (and they were under the First Amendment) what many people are insisting today that the First Amendment means.

Of course, the liberal (another word for wicked and godless) Congress of today would never request the President to make such a proclamation - House or Senate or both. I wish the editors of "Church and State" would read this document. If they do, and are consistent with their hitherto wicked principles, they would condemn President Lincoln vehemently and immediately.

Hey, I want all my detractors, all those who would disagree with my stand in my article in TBE Pulpit, to read this article. Then I want them to tell me who is right on the true meaning and application of the First Amendment: Joe Wilson or those who oppose him?

Any honest person who will read this Proclamation by President Lincoln will admit that our forefathers did not mean by the First Amendment what the ACLU, "Church and State", the Supreme Court, the Pro murderers (abortionists disguised as pro-choice), and others say that it means today. Remember the First Amendment has not been changed. The Supreme Court, under the guise of interpreting, has rewritten the First Amendment so far as practicing it goes. This Proclamation by President Lincoln proves my point beyond any honest argumentation.

Brothers and Sisters, this Proclamation shows what our beloved country once was. We have come a long ways since then - and all of it the wrong way. Oh, that God might be pleased to bring our country back to what it once was. As Christians let us pray for this, let us labor for this, let us VOTE on this basis - even if our faith is small, let us do all we can towards this end.

AMERICAN

(Continued from Page 1)

evident by the Supreme Court in the 18th and 19th centuries. For example, in the 1892 Supreme Court ruling of Church of the Holy Trinity vs. United States, every state constitution was examined and each was found to have "a constant recognition of religious obligations" and contained "language which either directly or by clear implication recognizes a profound reverence for religion and an assumption that its influence in all human affairs is essential to the well being of the community. This recognition may be in the preamble, such as is found in the constitution of Illinois, 1870: "We, the people of the State of Illinois, grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure

and transmit the same unimpaired to succeeding generations," etc." [468] The Court ruled "no purpose of action against religion can be imputed to any legislature, state or nation." [No. 143] There were 86 additional precedents quoted in this decision.

It was not until the founding of the American Civil Liberties Union in 1920 that America began to see a complete reversal in the meaning of the First Amendment as it relates to church and state.

Can you imagine the reaction of President Lincoln who openly championed Psalm 33:12. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord," had he been in office when the Supreme Court ruled in the ACLU's favor, adjudicating that Bible reading and recitation of the Lord's prayer in public schools violate the constitutional principle of separation of church and state?

God continues to bless our nation, but we as Christians have to wonder if and when He may lower the boom on us. How long will our Sovereign Savior tolerate our continually eroding pagan, liberal society? Have we gone from "one nation under God" to "...a nation void of counsel, neither is there any understanding in them" (Deut. 32:28)? How long will it be before we are forced to remove "In God We Trust" from our money, or "under God" from our national pledge of allegiance?

Recently, the ACLU filed a lawsuit against me, personally, even though I was acting in the scope of my authority as a senior staff official for the City of Orlando. They alleged I deprived the plaintiff "of his constitutional rights guaranteed by the First, Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution and Article I, Sections 4 and 12 of the Constitution of the State of Florida." They request "an injunction prohibiting me from engaging in these activities in the future" and seek damages in excess of \$10,000 (no cap) exclusive of attorney's fees and costs. The plaintiff reserves the right "to seek an award of punitive damages to punish defendant, Randall James, for his conduct, which would deter him and others from such conduct in the future."

A brief scenario: I restricted the plaintiff's right to enter City Hall after catching him in the act of distributing in our building satirical publications filled with drawings of male and female sexual organs, graphic depictions of sexual intercourse, and tons of vulgarity and slander of our mayor, commissioners, and appointed officials. I hold firm to my opinion that this material is obscene. However, our state attorney has ruled "that the inclusion of potentially obscene drawings does not allow us to prosecute the whole document." He states further, "Our founding fathers obviously considered political commentary to be of value to the process of democratic government." How can this be? Obscenity is not protected by the First Amendment.

The case is scheduled to be heard in federal court and as much as I regret further display of these materials, I am anxious to know the opinion of a central Florida jury.

The Orlando Sentinel editorial board refers to me as Sir James, and one columnist states I keep trying "my darnedest to make Orlando City Hall abide by

his own personal moral code." I was the subject of ridicule by one local radio talk show host every week day for seven consecutive weeks.

