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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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FULFILLING THE LAW OF CHRIST

By Larry J. Robbins, President of the Lexington Bible College

Please turn in your Bibles to the book of Galatians, which reads as follows: **"For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."** (5:14). **"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden."** (6:1-5).

In the general context, the Judaizers were attempting to make Jews out of the Gentile converts at Galatia. From the account in the book of Acts, we can assume after Paul had arrived, the Judaizers followed. Also, the Galatians were spiritually immature and very easily impressed. In addition, the Judaizers spoke with authority and assurance, supporting their position with Scripture.

What did the Judaizers really say? They didn't condemn faith in Jesus, only that it doesn't go far enough. They also said the Gentiles would have to be circumcised and keep the Jewish law to be a Jew. They wanted to make this a requirement for church membership.

The issue is, how did the Galatians react? Some were deceived and taken in by the Judaizers. They didn't realize they were exchanging freedom in Christ for an obligation to keep the rituals and regulations of Judaism. It also meant going against what Paul had been teaching them.

The warning was against the legalism of the Judaizers. Paul appealed to the Galatians to reexamine how they were converted by examining the Scripture more carefully. The purpose of the law was not to save, but to reveal man's sin. This is shown in Galatians 3:19-22 and 3:19-20. This law, Paul said, served as a schoolmaster to lead us to Christ (Galatians 3:23-28). Now that we have been adopted as sons (Galatians 4:1-7), it is inconceivable that they would want to return to that system of legalistic bondage (Galatians 4:8-11).

Specifically, Paul tells them you are free from the condemnation of the Mosaic Law. However, they have been set free to obey a higher law; the law of Christ which is the law of love and burden bearing. When we love our neighbor as ourselves and bear each others burdens, we fulfill the law of Christ.

Paul informs us by bearing burdens we fulfill the law of Christ. In the New Testament, there are three different Greek words used for burdens and Paul uses two of them in our text.

The New Testament teaches

three different types of burdens we are to bear. First of all, Galatians, chapter six, verse two speaks of **"crushing burdens"**. These are burdens that a person can't and shouldn't bear alone. Secondly, Galatians, chapter six, verse five speaks of **"compelling burdens."** These are burdens that one is expected to bear without assistance. Thirdly, Hebrews, chapter twelve, verse one speaks of **"costly burdens."** These are burdens you must cast off or they will hinder or even destroy you.

The specific thesis is this; by understanding Paul's teaching on scriptural burden bearing, we will be able to fulfill the law of Christ and genuinely love our fellow Christians.

As we study these three types of burdens, I will be following the same format. First, we'll look at the meaning in the Greek and in general; and secondly, we will examine the mode of how it is used in the New Testament.

The first type of burden is the **"crushing burden:"** in Galatians 6:2 where Paul said, **"Bear ye one"** (Continued on Pg. 6, Col. 4)

CHRIST

By Charles Lybrook

"And I brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of the power: That your faith

Jesus." (Phil. 3:14).

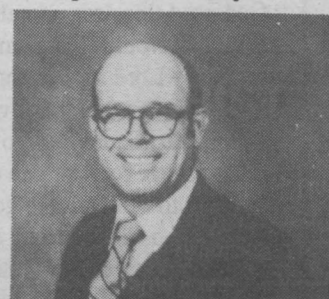
If Paul could say **"Woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!"** (I Cor. 9:16) then so must I, and so must you dear reader if you are a child of God, for the charge is to one and all, **"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."** (Mark 16:15). The great mystery of Godliness, the incarnation of Christ into this world to save sinners (I Tim. 3:16) is to be pillared and grounded by and through the Lord's true New Testament churches. So let me ever preach Christ unto the world. As a dying man to dying men, let me proclaim Him who alone is the salvation of God (Luke 2:30). Let me proclaim that message which is **"The power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth."** (Romans 1:16). Let me never be ashamed of the preaching of the cross. Let me ever feel my own indebtedness to preach this glorious message to a lost and dying world.

Now, Paul said in our text reading that he **"came declaring the testimony of God."** (Verse 1). Gospel preaching then is giving forth, not an uncertain sound; but the testimony of God, no wonder then that we read in I John 5:10 that **"...he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son."** And what is that record? That record is **"that God hath given unto us eternal life, and this life is in His Son."** That is the testimony of God as to His Son and our eternal salvation, no wonder then that Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit said, **"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief."** (I Tim. 1:15).

