

*Take your choice, led by God or driven by the devil.*

MISSIONARY SOVEREIGN GRACE LANDMARK PREMILLENNIAL

# The Baptist Examiner

**Baptist Is Our Middle Name**

**Paid Circulation in All States and in Many Foreign Countries**

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

VOL. 66, NO. 2 ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, JAN. 15, 1994 WHOLE NUMBER 2674

## CAN AMERICA BE GREAT WITHOUT GOD?

By Ray Waugh, Sr.

Today, it would seem that many men look upon our children rather paradoxically. On the one hand, we observe the many efforts of men to ensure that all of our children are properly educated with respect to materialistic details and



and wise in the ways of our world. Yet, they apparently have never read the Word of our God concerning the wealthy man who was going to tear down his barns and build bigger ones, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then, whose shall these things be?" (Lu. 12:20). How momentary and ephemeral, then, are the things of our mortality. These leaders of our communities and our Nation may seem to be attuned to that which we may speak of as time, but it is obvious that they have no insight and apparently no comprehension whatever regarding the issues of eternity.

Men in our educational milieu, men in our religious complexes, men in our many industrial fields of endeavor, and men in a multitude of variegated social institutions have missed the truth that time encompasses us all. These, obviously, are not aware that death is a final issue for both the great and for the small, for the rich and the poor, and for the famous and the infamous. One by the name of Anderson M. Baten, in another hour, expressed this folly of men in a most dramatic fashion. We hear

his words from his 1930 volume that he called, *The Philosophy of Life*:

"Time, like death, is an impartial conqueror. The monuments of genius and the arts fall alike before him in the path of his irresistible might. He hath uprooted the firm foundation of greatness and grandeur; nor less hath he desolated the gardens of Oriental genius. Me thinks I see him pointing with triumph to the tottering temples of Greece, and smiling at the ruins of Athens and Sparta, the homes of that illustrious philosophy who gave learning to the imperial son of Philip, and where Solon and Lycurgus gave laws to the world. But these cities are in ruins; their philosophers are dumb in death; the Academy, the Porch, and Lyceum no longer resound with the doctrines of Plato, Zeno and their illustrious competitors. Their fame alone has survived the general wreck. What a lesson is this for the growing empires of the earth..." (pp. 19-20).

We, dear friends, are dealing with the realities of eternal importance in the midst of time. So, we (Continued on Pg. 6, Col. 1)

technology. On the other hand, however, some make a similar effort to ensure that all of our children face the finality of earthly life and the reality of eternity without any hope.

### America's Plight

Paradoxically, too, governments expend billions of dollars to ensure the health and welfare and Perpetuity of our "born children." At the same time they expend other billions to ensure that more than 4000 unborn little ones, vital fetal lives, are destroyed each day without conscience and with no care whatever; more than one and a half million such lives each and every years. Tragically, however, even though most of these who are involved in these paradoxes give the impression that they are intelligent Americans, seemingly they do not comprehend that they are indulging in the folly of serving Satan who, according to our own blessed Saviour, is a "house divided against himself" (Mt. 12:26).

Men seem to have gone mad!

They have become schizoids!

Many of these who are serving in various places of responsible local and national leadership are presumed to be educated, astute,

"Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved. I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord. And I intreat thee also, true yoke fellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fel-

low labourers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand." (Philippians 4:1-5).

Moderation defined: within reasonable limits; not extreme; not excessive; not radical.

## THE GRACE OF GOD - PART II

By C.D. Cole

In the preceeding chapter we gave several good and harmonious definitions of grace by others, and added our own thoughts in an attempt to help our readers understand the meaning of grace. In this chapter we wish to lead our readers into the various aspects of grace. Wherever grace operates it has a throne and so we shall write on:

### The Reign of Grace

"That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 5:21). Paul personifies SIN and GRACE and speaks of them as two royal figures - two queens on their thrones. He then shows what each gives to her subjects. Sin has death in her painted hand, while grace has eternal life in her white and charming hand.

1. **Grace is more powerful than sin.** Here is the sinner's only hope, although until quickened by the Spirit of grace, he does not know it. No man can rescue himself from the tyranny of sin. Sin is too much for any man. Men are taken captive by the devil (2 Tim. 2:26). Men may reform, but they cannot regenerate themselves. They may give up their crimes and their vices, but they cannot give up their sins. "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil." (Jer. 13:23).

2. **Grace reigns lawfully.** The reign of grace is a righteous reign. Grace is not against the law. Grace does not seek to destroy justice; that would be to divide God against Himself. Grace honors the law by giving the Lord Jesus Christ, who

satisfied the law by becoming our Surety, and bearing the guilt of our sins in His own body on the tree. God dealt with His Son in justice that He might deal with sinners in grace.

3. **Grace reigns by Jesus Christ our Lord.** Christ is not the source but the medium of grace. Grace has its source in the heart of God, and operates according to the sovereign will of God. The word reign suggests a king or a queen on a throne. And a throne speaks of power, and resources. The power of grace is the power of God. This makes it fitting to speak of irresistible grace. Surely we can speak of an irresistible God! The resources of grace are to be found in God. The blood of God's Son is the capital stock of grace. When His blood loses its value then grace has become bankrupt and the believer will be lost. But this shall never be! "Thou dying Lamb, thy precious blood shall never lose its power, Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more."

4. **Grace reigns in every phase and step of salvation.** "Twas grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home." Salvation is a comprehensive term, including within its scope all the aspects and stages of deliverance from sin. Every aspect and every stage of salvation is of grace, and this precludes human merit at any and every point. Salvation from beginning to end is of grace.

(1) **Grace reigns in foreknowledge.** The first thing God ever did for His people was to foreknow them. In His foreknowledge He set His affection upon them. He foreknew them with the intention of blessing them. He loved them with an everlasting love, and this love was a gracious love, and in no wise was it merited.

(2) **Grace reigns in election.** Election is of grace (Rom. 11:5). Election was not on the ground of foreseen merit in sinners, but of gracious love in God. In 2 Thessalonians, second chapter, Paul speaks of them that perish because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved; and then exclaims with reference to the saints: "But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the be-

(Continued on Pg 2, Col. 1)

## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor Eugene P. Helton

### MODERATION DOES NOT MEAN COMPROMISE!

To be a conservative, fundamental Baptist church and/or individual Christian, in bible doctrine does not mean that the church or the individual must be difficult, hard, course, stern and without joy. Moderating weather is to turn from cold and harsh to warm and pleasant. A very good Baptist preacher by the name of Spurgeon once (Continued on Pg. 3, Col. 4)



THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

Eugene P. Helton

Editor

Office Phone 606-325-2012

Owned, authorized and published by Calvary Baptist Church, Ashland, KY Editorial Department, located in ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, where all subscriptions and communications should be sent. Address: P.O. Box 60, Zip Code 41105-0060.

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

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

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

**PUBLISHED EVERY 2 WEEKS** at 3339 13th St., Ashland, KY, with paid circulation in every state and many foreign countries.

Subscription rates are \$6.00 per year.

**PLANNING TO MOVE?** - Notify us three weeks in advance. The post office will only forward second class mail for 60 days at no charge to us. After this time the paper is returned to us at a 35 cent charge for each paper returned. Please save us this expense and the post office time. Second Class Postage paid at Ashland, Kentucky.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to The Baptist Examiner, P.O. Box 60, Ashland, Kentucky 41105-0060.