Ironically, our Mayor asked the newspaper to print the front page of the lampoon publication and poll the readership to ascertain if they thought the material was obscene. The editors responded, "You know we can't print that stuff in our paper." Yet, they advocate free distribution of this filth throughout the workplace.

As a side note, several weeks before this event, I had removed from our City Hall art gallery two unauthorized photos of county topless clubs. This action also created quite a fuss by the media as well as the ACLU and the 36-year old artist demanded I re-hang the photos and send him a formal letter of apology. He died of pneumonia several weeks later.

Only the good Lord in Heaven knows the outcome of the ACLU's suit against me, but I take comfort from Isaiah 43:2, "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee," and I Peter 4:12, 13, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you...but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings." Perhaps the most comforting verse is found in Matthew 5:10, "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

The American Civil Liberties Union cannot liberate our country from crime, injustice, poverty or AIDS - but, there is a way: obedience to 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Please pray that God will be glorified and that His will will be done in this matter.

COMMENTS BY THE EDITOR

Well done, Brother James. May God be with you in your battle for God and right and against the wicked ACLU. You are indeed a noble soldier of Jesus Christ. I respect and admire you. Know, dear brother, that my church and I have been and are praying for you. You have done the right thing. You are suffering for it. Only God knows how much you may yet suffer. In this awful and wicked day in which we live, only God knows how your court case will turn out. Men of God, standing for what is right, have often suffered at the hands of human courts. I know not what your lot might be, but I count you at present as one of God's noble army of martyrs for Jesus Christ and His cause.

I hope the reader will read this whole paper carefully. Brother James was well within his rights when he ordered the man to cease distributing pornographic literature in the City Hall. The ACLU is now seeking to rob Brother James of his rights. Brother James did not, I repeat did not, rob the other party of his rights. No man has the right to distribute pornographic literature. In fact no person has the right to pose for, publish, sell, or distribute such filth. It is wrong to

do so, and no one has the right to do wrong. I do emphatically state that no honest person will even pretend that the First Amendment gives free license to pornography; only hypocrites and wicked liars will do this.

Well, I commend the Orlando Sentinel editorial board for dubbing Brother James as "Sir James." Truly this man is a true knight in the army of the Lord. Of course, I do not commend what they probably meant by such. I would say to their columnist who says that Brother James is trying to make City Hall abide by his moral code, Sir, what is wrong with that? Is not Brother James' code the code of the Bible? Is not his code right? Would not City Hall, and even all men, be better off if they would abide by such a code?

Go on, "Sir" James, ride forth in the army of the Lord. Ride forth with the truth of God. You are in a noble army. You battle for the truth and for right. May God go with you and give you the victory. If He should see fit for you to be defeated in the courts of men, there is another judgment. You and your enemies

will stand before another judge. You will do well in that judgment. The Lord will reward you for your noble and valiant battle. Your enemies will not fare well when they stand before the righteous judge of all the earth, when they stand before the white throne judgement of Revelation 20:11-15, when they are cast into the lake that burns forever with fire and brimstone. Actually Brother Randall James and his enemies will not stand before the same judgment (but before the same judge). Brother James will stand before the judgment seat of Christ which will be a thousand years before the judgment of the unsaved. Of course, you and I both would prefer that they repent of their multitudinous and terrible sins and find cleansing therefrom in the precious blood of Jesus. God be with you and bless you, Brother Randall, we are praying for you. Stay true to God's Word. Your example is a blessing and an encouragement to all of us. May the Lord give you strength. May He give you victory if He can see fit to do so (at any rate, the final victory is certain). May He be with you in a very real and special way. God bless you.

A CAUSE FOR ABSTINENCE

I am glad to be a woman
I wouldn't want to be a man
My house He made is sufficient
To accomplish His good plan.
I have wished that I were bigger
Or as beautiful as they
But He's made my house sufficient
From a piece of mortal clay.

This body house I live in
He made that I might use
I'll try to keep the rules of health
And therefore not abuse.

This house is often weary
He never made me strong
But I'll try to do His bidding
In the path where I belong.

I wonder about the future
If this body's laid to rest
But His work I must not question
I know His plan is best.

'Till as a tent my house is folded
And a new one I wear
I'll work and wait and be thankful
That His image I shall bear.

Mrs. J.P. Morgan

QUOTES FROM THE BLUE BACK SPELLING BOOK

"Noah and his family outlived all the people who lived before the flood."

"The time will soon come when we must bid a last farewell to this world."