Therefore now, once again this side of eternity, I preach Christ Jesus again, for it pleases God, my Heavenly Father, by the **"...foolishness of preaching to save them that believe."** (I Cor. 1:21).

Let the Jews require their signs; and let the Greeks seek after wisdom: **"But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the**

(Continued on Pg. 2, Col. 1)



should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect; yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to naught." (I Cor. 2:1-6).

The message of Christ and Him crucified is the central theme of all the Bible, therefore, in the words of another, **"Let me ever preach with blood in the basin."** Jesus Christ is to me both Lord and Saviour, and as such, I love Him the more, the longer He leaves me to serve Him in this body of death.

Since He is my Lord as well as my Saviour, I long to serve Him in total obedience. Neither my love nor my obedience is all I desire it to be, but like Paul said, **"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ**

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor Eugene P. Helton

THE CAPTAIN HAS ISSUED OUR MARCHING ORDERS

"And, behold, God himself is with us for our captain, and his priests with sounding trumpets to cry alarm against you. O children of Israel, fight ye not against the Lord God of your fathers; for ye shall not prosper." (II Chronicles 13:12).

"For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons



unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through

sufferings." (Hebrews 2:10).

We find in these two scriptures that the Lord is the leader of His army of saints. He is our captain; He is the captain of our salvation.

Jesus, as our captain has given us many orders. He expects us to obey them. When I look into the Scriptures, I find Jesus to be a true captain, not asking us to obey and (Continued on Pg. 6, Col. 1)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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CHRIST

(Continued from Page 1)

wisdom of God." (I Cor. 1:23-24). Therefore did Paul, that great soul-winner proclaim, **"For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."** (I Cor. 2:2).

Dear reader, it is still the blood of Jesus that saves sinners. The shed blood is still the only message of salvation, it is still the only message that the blessed Holy Spirit will use to bring guilty sinners to the one and only fountain that cleanses from sin.

True servants of God have been called and commissioned to deliver this testimony of Jesus Christ, that in His humanity, Jesus, the

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MARCH 26, 1994

PAGE TWO

Editor's Update

By Pastor Eugene P. Helton, Editor

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Since assuming my duties as Pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church and Editor of *The Baptist Examiner* on November 29, 1993, I've experienced a few valleys and many mountain tops. Recently at a time when I was feeling a little low and traversing one of those valleys, I received a little handscripted note which reads as follows:

Dear Brother Helton,

You are my pastor on Sunday morning radio in Huntington, WV. I thank God for *The Baptist Examiner* and you. I want to help send out the true gospel. Please don't publish my name, just give God the glory. I pray God will continue to bless the church and *The Baptist Examiner*.

A Friend in Christ

This may appear to some to be just a simple little note, but this simple little note shoved me from the valley to the mountain top. God used this dear, wonderful lady to provide the encouragement that would change my day, my outlook and my attitude. I thank my Lord for her and her wonderful little simple note.

This person (her name will not be published) sent \$100.00 to *The Baptist Examiner* "to help send out the true gospel." I'm going to do everything in my power to use every penny of that \$100.00 to send out the good news of Jesus Christ to as many people who will ever read *The Baptist Examiner*. Someone may become saved because this dear Christian lady encouraged a Baptist preacher to continue telling a lost and dying world the good news of the great salvation in Jesus Christ. Oh Lord, please fill my life with people like the one who wrote this simple little note. How superior is this simple little note to the letter from the supposed Bible scholar who says "Don't worry about sending out the Gospel, sovereign grace will take care of God's plan." My friends, sovereign grace was never intended to be an excuse for not carrying out God's great commission.

Sovereign grace is the reason this dear Christian lady sent a simple note of encouragement and \$100.00 to *The Baptist Examiner*. She understands fully that words are hollow without deeds. She understands that many who are lost need to hear about her Saviour. I'll take this lady and her simple little note; someone else can have the supposed Bible scholar and his lecture on sovereign grace.