## GRACE

(Continued from Page 1)

ginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth." (2 Thess. 2:13). We have two things in this text: first, why men are saved; and second, how they are saved. They are said to be saved because God chose them unto salvation. And they are saved by being sanctified by the Spirit and by believing the truth - the truth of the Gospel. This is what made them differ from "them that perish: because they received not the love of the truth." Had it not been for the choice of God and the sanctification of the Spirit, the Thessalonians would also have rejected

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JANUARY 15, 1993

PAGE TWO

## Editor's Update

By Pastor Eugene P. Helton, Editor

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!! I want to begin this writing by telling you how blessed I am to be the new pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church and editor of The Baptist Examiner. I didn't seek nor desire this awesome responsibility, until the changer of hearts changed my heart to make me an eager and willing vessel to carry out His will for my life and the life and ministries of the Calvary Baptist Church in Ashland, Kentucky. I'm looking forward to serving the Lord, this church and you who support the ministries of this church. By God's grace, I will be able to fulfill the many great responsibilities associated with this ministry.

I feel that the most important of my responsibilities is to be a good pastor to the Calvary Baptist Church. If I can be successful in my role as pastor of this church, then surely blessings will follow in the other ministries of the church.

To acquaint you with myself, I submit the following: on February 11, 1994, if the Lord leaves me on earth, I will be 55 years of age. I spent 21 years in the U.S. Air Force and served in many parts of the world, including South Vietnam in 1965 and 1966. I retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1976 as a Master Sergeant. I attended the Lexington Baptist College in Lexington, Kentucky, 1976 - 1980, and graduated with a B.A. in Bible Studies. I began pastoring in April of 1978. I pastored the Faith Baptist Church in Danville, Kentucky for six years. I pastored the Gethsemane Baptist Church in Marengo, Ohio for nine years. I pastored two other churches for small periods of time.

I want to be a good pastor for the Calvary Baptist Church. The doctrine and practice of the Calvary Baptist Church will not change; however my personal style might become evident in what I do, say and write. My experience and convictions tell me that I Corinthians Chapter 13 must be included in every facet of my ministry. I believe the love spoken of in I Corinthians 13 makes everything else effective; without it everything else is rendered ineffective.

I'm offering my help and my services to all who sincerely want to serve the Lord according to His word. If you need me, just ask. Please pray for me. I love each of you in the Lord.

the truth. Therefore, God is to be thanked for their salvation. Now, why did God choose them? Was the ground of God's choice foreseen faith, or some other good in them; or was it grace in Himself? Rom. 11:5,6 gives answer: "Even so then at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace. And if by grace, then is it no more of works." "Tis not that I did choose Thee, For, Lord, that could not be; This heart would still refuse Thee, But Thou hast choosen me."

(3) Grace reigns in predestination. To predestinate is to determine destiny beforehand. Predestination is never said to be unto damanation, but unto salvation. God causes nobody to be damned; sin is the thing that damns men. But God is the cause of salvation. The foreknown are said to be predestinated to be conformed to the image of God's Son (Rom. 8:29). Why were people predestinated to such glory? Was it because of their

foreseen faith or goodness? In Eph. 1:5,6 we have the answer: "Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace."

(4) Grace reigns in our calling. "Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called" (Rom. 8:30). the word "called" is never in the N.T. applied to those who are the recipients of a mere external invitation of the gospel.

It always signifies an inward and effectual call - a call that brings to Christ and salvation. And this call is of grace according to 2 Tim. 1:9: "Who hath saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began." And in Gal. 1:15 Paul says that god called him by His grace. "Twas sovereign mercy

called me, And taught my opening mind; The world had else enthralled me, To heavenly glories blind."

(5) Grace reigns in justification. Justification may be defined as the judicial act of God in which He declares the believer to be no longer under condemnation, but to have a standing of righteousness before Him. Justification and condemnation are antonyms. The justified person is free from the guilt of sin. Is this blessing a matter of merit or of grace? Rom. 3:24 says: "Being justified freely (without any cause in me, C.D.C.) by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

(6) Grace reigns in conversion. In conversion a change is wrought in the sinner. There is a change from darkness to light, from death to life, and from the power of Satan unto God. There is a change of opinion so that he believes what he once rejected; a change of affection so that he loves what he once hated. What explains such a change? Does the sinner convert himself? Does darkness create light? Does death beget life? Does filth produce purity? Then, and not till then, can the sinner convert himself. If God converts the sinner, does He do it as a matter of obligation or of grace? Paul give grace credit for his conversion. After speaking of himself as a persecutor of the saints, he says, "But by the grace of God I am what I am." "O to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be!"

(7) Grace reigns in glorification. "Whom he justified them he also glorified." Glorification is the complete deliverance from every aspect and vestige of sin. It is the crowning work of redemption by which we will become personally glorious and in glorious surroundings. It takes in the body as well as the soul. Our salvation is not complete as long as these bodies of ours remain in the grave or, if living, continue mortal. Let time write wrinkles upon the brow; let sorrow's scalding tears wet the cheeks; let sickness and pain twist and torture this body into a shapeless mass; and let death turn it into a veritable dust-heap; still grace shall win for us and fashion it into a glorious body like unto that of our dear Lord. "Wherefore, gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation (second coming) of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 1:13). "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be;

but we know that when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." (1 Jno. 3:2).

### Provisions of Grace

Grace, like the Good Samaritan, not only meets the present emergency, but provides for future and eternal blessings. Let the trembling sinner be told that there are ample provisions of grace in the Lord Jesus Christ. Every one who feels the plague of his own heart may come to Jesus Christ for healing. He gives all a gracious invitation and assures a hearty welcome. Hear His words: "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." Though vile as Manasseh, filthy as Magdalene, guilty as the cross-thief, He will not turn away the poor in spirit. He turns no real beggar from his gate, though full of sores and vermin. His heart is lined with sweet compassion, and His hands are filled with the richest gifts. He has supplies for all needs: legs for a lame beggar, eyes for a blind one, cordials for a faint one, garments for a naked one, a fountain for a filthy one - Yes, and a rope for a sham beggar who asks for mercy and talks of merit. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acception, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief" (1 Tim. 1:15). "How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent word; What more can He say than to you He hath said - To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?"

### God's Grace Is Manifold

There is sustaining grace for seasons of sorrow, triumphing grace for times of temptation, persevering grace for days of discouragement. There is teaching grace, living grace, and dying grace. But time and paper would fail me to tell of the sin of frustrating grace by teaching salvation by works, and of abusing grace - turning the grace of God into lasciviousness - by pleading grace as a license to sin. Grace has delivered every believer from the guilt of sin, from the love of sin, and will yet deliver from the very presence of sin. Until the dear Lord returns to complete His work of grace, every believer will experience with Paul the inward workings of sin, and confess with him, that "what I hate, that do I" (Rom. 7:15b). "Grace all the work shall crown, Through everlasting days; It lays in heaven the topmost stone. And well deserves the praise."