"God will forgive those who repent of their sins, and live a holy life."

"Thy testimonies, O Lord, are very sure; holiness becometh thine house for ever."

"Do not attempt to deceive God; nor to mock Him with solemn words, whilst your heart is set to do evil."

"A holy life will disarm death of its sting."

"God will impart grace to the humble penitent."

"An infidel is one who disbelieves revelation."

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. James Hamric passed away on July 11, 1992 at the age of 80. She is survived by her husband, Elder James Hamric, five children and several grandchildren. She was a loyal and faithful member of Memorial Heights Baptist Church, Perry, GA, and she shall be missed very much. Our sympathy and prayers go out to and for Brother Hamric.

THIS YEAR'S TULSA TRIP

by Joe Wilson

We have some members of our church who live in Tulsa, Oklahoma. They meet for services once a week as a mission of our church. For some years now it has been my privilege, and one of the spiritual joys of the year, to go there and preach a week for these fine people. They meet in the home of Sister Jeannie Maddux, a very fine Christian lady who has long meant much to Katie and me. Brother Murray Tyler, when he is able, speaks for this group.

We also have some members in Pacific, Missouri who mean much to us. For a few years now, I have been privileged to stop there on my way to Tulsa and have a meeting and a brief time of fellowship with these brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ.

Brother Jimmy Swindell, a dear and faithful member of the church here, has made this trip with me several times. Once again, after a few years' absence, he was able to go with me. It is always an added blessing to have Brother Jimmy with me on this mission trip. I have good fellowship with Brother Jimmy.

We left Ashland about 5:AM on Monday, July 20th. We arrived at the home of the Archer's about 12:30 PM their time. We fellowshiped briefly and then had a fine meal. Brother James Archer has for a few years fixed me a bait of liver and onions, and other food for those who don't know what good eating is. We enjoyed this meal very much. Sister Jeannie Maddux had been visiting briefly with us in Ashland, and travelled with us on this trip. We then had a service in the Archer's home. This is always a great blessing to me. I go, hoping to be a blessing to the Archers (and I believe God does use me in this way), and it always turns out that they are a blessing to me - I really believe that I get the greatest blessing. I wish you could meet the Archers, and if you are saved you will some glad day. They are very wonderful people. I will never forget the first time I stopped and had a service with them. In fact, this produced some very definite effects in me and a matter relative to our church - at least it set some things in motion - not that they had the least idea how this had influenced me - but I knew that God was speaking to my heart through this.

We fellowshiped briefly after the service, and then we three were on the road again towards Tulsa. I guess that it was about 9 or 10 PM when we arrived in Tulsa. It had been a long time,

but God had blessed us with a safe and trouble free trip, with a good service at the Archers, and with good fellowship. We would have arrived in Tulsa sooner, but some people want to stop and eat too often.

Sister Jeannie stays with her mother and father at night. She put Jimmy and me up in her home. We were treated right royally. Sister Jeannie did everything in her power to make us comfortable and to provide for all our needs, as she always does for all who visit her.

Services began on Tuesday night and went through Sunday morning service. I always enjoy this week of preaching in Tulsa. We had several visitors during the meeting. Jeannie always invites some of her friends, and some of them always attend. We appreciate this so much.

I have come to look forward to seeing these folk each year almost as much as seeing our own members. I have become well acquainted with some of them. Two or more of them have visited with us in our home.

We have a daughter and family in Tulsa. The two grandsons were in Ashland with granny Katie. Linda and Heather were in many of the services. It was good to see them. Heather is all grown up and now in her second year of college - boy, children do grow up, don't they? It is enough to make a body feel old.

Dear brother Tyler, what a sound and faithful brother is he. He has been very faithful as a member of our church and in working with these people. But brother Tyler is getting along in years and is having many health problems. He lives in much pain. He was at the first two services, but was too sick to attend any of the rest of the meeting. I know that this was a grief to him. Brother Jimmy and I had a good meal with Brother Tyler and his good wife, and also visited with brother Tyler another time. Please remember Brother Tyler in your prayers. His failing health is keeping him from serving in this mission as he truly desires to do. Well, God understands when we want to do something and are unable to do so. He rewards us according to what we sincerely desire to do even when we can't do it.