## The Baptist Examiner Bible Study Lesson

By Clyde T. Everman, Deacon  
Calvary Baptist Church • Ashland, KY

Direct All Questions & Comments to: Clyde T. Everman • 108 Burdsall Ave. • Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017

Genesis 1:29-2:3

God's last act of creation was creating man in His own image, "male and female created he them." They were put in charge of all the earth. They were to have dominion over all the animals of the land, the fish of the sea, and the fowl of the air (v. 26). In verse 28 He blessed them and told them **"to be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish (fill) the earth, and to subdue it:"** Their diet was to consist of vegetables and fruit (v. 29). There was no provision for T-Bone steaks or even hamburgers. Food for the animals was to be the green herbs which God had spoken into existence (v. 30). We might note that there was no meat in the diet of either man or beast. Meat became a source for food for both man and beast only after the Fall. It was only after the flood that God gave Noah permission to eat meat. (Gen. 9:3).

**"And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day."** (v.31).

What a paradise the earth must have been as God first created it! No sickness, no death, all is peace and harmony in the animal world. There is provision for all man or beast would ever want or need. No beast preying upon another, all eating the herbs of the earth, no fear of man from the animals. This fear came after the fall, (see Gen. 9:2). Is it any wonder that God, in looking over His creation pronounced it "very good?" For the seventh time the word "good" is used in this chapter, after God looked at what He had created. Seven is the number for completion, of perfection. All God does is perfection.

The fact that man was created in the image of God makes him different from all the animals of the world. This is the reason that the "missing link" between man and any animal has never been found. There is no link, God created the animals and He created man in His own image. Adam, by his sin has marred that

image, but one day, those who have placed their faith in Christ, shall bear the image of Christ, "we know that when he" (Christ) **"shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is"** (I John 3:2).

### Chapter Two

In Genesis one we have the account of creation as a whole, in chapter two we are given in detail one separate portion of the creation - the story of man. Critics of the word cite these two chapters as being contradictory, but the truth is they are complementary. In chapter one the creation of man is set forth as God's handiwork (Psa. 139:14). Chapter two is the starting point of man's history. While in chapter one it is stated that God created man, in chapter two we are told in detail how this was done. By way of illustration, if you turn to the back of your Bible you will find a map of Palestine. On that map you will find a dot listed as Jerusalem. But on another map you will find a detailed description of that dot (Jerusalem). In Genesis 1:27 is the dot of man on the map of creation. Genesis 2 is the detailed description of that dot. The connection between these two chapters is a good illustration of a very important rule in the Bible which we need to observe as we study the word. We are often first given an outline of a subject and then we are given the details of the subject. For example, Numbers 13:1-2 we are told that God told Moses to send spies into the land to spy out the land, but we find in Deu. 1:22 that the suggestion came from the people. So we see that the sending of the spies into the land came about as a result of unbelief. Again, take the story of Lot. If we read only what is said of him in Genesis we would never know that he was a righteous man, But we find in II Peter 2:5-7 the Holy Spirit speaks of him as **"just Lot — that righteous man."**

Genesis 2:1-3: These three verses complete the account of creation. Creation having been completed in six days, God rested upon the seventh day (v. 2). God's

rest was the rest of completion not because He was tired. Man rests because he gets tired God never gets tired, He never goes to sleep. **"Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep"** (Psa. 121:4).

**"And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it."** After God had created the animals He blessed them. (1:22). After man (male and female) was created God blessed them (1:28). Now that creation was completed, God blessed and sanctified the seventh day. The Sabbath day was very important day in the history of Israel, a day they were commanded to keep, which failing to do so brought the judgment of God down upon them. The subject of the Sabbath will be taken up in our future studies.

## MODERATION

(Continued from Page 1)

said: "You can attract more flies with a spoonful of honey than you can with a barrelful of vinegar." I believe Spurgeon was talking about the bible doctrine of moderation. To have moderation does not mean to compromise.

How do we let our moderation be known unto all men? (1) **"Therefore, my brethren... stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved."** (Philippians 4:1). Our stand is not to be in the traditions of man. We that are called Baptist sometimes are just as guilty of building and abiding in traditions as others do. Our stand is not to be in legalism. Some that are called Baptist very much fit the biblical description of the Pharisees. Our stand is not to be in private interpretation; where we pick and choose what we want to emphasize and ignore other truths. Our life must be patterned after the life of our Lord Jesus Christ. In His earthly life He gave to us many examples of how to live and serve in a God honoring fashion. He displayed the greatest love possible. His compassion was of the very highest order. His concern was ever present. He was longsuffering toward those

who were lacking in truth, and those who refused to believe him. He didn't break fellowship because those who served Him were less than perfect and many times failed him. Should not we conduct ourselves and ministries in such a way as to conform more and more to his earthly life? We must be like our Lord. We must **"stand fast in the Lord"** (Philippians 4:1).

(2) **"... be of the same mind in the Lord."** (Philippians 4:2) Why must God's Baptist people have a reputation for being disagreeable amongst themselves? Sometimes disagreements will result because of gross doctrinal error and certainly those disagreements are unavoidable for those who strive to be true to God's word. However, many many disagreements result from hair splitting and nit-picking. Sometimes we go beyond righteous judgment and find fault just to find fault. Sometimes we can become so critical that the nature of our churches and their ministries is one of constant criticism. There is much common ground for Baptist of like faith and order. Disagree when it's so important to defend some great and wonderful Bible truth; however, disagree with the spirit of the love of Christ. Our ministries should not be built on the negatives of fault-finding, hair-splitting, and nit picking. When we can do so, let us be agreeable. A church is only as effective as it is unified in the Lord. **"... be of the same mind in the Lord."** (Philippians 4:2).

(3) **"... help ... fellow labourers."** (Philippians 4:3). The word of God is abundantly clear. Salvation is by grace alone. Works never result in grace; however grace always results in works. **"We are ... created in Christ Jesus unto good works."** (Ephesians 2:10). We must be mindful to practice the "H" word in our relationships with fellow labourers. The "H" word is not "Hurt" fellow labourers, but "Help" fellow labourers. Our commission and task is a tremendous one and we all need help from time to time. I promise you today, I won't meddle in your ministry. If you ask for my help, I'll do my best to practice the "H" word; "Help." By God's grace, I'll never hurt you or your ministry.

(4) **"Rejoice in the Lord always."** (Philippians 4:4). God's Baptist people should above all people be a rejoicing people. No other people saved or lost have

more reasons to rejoice than we have. No other people have been blessed with as much truth as true Baptist people possess. Our God owns the cattle on a thousand hills and more, and bestows good and wonderful gifts upon his true servants. We know our future in God's Heaven is secure because of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ our Lord. Yes! We should be a rejoicing people. Joy results in moderation and moderation results in joy.

Why should we let our moderation be known unto all men? Because **"The Lord is at hand."** (Philippians 4:5). Someday, possibly even the day you read this sermon, the Lord is coming back to take his saints home to glory; both those fallen asleep and those that yet live. The hour is urgent. The Lord may come back anytime now. We must be about His business; doing what he told us to do; doing it in the way he showed us to do it. We must put on Christ. We must love as he loved. We must have the compassion that we've seen in Him. We must be long-suffering as He was and is. We must truly be ambassadors for Christ. We must represent Him and not ourselves. **"The Lord is at hand."** (Philippians 4:5).

Moderation means to practice forbearance. **"Love beareth all things..."** (I Corinthians 13:7). **"... Forbearing one another in love..."** (Ephesians 4:2) **"Forbearing ... and forgiving..."** (Colossians 3:13).

Some folks want to be doctrinally sound without moderation. The result is to become cold and indifferent; with no joy. Other folks **"stand fast in the Lord;"** they serve in the spirit of getting along; have concern for other saints; and they rejoice in the Lord. This is moderation.

Sound doctrine and moderation go together like **"whosoever will may come,"** and **"chosen before the foundation of the world."** Moderation is a doctrine. To practice moderation is to be doctrinally sound in that doctrine. **"Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand."** (Philippians 4:5).

*Pray each day.*



## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit Forum I

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, P.O. BOX 60, ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41105-0060

**If any infant dying in infancy goes to heaven, what and when does anything take place to prepare them for heaven seeing all are born with a depraved nature?**

**JOHN LENEGAR**  
126 N.  
Washington St.  
No. 5  
Delaware, OH  
43015  
**PASTOR:**  
Walnut Creek  
Missionary  
Baptist Church  
Delaware, OH



First, let me say that I do believe that all infants dying in infancy, go to be with the Lord. Even among those who believe that babies who die in infancy go to be with the Lord, there are those who disagree on how, or why. Some believe that a baby goes to be with the Lord because of its innocence. Others say the baby must be elect, while some say that it does not matter. Still others say they don't know for sure why, or how; they just know God would save infants.

I believe that Christ provided for infants in His atonement. It is His blood that saves them, as it does anyone else. Jesus made a full and complete satisfaction in His atoning death for imputed condemnation and inherited depravity. I believe that every baby who dies (by whatever manner) is elect and that their spirits do always behold the face of the Father which is in heaven.

After losing his child, David said in II Samuel 12:22,23, "And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live? But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me." Thus he is telling us, I believe that the baby is with the Lord even as he himself one day would be. Children in infancy go to be with the Lord.

I further believe that at the time of death the Lord quickens them as they pass. I believe He reveals

Himself to them and they are made ready as are all of God's children by the same process. They enter His presence redeemed and rejoicing as do all and it is there where we are yet to go, shall meet them. May God comfort us with those thoughts.

**CLYDE T. EVERMAN**  
108 Burdsall  
Ave.  
Ft. Mitchell, KY  
41017  
**DEACON:**  
Calvary  
Baptist Church  
Ashland, KY



"I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me." (II Sam. 12:23). "I should have slept: then had I been at rest." (Job 3:13).

These two statements, one made by David at the death of his infant son and the other made by Job telling of what would have happened if he had died at birth, show us that infants who die in infancy are at rest in the place where God's saints go at death.

While it is true all are born with a sinful nature and those who die as well as those who live must be redeemed by the blood of Christ before fit for heaven. How this is brought about we are not told. One view given by T.P. Simmons is as follows:

"The fact that human responsibility is dependent on knowledge explains why dying infants and native imbeciles will be saved. They are mentally blind to the principles of righteousness, and therefore are not responsible, ---. "Infants and imbeciles are mentally blind, as already stated, and are therefore not responsible for their conduct. It is for this reason that we believe they will be saved through the blood of Christ without the exercise of faith in the body. However, since they have a sinful nature, we must believe that it will be necessary for them to be regenerated and thus brought to faith in Christ. The Bible makes

clear that this is necessary before one is fit for the presence of God. But it does not tell us when it will take place with reference to infants and imbeciles. We are of the opinion that it will take place at the time of the separation of the spirit from the body in the hour of death. (A Systematic Study of Bible Doctrine, page 153). We will have to wait until we get to heaven to see if this view is correct.

### A BURNING FIRE

By James Hobbs

"Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak anymore in his name, but his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay." (Jer. 20:9).

Jeremiah was a prophet of God. He had gone through some severe persecution to the point that he was discouraged. He was so discouraged that he decided that he would just quit preaching, but he couldn't - there was a burning fire within him.

A man who has been called of God into a special service, such as preaching, cannot run from it. The word of God burns in him to the point that he has to preach. Naturally, that man questions whether the Lord is calling him. If you can't get away from it, if it burns within you to preach, the Lord is calling you. I have always said, that if a person can preach or not preach, then he ought not to preach, because a God-called preacher has to preach. In other words, if a preacher can quit, he should quit.

God's word is described in many ways. For instance, it is described as a sword (Hebrews 4:12), a knife that cuts (Acts 5:33), a light (Psalm 119:105), a hammer (Jeremiah 23:29), etc. In Jeremiah 23:29 it is also described as a fire. "Is not my word as a fire? saith the Lord..." Jer-

miah was told that the spoken word would be like a fire. "Wherefore thus sayeth the Lord God of hosts, because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them." (Jer. 5:14).

At one time David kept silence until he could not stand it any longer. "I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, even from good; and my sorrow was stirred. My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue." (Ps. 39:2,3)

A man who is called of God, and a church that loves the Lord cannot sit back and be quiet. Anytime we hear false truths being preached the fire burns and we cannot keep quiet.

We hear so-called preachers tell the ungodly world that they have a spark of goodness in them, and the fire burns. We have to preach the truth. "But the scripture has concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe." (Gal. 3:22) "For who maketh thee to differ from another? And what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?" (I Cor. 4:7) The fire burns within us to preach the truth as to the total depravity of man.

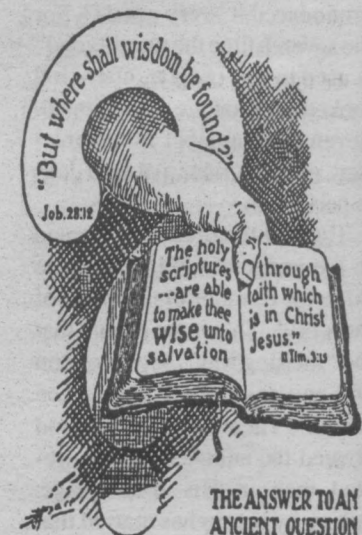
We hear the world told that God is doing the best that He can but man has to make the final decision and the fire burns. A man who loves the Lord cannot stand back and hear His God brought down lower than man. "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." (John 6:37). "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." (vs. 44). "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: according as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love." (Eph. 1:3,4). The fire burns within us to glorify God and present Him as sovereign. He is not doing the best He can and then hoping that man will accept. He saves. All of His elect will be saved.

We hear the world told that Jesus died for everyone and the

fire burns. The same people are told that unbelievers go to hell and thus the implication is made that if Jesus died for everyone, and some are in hell, then Jesus failed. A man who loves the Lord will not tolerate such ungodly teaching. "I am the Good Shepherd: the Good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep." (John 10:11). "Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one." (John 10:25-30). Jesus makes it clear that not everyone are sheep and that He died for His sheep. I don't see how much more plain He could have made it. The fire burns within us to make it clear that Christ is not a failure, but that His death is all that is needed. Everyone for whom He died will live.

Anytime a God-called preacher hears a message or a doctrine that is contrary to the scripture the fire burns within him to preach the truth. Or anytime he finds that no preaching is being done, the fire burns within him to preach.

My friends, the word of God burns within us and we must preach. Some would have us to water down the truth or leave out some truths but if we did it would burn within us. How could we preach of God and not present Him sovereign? It is a burning fire within us and as Jeremiah said, "I could not stay."





## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit Forum II

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, P.O. BOX 60, ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41105-0060

**As to the Lord's Supper: What kind of wine should be used? Does additives such as sugar make a difference? Should salt be used in the bread? How should the unused bread be disposed of? Can any male member serve the supper?**

DOUG  
NEWELL

Rt. 1 Box 170-H  
South Shore,  
KY 41175

PASTOR:

Beauty Ridge  
Missionary  
Baptist Church



Only fermented wine is acceptable at the Lord's table. This was established with the Jews in regard to the passover and Jesus, by instituting the Lord's supper following the observance of the passover, using the same elements, confirms the same elements were to be used in the supper.

As to the sugar, there is no reason why it should be added or anything else as far as that goes. The crushed grapes will naturally ferment and become wine. Any wine maker will attest to this fact. Grapes will naturally produce an agent which removes the leavening from the juice which in turn ferments it making it a wine which pictures the sinless blood of Jesus Christ. Many in their attempt to replace wine with grape juice forget this most important point.

As to the salt in the bread, I see no harm in as it does not affect it as far as leaven is concerned. Some use salt while others do not. This can be left up to the individual church again as it does not affect it as to leaven.

The disposal of the bread, again, is something each church should decide for itself. In the observance of the supper care should be taken to show forth a true picture of redemption as to the truth of the grace of God. Some bury the bread and if that is what they want to do, that is perfectly acceptable to do so. Others merely cast it away. I believe the important thing is to have the correct elements and correct picture of Christ. We need to be careful to focus more on Him in the supper rather than lifting the elements up.

Finally, yes, any male member may serve the supper. Of course,

if the pastor is there and able he should do so, but if not any male member can do so. I don't believe the church should observe the supper while the pastor is out of town in a meeting, they should wait for his return.

DAN  
PHILLIPS

868 Bethel Drive  
Bristol, TN  
37620

PASTOR:

New Testament  
Baptist Church  
Bristol, TN



What kind of wine should be used? I didn't know that there was but one kind of wine. Ephesians 5:18 says, "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit." Wine is made from the fruit of the vine and is a fermented drink. Grapes contain a leavening agent and is present in the juice, leaven is a type of sin according to the Bible. In the process of fermentation the leaven is boiled out and dipped off, therefore, there is no more leaven in it. It is now, since it is free from leaven fit to be used as a type representing the pure blood of our Blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Sugar would not in my opinion make a difference in the wines purity. I see no problem with using salt in the bread, after all, salt is a preserving unit.

How should the unused bread be disposed of?

I believe this is an important question. I have always believed and practiced that the unused bread which has been baked and prayed over and dedicated for this purpose should be burned so that it would not be eaten by dogs or rats, etc.

Can any male member serve the supper? I believe when Jesus, our Lord served the Last Supper that they were at a table, and He passed it around to each of the members of the First Baptist Church. However, today, the pastor usually stands behind the

pulpit and reading scripture after a message about what this represents, and then the deacons pass out the bread and wine which is consumed with respect and holiness. If a church has no deacons, I see no reason why any male member could not pass out the wine and bread.

### SOME THINGS OUR LORD NEVER DID

- Author Unknown -

In at least four ways the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ is established by the scriptures, by what He was, by what He did, and by what He did not do.

The most outstanding way in which the deity of Jesus is shown is by what He did not do. There are at least twelve things that Jesus did not do that mark Him as the eternal Son of God and the Mystery Man of the ages.

1. Jesus never sought advice. There has never been, in all history, any man who did not at some time or other seek advice; but not so Jesus. Why? He was the power of God, and the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24). Abraham sought advice, Moses sought advice, Solomon sought advice, but not so with Jesus.

2. Jesus never changed His mind. He moved with such supreme insight that He never had to change His mind. He never uttered a sentence or a word that He had to repeal or correct. Jesus was the God-man. Jesus was perfect in body, mind and speech. What man in all history could say that he never had to change his mind?

3. Jesus was never in a hurry. He had time to leave the tomb in order. He folded the napkin and laid it aside at the tomb. In Luke 24:12 we read: "Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed,

wondering in himself at that which was come to pass." The human race is nervous and always in a hurry; but not so with Jesus. This speaks of divinity. Jesus was not in a hurry when He made this world; He was not in a hurry when He chose His twelve disciples, when He performed His miracles, and when He came to the tomb of Lazarus.

4. Jesus never showed personal fear. He showed no personal fear in His wilderness temptation, in the cleansing of the Temple, in His arrest and trial before Pontius Pilate, on His way to Calvary, nor while dying upon the Roman cross.

5. Jesus never made a mistake. Ingersoll wrote about the mistakes of Moses, but he never wrote about the mistakes of Jesus. Why? Jesus never made mistakes.

6. Jesus never showed surprise. It is said that the disciples were amazed — but not so with Jesus. Jesus was not surprised when Judas Iscariot betrayed Him, for He knew who Judas was and just what he would do (John 6:70-71). Jesus was not surprised when Peter denied Him, for He knew what Peter would do when the crisis came (Mark 14:66-72). In John 2:24-25 we read "But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men and needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man."

7. Jesus was never defeated in a controversy. The Pharisees, the Sadducees, the Herodians and the scribes all failed to entrap Jesus in His words or to defeat Him in a controversy (Matthew 22:15-22).

8. Jesus never performed a selfish miracle. All the miracles that He performed were for others. He performed no miracles for Himself, not even when He was hungry for forty days and forty nights (Matthew 4:3-4).

9. Jesus never distrusted God. In Luke 23:46 we read of Jesus saying, "...Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost." He trusted God in the dark, for at this time the earth was gripped with a thick darkness from the sixth hour unto the ninth hour (Luke 23:44).

10. Jesus never denied a good request. He granted every good request that was asked of Him. This sounds like God, for we know that God loves us and earnestly yearns for us to have His best. God withholds nothing from us that would be for our good and

His glory.

11. Jesus never confessed a sin. Why? He had none to confess. He forgave sins. Jesus said in John 8:46, "Which of you convinceth me of sin?..." None of the Old Testament prophets dared to make such a statement, but Jesus could, for He was perfect and without sin in thought, word, deed or nature. In all history there has been but one perfect man on earth — "...the man Christ Jesus." He was perfect in motive, thought, word and deed — He was God as well as man.

This Perfect One was made sin for us "...that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (II Cor. 5:21).

12. Jesus never apologized for anything that He ever did, for anything that He ever said, nor for anything that He did not do. You and I spend much of our time apologizing for what we have said, done, or failed to do; but not so with Jesus. He was the perfect man — the God-man.

### PREACHER, DON'T

Don't use hackneyed phrases, meaningless terms, exaggerated expressions or appeals to sentiment only.

Don't try to be eloquent, clever, comical, or entertaining. We are only messengers — "a voice."

Don't provoke unnecessarily: The presentation of truth is the best way to denounce error.

Don't continue talking after you have finished; a wearied audience rapidly diminishes. Don't throw yourself about; this distracts the hearers. Muscular movements do not always denote earnestness. Don't exaggerate; God's Word is complete.

Don't shout, this grates on people's ears; distinctness is preferable to volume.

Don't imitate others; our beauty, if we have any, lies in our own individuality.