These members in Tulsa do seem to get much blessing from the meeting we have each year. I am glad for the opportunity to do this. Please pray for these people. Oh, I would delight to see them be able to call a pastor and to be organized as a church. They desire this so much. I know Brother Tyler would like to see this, and that he would work with the mission just as much as he

could. Any prospective pastor would need to contact me and our church here as well as the folk in Tulsa.

Sunday came with the last service. Sunday night, Jimmy and I went to bed early. We agreed that the first one to wake up after 4 AM would wake the other up, and we would be on our way. Well, about 1:20 AM Jimmy came to my door and asked if I were awake. I told him I was. He said, "Let's go to Ashland." We left about 2 AM. We had a pleasant trip back home. we arrived at my home about 5:30 PM, a few hours earlier than expected. It had been a good, pleasant, and joyful time; but it was surely good to be back home. It is always good to return home after being away. Someone said it right; "There's no place like home."

Pray for me and the church here. Pray for the folk in Pacific, Mo. Pray for the folk in Tulsa. Oh, God's people need to pray much for one another. We who believe the precious truths of God's Word, taught in The Baptist Examiner, are often few and often far between. Many are not close enough to a true, strong, sound church to be able to attend - oh, how they would like this. We people especially need to love and pray for one another. If you can ever visit the folk referred to in this article, it will be a blessing to you and to them. May God bless all these folk. May God bless you all.

HISTORIC BAPTIST

by Ron Tottingham

While some call it the Landmark position, it's actually the old historic Baptist position. "Landmarkism" is a distinct doctrinal position held by an estimated 1-1/2 million Baptists concerning the commencement, constitution, commission, and continuity of the church. Four distinguishing tenets of Landmarkism are as follows:

1. The Lord Jesus Christ established the first New Testament church during His earthly ministry (Mt. 4:18-22; 16:18; 18:15-18; Jn. 3:29), and churches of like precious faith and practice have existed ever since (Mt. 16:18; 28:20; Eph. 3:21). Those religious organizations that markedly differ from the first (Baptist) church in faith and practice (different originator, doctrines, ordinances, officers, government, etc.) are not true New Testament churches, though the membership of such organizations may include some true Christians. At best, such bodies are man-made, parachurch organizations functioning without Biblical authority.

2. A church is a local, visible assembly. The Roman Catholic concoction of a visible, universal church and the Protestant conception of an invisible, universal church both go begging for Biblical support. The term "family of God" (Eph. 3:15), describes the aggregate number of all believers. Only those who have trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour are true children of God and actual brothers and sisters in God's family (Jn. 1:12-13; Rom. 8:14-17; Gal. 3:26; 4:4-7; Eph. 1:5; 1 Jn. 3:1-2).

3. The Great Commission was given to the local church in a corporate capacity (Mt. 28:18-

20). Therefore, all matters encompassed by the Great Commission (mass evangelism, baptism, the Lord's Supper, Christian education efforts, etc.) must be administered under local church authority.

4. Although they have not always been known or recognized as such, Baptist churches have existed in principle and practice in every century since the time of Christ. All New Testament churches are Baptist in form and function, if not in name. True New Testament (Baptist) churches can be identified by their consistent practice of Bible truth and by the trail of their own blood left through history by their cruel persecutors, though they themselves have never persecuted anyone.

"Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set" (Prov. 22:280).

--Copied from "The Door-Step Evangel"

QUOTES FROM THE BLUE BACK SPELLING BOOK

"The Holy Bible is the book of God."

"Strong drink will debase a man."

"God created the heavens and the earth in six days, and all that was made was very good."

"Good men obey the laws of God."

"We go to church on the first day of the week."

"God will bless those who do His will."

"God makes the ground bring forth fruit for man and beast."

"The man who drinks rum may soon want a loaf of bread."

"The preacher is to preach the gospel."

"Blasphemy is contemptuous treatment of God."

"We do not like to see our own sins."

"God made the ear, and He can hear."

"Strong drink leads to the debasement both of the mind and the body." "We look with amazement on the evils of strong drink."

"The gambler wishes to get money without earning it."

Before a perversion of Separation of Church and State was brought about by the ACLU, Humanists, Atheists, and others; the Blue Back Speller was a school text book in America. And was not our country much better off when God and His Word was honored and respected in our schools?