Don't argue the Word of God. It is beyond argument. "It is written" settles every point.

Don't belittle the majesty of God. Always give the Lord Jesus Christ His proper title. Don't praise man; give the Lord Jesus honour and glory.



## CAN AMERICA

(Continued from Page 1)

continue to inquire, "Can America Be Great Without God?" Yes, I suppose that America could be great as Greece was great. America could be great as Rome was great. America could be great as the worlds of the dictators and the czars were great. The word, however, has been written: if America is to be great as these ancient nations and cultures were great, then America very soon will be but dust and only a passing memory in some one's book of history or anthropology.

Though there may have been great men in those ancient nations and cultures that we know only by means of our books, each one of those great men has become dust as far as earthly mortality is concerned. Today, out of all the peoples of the earth of whom we have any living record, there remains just one. That people whom we reference as "The Jews" or "Israel" have persisted though it would have seemed that the sands of time would have covered them completely long before now. Though they have been put on the pogroms of men such as the Caesars, the Czars, and the Hitlers, they, alone, of all of the ancient peoples yet continue in the nations of the earth.

This people, along with the Romans - and all of us who have sinned - had their crucial part in that death of the Sinless One on Calvary's Cross because of their cry, "**Crucify Him, Crucify Him**" (Lu. 23:21). Nevertheless, long before that moment in time and ever since that moment in time, these people have continued to pay their homage to that One whom they have called their God. That God is Yahweh even though they, as a people, have not yet officially understood His relation with His Heavenly Father. God, then, in His faithfulness and in His sovereignty, has provided this people a perpetuity across the millennia while other nations, in their rejection of God, have become history.

What, then, can we say about Americans who outlaw God?

Especially from our schools, courts, and all social functions!

Some of these may be deemed to have been or to be honored

patriots. Yet, if it is their desire to outlaw God from any aspect of our American society, our American courts, or our American schools, then their desire will bring on the destruction of America. Some of these may be esteemed educators and first class philosophers, but if it is their desire to outlaw God from America and from the institutions of America, they - everyone - are traitors to "The land of the free and the home of the brave" that has provided most of them birth and life. If it is their godless "philosophy or philosophies of life" that will forever dominate or be preeminent, we may be assured that the early demise of our Land that has been called America even now is on the horizon.

### America's Predecessors

At this moment in which we are living, America may yet seem to be the greatest nation on earth. Yet, it would be good if we could remember for a moment the frightful fate of the City of Nineveh. Once, "The temple of Nebor and Merodach had their influence upon the ignorant masses. Sargon of Assyria was the builder. Saracus held his court in this city of 600,000 people. Jonah saw this city in all of its glory. But twenty-six centuries ago Cyaxares and Nabopolassar blotted this city from the face of the earth, and today it is only a dream of antiquity... for over 2000 years the very site of the renowned capital and metropolis of Assyria was unknown." (Baten, Ibid. p. 22).

Earlier, in that hour when the half million and more people of Nineveh heard the cry of God's servant, Jonah, the people responded and repented in sackcloth and in ashes. God saved them. In that later day, when they were without God, however, Nineveh became but a memory in the concourse of human events.

We may be assured, then, that our Nation that became great because of God and which has been great because of God can never be great without God. In fact, apart from God, we may be assured that our America will become only a memory in the concourse of human events. Some men may make a mockery of God and of faith in God. Needless to say, they care not at all about their children or our children or those children that our children will have in some distant day. As we have noted above, we may be assured - and that with a positiveness that cannot be denied - that

apart from God, the tedious toils and the ensnaring coils of time effected by the enemy of God, even Satan, will imprison our children and then their children in a godless fatality of eternal doom.

Is this what we want for our children?

Is this, the desire of our hearts today?

There may be some among us here in America who would have us to suppose that it matters not what men do with the minds or the lives of our children. There may be some among us who will insist that all the minds and the lives of our children need is more godless science in someone's classroom, immoral philosophy as a basis for their lifestyle, pornographic literature projected via TV, or some godless religion drawn from a crafty humanistic scheme. In reality, nonetheless, the experiences of our children in time are but for a moment, while the destiny of our children and their children is set for eternity.

Hopefully, we will realize this before it is too late!

Godless education may be sweeping across our land as a plague for which there is no vaccine. Let it never be forgotten, however, that even Seton cried out to the world, "Manhood, not scholarship, is the highest aim of education." If we lose sight of such a truth and conclude with Protagoras that "Man is the measure of all things" - the humanistic thesis - then we may anticipate that the pall of doom which brooded over Sodom and Gomorrah, over the Grecian world, and even over Pompeii in that fateful hour of conclusion even now may be brooding over our America.

Let us hear a further word of Anderson M. Baten who has given us at least a measure of consideration concerning the past. We hear him say, "What do we find in the pages of history? Nothing but the shipwrecks of nations and of empires... The civilization of India, Chaldea, Persia, Assyria and Egypt have disappeared in turn... Darkness covers condemned civilizations... it is with a sort of terror that we behold the bottom of that sea which is called the past, and beneath those colossal waves, the centuries, the wreck of those immense vessels, Babylon, Nineveh, Tarsus, Thebes, and Rome, before the terrific blast which blows from all the mouths of the darkness... Our civilization of twenty centuries, is at once its monster, and its miracle; it is

worth saving..." (Baten, Ibid. p. 67).

This same one went on to say that he looked on Niagara Falls his heart cried, "How can any man say there is no God?" He viewed the wonder of our solar system and the immensity of space beyond and said, "There is nothing grander than the heavens. There is no place in our scope of thinking that reveals the great Creator more than the heavens."

The man, David, we may recall, once cried very similarly. Let us hear and rejoice once again in his most positive declaration, "**The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth His handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard.**" (Ps. 19:1-3). How, then, dear friends, can our educators, our politicians, our industrialists, our sociologists, and even some of our religious leaders outlaw God from our nation's classrooms?

### America's Past

How quickly, it seems, that men forget. In August of 1774, to the Virginia delegates to Congress, Thomas Jefferson said, "The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time." Then, in the summer of 1787, Noah Webster noted, "The moral principles and precepts contained in the Scriptures ought to form the basis of all our civil constitutions and laws. All the miseries and evils which men suffer from vice, crime, ambition, injustice, oppression, slavery, and war proceed from their despising or neglecting the precepts contained in the Bible."

Do we wonder why there are "drive-by" shootings in many of our cities here in America? Do we ponder why vice, crime, and violence rage in streets of our land? We hear our local and national leaders promise that "gun control" and "more policemen on our streets" will make everything right. Yet, with all such efforts, conditions become even worse by the hour. Are we concerned regarding the ever-increasing numbers of murders and suicides in every city, village, hamlet, and community? The answer is spelled out clearly and distinctly in the hopeless cries of those whose lives are laid waste by the godlessness of our governmental authorities, our politicians, our professionals of a thousand sorts, and our religious leaders whose

lives are committed to culpable greed and to an endless rage of unscriptural fraud.

Once, when there was a crisis in our land, "Patrick Allison, Chaplain of the Congress, placed before that body in 1777 a petition praying for immediate relief. It was assigned to a special committee which weighed the matter with great care, and reported: "... that the use of the Bible is so universal and its importance so great that your committee refer the above to the consideration of Congress..." There followed shortly thereafter this word, "Whereupon it was resolved accordingly to direct said Committee to import 20,000 copies of the Bible." Can a nation that once deemed the Bible so very important continue as a nation if it persists in outlawing God and the Word of God, even the Bible, from the schools, the courts, and the streets of our land?

### America's Prospects

How very, very dark is this day in which we now live.

In 1638, just 18 years from the time the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock, that Ivy League School that we today know as Harvard began. In 1646, the "Rules and Precepts" of Harvard included the admonition, "Every one shall consider the main end of his life and studies to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life. Seeing the Lord giveth wisdom, every one shall seriously by prayer in secret seek wisdom of Him..." Yet, today, the Harvard graduate who leads our nation regularly and routinely takes his stand against the "Rules and Precepts" which guided Harvard for so long; namely, the standards, the truths, and the morals that we find in Biblical truths.

Truly, we live in a very, very dark day, historically!

Judgment is upon our land and we do not know it!

Some of the nations of earth may be atheistic and some of the peoples of the earth may be agnostic, but let us assure our leaders that we believe in our God as Creator and as Savior. Though America may actually be a part of the world, its beginning and its evident continuity really has been, in part at least, apart from the world with respect to the world's hatred of God and the world's hatred for the truths of the word of God, even the Bible. There is a need, then, that we, even now, re-commit ourselves as individu-

(Continued on Pg. 7, Col. 1)



## CAN AMERICA

(Continued from Page 6)

als and as a people to advising both our local and our national leaders that we desire to continue to be "One Nation under God!"

Let us recall and then ever remember the vision that Timothy Dwight, President of Yale University which began in 1701, had for our children. Instead of our school principals and school teachers and the courts of the land removing the decalogue or the Ten Commandments from our school-house walls, let us emblazon Timothy Dwight's vision for our children on every classroom wall in America. The future of our land and the eternity of many of our children may very well depend upon insight such as his. We hear him say, "Education ought everywhere to be religious education... parents are further bound to employ no instructors who will not educate their children religiously. To commit our children to the care of irreligious persons, is to commit lambs to the superintendency of wolves." Wise educators, then, will replace the Ten Commandments on the walls!

If we know the Lord Jesus Christ in saving faith, our responsibility is clear. We literally are "the children of God." We are the people of God, and God speaks to us very clearly and most specifically, "If my people who 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." (2 Chron. 7:14).

Our God of the Bible, dear friends, is Sovereign! He, alone, will have the final word with respect to those who have the rule over us! Some of them may presume that they have final control over our lives and our Nation. Nevertheless, and in contrast, I believe that our God has laid this responsibility upon us as citizens of our Great Republic, our Land, even America. Let us, then, go forth boldly to serve Him. Let us go forth to serve only God. Let each one of us take his or her own place of personal responsibility in our several places of daily opportunity with our confidence in God and in His Holy word. Whether we are young, middle aged or older, the word of God is clear, "And he not conformed to this world; but be ye trans-

formed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Rom. 12:2).

In the past, America has been great only because of God. Whatever is great about America today is only because of God. Without exception, it is those who are anti-god and those unfaithful "people of God" of our great land who are wholly and completely responsible for all of the confusion, the violence, the crime, the immorality, and the broken families that are slowly but surely destroying America. So, if there is going to be any hope for America in any of our tomorrow's, it will only be because of God and our confidence in God.

Never forget the appeal of Abraham, "Peradventure ten shall be found there" and God's response, "I will not destroy it for ten's sake" (Gen. 18:32). Very simply, God assured Abraham that if there were only ten righteous (redeemed), the cities would be saved. There were not, and "the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire ... and He overthrew those cities." (Gen. 19:23) and every living soul who yet resided in them. America's future, even today, hangs in the balance!

These are extremely fateful words!

Without God - America is doomed!



### Two Bears

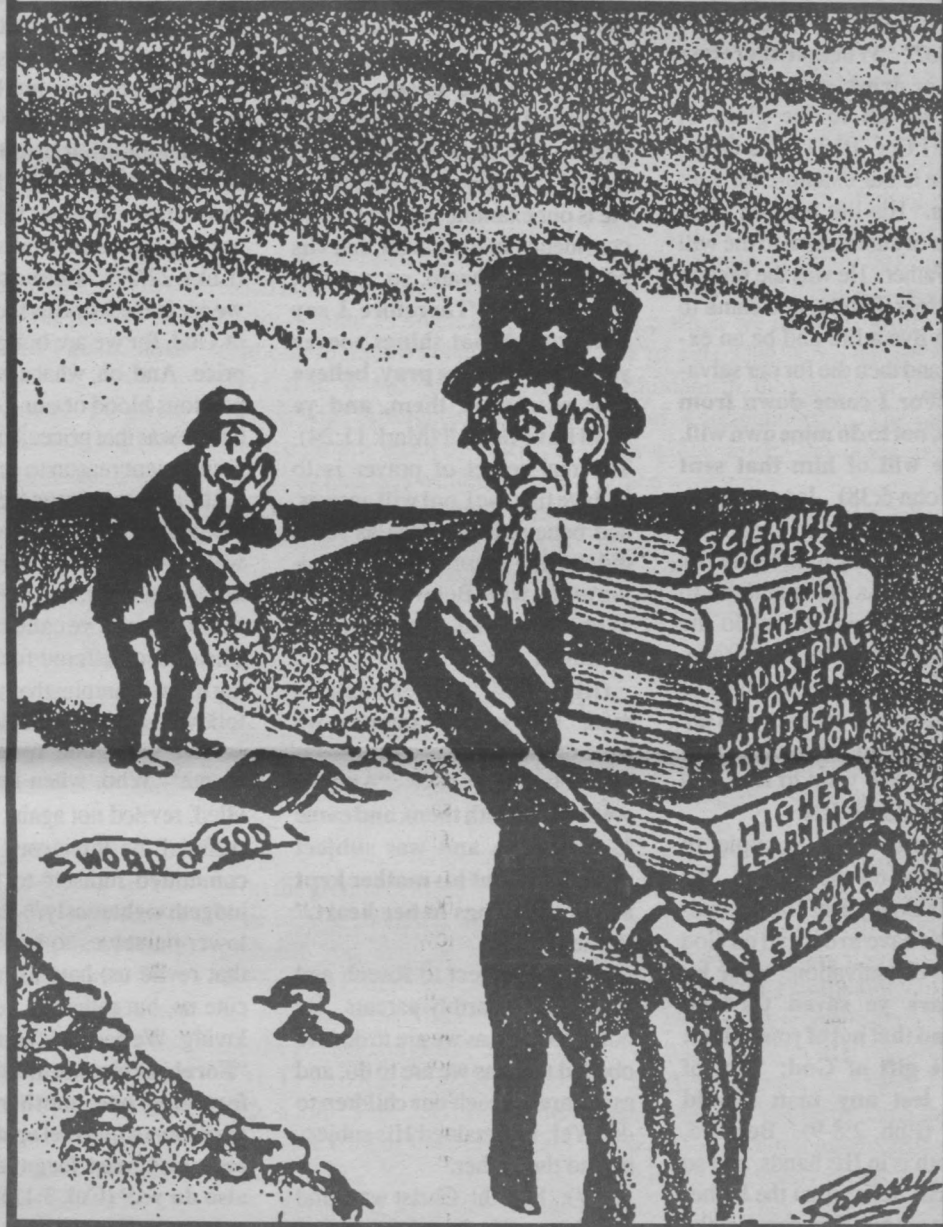
In a village there lived an old couple who often had sharp quarrels. Everybody in town knew how much they quarreled. Suddenly they quit quarreling, and you never heard them dispute much after that. The town folk wondered what made the change, and at last one brave woman asked.