Do you know that when Christ was baptized, He gave a picture of His great work of redemption? He said to John, "Thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness," by which I understand not that He fulfilled all righteousness by being baptized, but that His baptism was a picture or emblem of the fulfillment of all righteousness. What was done with Christ when He was baptized? First, He was regarded as one who was dead; therefore, He was buried beneath the water. He thus set forth the fact that He had come to earth to be obedient unto death, even the death of the cross; and in due time He would actually die and be buried. But baptism does not consist in merely plunging the person into the wa-

ter; he must be lifted out again; otherwise, he would be drowned, not baptized. So the Saviour, when He arose up out of the water, set forth His own resurrection. By His baptism, He figuratively said, "I shall die for sinners, I shall rise again for sinners, and I shall go back to heaven to intercede for sinners. My death will put away all their sins, and My resurrection will complete their justification." His dying, His burial, His rising, His Ascension--these are the fulfillment of all righteousness; and it is by these that we are saved. It is not by your being baptized that you are saved; it is Christ's being baptized for you with that baptism of blood when He poured out His soul unto death that you might live forever. It is not your suffering, but His suffering that avails for your salvation. Trust in Christ Jesus and you shall find in Him all that you need. Copied

Whenever anybody says to me, "Your view of the atonement, you know, is very old-fashioned; the doctrine of substitution is quite out of date;" I am not at all shaken in my belief. The gentlemen of the modern-thought school, who have been to Germany for their theology, do not like the glorious doctrine of substitution. They think that the atonement is a something or other, that in some way or other, somehow or other, has something or other to do with the salvation of men; but I tell them that their cloudy gospel might have surrounded me till my hair grew gray, but I should never have been any the better for it. I should never have found peace with God, nor come to love the Lord at all, if it had not been that I distinctly saw that He, Who knew no sin, was made sin for me, that I might be made the righteousness of God in Him. When I realized that, although I had gone astray from God and broken His righteous law, He had laid on Christ my iniquity and punished Him in my stead, my soul found rest at once; and to this day it cannot rest under any other explanation of the atonement of Christ. So I bear my own personal witness, and many of you can heartily join with me in bearing similar testimony. You have been with Christ, so you can speak of the power of His substitutionary sacrifice as begetting peace in your soul. C.H.Spurgeon

"Herein is my father glorified, that ye bear much fruit so shall ye be my disciples" (John 15:8).

When believers walk in truth and love, when they adorn the doctrine of God, our Saviour, with generous, gracious, and exemplary lives and behavior, they glorify God. The fruit of righteousness, by the indwelling Spirit of Christ, displayed by a believer, not only glorifies the power, grace, and mercy of God in them, but causes others to glorify God. "So shall ye be my disciples." Our obedience and fruitfulness do not make us disciples of Christ but are proof and evidence that we are His disciples. Good fruit does not make a tree good; the tree is first good and the fruit is evidence that the tree is good.

DR. LOUIS ENTZMINGER'S FORMULA

Dr. Entzminger was a preacher, a church organizer, a Sunday School builder, a Bible teacher, a scholar and a truly great Christian gentleman.

- When you don't feel like it - Go On.
- When you are discouraged - Go On.
- When your faith is small and your job is big - Go On.
- When people misunderstand you - Go On.
- When it's hard to reach people - Go On.
- When your message is not wanted - Go On.
- When the funds are low and the debts are high - Go On.
- When there are churches to be built - Go On.
- When there are souls to win - Go On.
- When missionary doors are open - Go On.
- When Sunday Schools need growth - Go On.
- When children need examples - Go On.
- When our young need heroes - Go On.
- When God needs servants - Go On.
- When the harvest needs workers - Go On.

IMPRESSIONS OF OUR BIBLE CONFERENCE

I have really enjoyed the conference, was so glad part of our family was here. I enjoyed the singing and all the sermons. I'm looking forward to next year.

Bernice West,
Moncks Corner, SC

Overall--impressive and truly profitable. It provided Sam Wilson opportunity to enlighten us regarding love, a truth all of the redeemed need, yea, must have, a few times in their lives. It also provided a young man an opportunity to learn of the need to accept the Word of God as it is written, rather than adding to it in order to make it logical. Besides the good spiritual food that was set before us, the dear ladies set before us some very good physical food. My thankfulness will be ever constant until I get to glory.

Ray Waugh, Midland, TX

I am only seven years old but I like it, the preachers and eats.

Cecil Trussell,
West Union, OH

It has been refreshing to begin to hear the practical gospel messages and those pertaining to soul-winning. We need more messages on the family and practical Christian living in evil times like these. For too long conferences have been preachers preaching to preachers. We are really suffering from real Satanic attacks against our homes and families. We need to have a real zeal for the lost in these closing hours of this age. It is my hope that the next conference will feature this type of theme. Thanks for an enjoyable time in the Lord.