"Two bears did it," said the wife.

"Two bears?"

"Yes, two new bears which we found in the Bible. "Bear ye one another's burdens..." and "...forebearing one another in love."

"YOU'VE DROPPED  
SOMETHING, UNCLE!"



### Straightened Out

I had such need The Savior knew  
My Life was empty, sad and blue,  
He saved my soul, my life straightened out,  
He gave me hope, without a doubt.  
I'm sorry to confess, there's remaining sin,  
But I'm being straightened, I'm not as I've been.  
I will understand, why His life He gave,  
When my body is straightened in the grave.  
Should this not be, if the valley I miss,  
I'll go up with Him, and enjoy perfect bliss.  
To dwell with Christ what joy 'twill be,  
I'll be free from sin, through eternity.

- Mrs. J.P. Morgan

Send Comments and  
Letters to the Editor  
to:  
The Baptist Examiner  
Editor -  
Pastor Gene Helton  
P.O. Box 60  
Ashland, KY  
41105-0060

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JANUARY 15, 1994

PAGE SEVEN



## CHRIST OUR EXAMPLE

By Waldo Whiddon

"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth." (I Pet. 2:21). To be saved, is to be changed! To be saved, is to have Christ as our example. We must constantly be asking ourselves, "What would Jesus do?" "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." (I Cor. 10:31). As God's Son, He is our example for submission. His life here on earth was one of submission to the will of the Father. He was the second of the Holy Trinity, and came to earth to live a life and be an example, and then die for our salvation. "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me." (John 6:38). Jesus teaches us that submission to higher authority is His way to life, and His way for us. As He submitted to the Father, so we are to do the same. To make that submission possible, we have the example of Jesus' life in the gospels, and the whole word of God to turn to for guidance. We want to look at a few examples of His.

(I). First: His example of dependence on the Father. We have this example of His dependence. We have to depend on God for our very salvation. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." (Eph. 2:8-9). Beloved, our breath is in His hands, and so like Christ, let us trust the Father also. Let us trust Him completely. "I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgement is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me." (John 5:30). Paul in his letter to the church at Philippi did not say that he could do all things in his own strength, but rather, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Phil. 4:13). Dear reader, Paul depended on God. He was carrying out the example of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(II). Second: To have confidence, is to have faith in Him. We

should submit to Him, our heavenly Father, by faith as Abraham had faith in God. One instance of the great confidence that Jesus had in the Father is in the writings of John. "Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me." (John 11:41-42). Beloved reader, He is our example, and as He had confidence in the Father that His prayers were heard, so, we too, are to pray. "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." (Mark 11:24). The real secret of prayer is to believe that the Lord will answer, and believe in advance as Jesus did, asking these things according to His will. Beloved, let us be as one submitted, dependant and confident.

(III). Third: His example to men. One of the examples we have of the obedience of Jesus is mentioned by Luke. "And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them; but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart." (Luke 2:51).

He was subject to Joseph and Mary as His earthly parents. He honored them as we are to do. He obeyed them as we are to do, and as we are to teach our children to do. Yet, He retained His subjection to the Father.

(IV). Fourth: Christ was kind to others. He loved those that were in need, and He sought to help them. "But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." (Matt. 9:36). Here, it has a physical application. The people were hungry and needed someone to take over and see to their need for food, and Jesus did just that. How does that pertain to us? "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields: for they are white already to harvest." (John 4:35). But even more, they need their spiritual

needs taken care of, and He was the one who could do that. We, too, must see the world as He saw it physically and spiritually, and do what we can to feed both, one with the bread of the earth, and one with the bread of heaven, the word of God.

The scriptures teach us that when we are saved, we become the servants of God. Our Lord came to serve, and we should do the same after we are born into the family of God. "For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth." (Luke 22:27). Beloved readers, we are in the world as the servants of God, for we are bought with a price. And, oh, what a price! The precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ was that price. That, to me, is sufficient reason to serve Him.

He also taught us gentleness. He practiced it in His everyday walk. When He was reviled, He reviled not again. "For even hereunto were ye called; because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously." Let us not lower ourselves to be like those that revile us, hate us, or persecute us, but rather be gentle and loving. We have this admonition; "Forebearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any; even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye." (Col. 3:13). We are to learn to live with the faults of others, and their shortcomings, and forgive them those things, for, dearly beloved, they have to do the same for us! Oh, yes, they do. Why should we do this? Because we are following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ who has forgiven us our sins. Surely, dear reader, you and I can put up with someone else's faults and shortcomings just as Christ did for us. Let us try to practice on it for Christ's sake.

(V.) Fifth: The mind of Christ is an example to us. Jesus served as an example to us, as God's Son, and also as man, and now we should look to the mind of Christ as our example. In the mind of Christ, we learn humility, self-

denial, holiness, and love. The humility of Jesus is seen throughout the New Testament. He healed, He fed, He gave back the dead. He did nothing that was self-serving, rather, He was kind and humble to His disciples. Paul gave us something very valuable in his letter to the Philippians; "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." (Phil. 2:5-8).

Jesus, by coming to earth in the flesh, put behind Him all His glory, denying Himself his place on the throne of heaven for a season. Let us remember, love gives, and does not take, or hate. "... If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Matt. 16:24). May God help us to follow His example that He sat before us as He walked this sin-cursed earth as a common man. Amen.

### I Remember Mother

When I was just a little lad,  
I remember how proud  
My mother was of the children she had.  
She was always gentle  
And had a kind word for all,  
She always had lots of time,  
When we got the slightest fall.  
As we were growing up  
and becoming men,  
She taught us of God and  
Trusting in Christ we could win.  
Now that she's gone to heaven  
And I look at her picture on the wall.  
I remember Mom's last words,  
Son, love God and you will love all.

--- Phebie Bush

He.

### Intercedes

*This great wonder,  
how can it be  
My Lord doth intercede  
for me!  
Before the Father  
He doth stand,  
E'er pleading for  
His blood bought band.  
He knows my faults  
and failures too,  
For He was tempted  
like me and you.  
He's my High Priest  
holy and high,  
I can to Him e'er  
draw nigh,  
And boldly plead  
my cause and need,  
For He for me doth  
intercede!  
Sin's debt He paid to  
save my soul,  
Through His shed blood  
I am made whole!  
Now my High Priest e'er  
stands to plead,  
And for me ever  
intercedes!  
Wonder of wonders,  
can it be  
Christ the Lord e'er  
prays for me!*

**If you have  
any comments  
or questions  
regarding  
The Baptist  
Examiner,  
or perhaps  
have an  
announcement  
or contribution.**

**Please  
forward to:  
The Baptist  
Examiner  
Pastor  
Gene Helton,  
Editor  
P.O. Box 60  
Ashland, KY  
41105-0060**