Tim Parrish, Courtland, VA

It is impossible to put into words the blessings I received from attending this conference. Praise the Lord for this great weekend of great preaching, wonderful fellowship and good singing. Those who do not come do not know what they miss. Thank you Calvary Baptist Church for being such a gracious host and for all the hard work you put in to make our time here most enjoyable. Looking forward to next year.

Myrtis Caudill, Goshen, IN



Some members of the West family bless us with a song.



Our own Whitts sing for us.



Service in Central Park.



The Editor's son, Sam Wilson, exposes the folly of Sovereign Gracers believing that God has a general love for all men.



Elder John Lenegar brings a great and needed message on "Who Should Run The Church?"

MUST READING FOR ALL BELIEVERS

True love for Christ and others is not a fancy virtue to which certain saints have attained; it is the common, everyday character of God's children. Love is not the prerogative of a few; it must be the possession of all. Do not look upon love as a lofty model you cannot reach; you must reach it. This love is not a thing greatly desirable, but it is absolutely necessary; for if you excel in every gift, yet have not love, it will profit you nothing. I pray that this shall be understood by us at the beginning, lest we should slip away from the truth taught us by the Holy Spirit and should excuse ourselves from this grace of love with the notion that it is too high a virtue and we are so feeble that we cannot expect to

TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH APPALACHIA, VIRGINIA BIBLE CONFERENCE PROGRAM OCTOBER 9-11, 1992

FRIDAY NIGHT 7:00 P.M.

ALL MEN GUILTY AS CHARGED
Samuel West; Columbus, MS.

THE WICKED TURNED INTO HELL
Steve Swiney; Appalachia, Va.

SALVATION ALL OF GRACE
Troy Sheppard; Coal Grove, Oh.

SATURDAY MORNING 9:30 A.M.

WHAT SAITH THE SCRIPTURE UNTO PHARAOH?
John Pruitt; Griffin, Ga.

THE TORMENTS OF HELL
Lonie Moore; Appalachia, Va.

WHY THE PRECIOUS NAME OF JESUS IS SO SWEET
Dan Phillips; Bristol, Tn.

THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST: WHO? WHY? WHAT?
Andy Proctor; Walnut Cove, N.C.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON 2:00 P.M.

IS CHRIST'S BLOOD SUFFICIENT FOR ALL OR JUST
SOME OF ADAM'S RACE?
Paul Jackson; Lyons, Ga.

IS JESUS COMING BACK AGAIN? WHEN? WHY?
Eldon Joslin; Birmingham, Al.

SEEKING THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS:
WHO? WHEN? HOW?
Chuck Godley; Griffin, Ga.

SATURDAY NIGHT 7:00 P.M.

PERFECT SAVIOUR, PERFECT SACRIFICE.
PERFECT SALVATION
Wendell Furlong; Burnside, Ky.

THE HIGH COST OF SIN
Howard Sheppard; West Union, Oh.

ARE YOU A SAVED SHEEP OR AN OLD GOAT?
Jack Whitt; Ashland, Ky.

SUNDAY MORNING 10:00 A.M.

THE MARKS OF A REAL BAPTIST
Joe Wilson; Ashland, Ky.

SEEING CHRIST IN THE TABERNACLE
David West; Moncks Corner, S.C.

GLAD REUNION
Reggie Moore; Pastor, host church

For further information, call Pastor Moore at (703) 565-4604.

attain to it. We must love or we cannot enter into eternal life. "He that loveth not knoweth not God, for God is love!"

--C.H. Spurgeon

Someone said, "Either God governs or He is governed; either God rules or He is ruled; either God has His will or men have theirs." Is this a difficult choice? Men of God in the scriptures had no problem with this. JOB said, "The Lord gave and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord." ELI said, "It is the Lord, let Him do what seemeth

Him good." DAVID summed it up in II Sam. 24:14, "Let us fall now into the hand of the Lord, for his mercies are great: and let me not fall into the hand of man" (myself or any other man).

*He who has blessed,
will bless;
He who has fed,
will feed;
He who has led,
will lead.*

CAN YOU IMAGINE THIS?

Elazabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, believing that she did not have life in her womb, but only a "thing," and having an abortion?

"For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy" (Lk.1:44).