Until next time, may our Lord bless you richly. Please pray for me. We at Calvary do love you in the Lord.

only begotten Son of God, humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the old rugged cross, to save sinners. Have you ever considered that statement in Phil. 2:8? **"...even the death of the cross?"** That death was the most disgraceful death that any person could die for **"...Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:"** (Gal. 3:13). My friend, Jesus died that death, **"Bearing our sins in his own body on the tree."** (I Pet. 2:24).

Here is the only hope for perishing humanity - a Saviour to seek and to save that which is lost (Luke 19:10). A SCAPEGOAT to become our sin-bearing substitute, for let it ever be remembered that Paul did not just preach Christ, but Christ, and Him crucified... Jesus Christ, my people, was crucified,

why? Because He was in this world to save sinners; **"For the wages of sin is death;"** (Rom. 6:23a). Therefore was He, the blessed Son of God, **"...delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification."** (Rom. 4:25). The crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ reveals several tremendous facts.

(1) It emphasizes the wickedness, the corruption, and the villainess of the human heart.

Who was Jesus Christ? He was God in the flesh! God in the flesh in the world He had created, and His own creatures cried "Away with Him, away with Him, Crucify Him" what a sad commentary on the condition of the human heart, oh the iniquity of the human heart, truly it is **"...desperately wicked, who can know it."** (Jer. 17:9).

Thus man, in his fallen and depraved nature became guilty of the awful crime of DECIDE. He would murder God, drive Him out of His own universe, and **"...by wicked hands have crucified and slain:"** (Acts 2:23).

"The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God" (Psa. 14:1), and many a man admits that there is a God who yet says NO to God... No God for me. He has said "I do not want God to come into my life... I do not want to be troubled about God... I want to take my own way, and do my own will." And because men were set on that, they nailed the CHRIST OF GOD to a cross, and if anything tells out what man is, that does.

But stand in faith at that old rugged tree, look by faith upon this remarkable scene of the ages, see the blessed Saviour suffering, dying there, see the nails upon which He hangs, behold the blood dripping from the awful wounds; see the thorns crushed down upon that sacred brow and the blood enwrapping His naked wounded body like a crimson shroud... That, dear reader is what sin, your sin and mine, has done, the sin that our hearts have loved and embraced... That tells out the story of the wickedness, and the deceitfulness of our hearts.

The men who crucified the Lord, crying out in derision, **"...Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross."** (Matt. 27:40), were no different from ourselves... their hearts were like our hearts... That terrible scene, that awful deed brought out, revealed, uncovered the malignity that was in the heart of man.

But now there is a second consideration from this scene of Calvary, because that scene also told out the infinite love that was and is in the heart of God. **"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."** (John 3:16). **"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."** (Rom. 5:8).

Read Eph. 2:1-3 and see our deplorable, despicable and unholy, ungodly past and then look at verse four where it says **"But God,"** oh, how many times I have praised the God of heaven for the theology contained in those two blessed words, **"But God,"** oh how we ought to thank and praise Him for the great love and for the great salvation revealed in those two

words, before us is a true portrait of fallen humanity.

Read Eph. 2:1-3 with Rom. 3:10-18 and then come back to Eph. 2:4 with its **"But God,"** and then read the rest of that verse and those following and you then are at the foot of Calvary, looking up and proclaiming with the apostle John, **"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God..."** (I John 3:1).

Dear reader, that old rugged cross, that symbol of suffering and shame, became the great altar upon which was offered the supreme sacrifice which alone atones for the sin of the world... That is Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. What wonderful evidence of God's love for sinners is seen in that cross!

Now, tell me something, in the light of the cross, how can men still go on doing the very things, living in the very sins, that led to it?

The cross of Christ is that which casts light on every thing that men glory in, in this world, those things which stain all its glory... No wonder Paul had to say, **"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."** (Gal. 6:14).

Did you ever think of it this way, do you ever think of it in this way? I speak now to professors of religion, I speak now to what is known as the nominal Christian. You profess to be a Christian, you say that you owe everything for all eternity to the one whom the world rejected... But, what effect does that have upon your life? Do you still have fellowship with the world that cast Him out? Do you still participate in the things that characterize that world? Do you still identify with that world in and by the things you allow in your life? Your habits and your habit? The things you do, and those you do them with?

Are you claiming to be saved by that wonderful amazing grace? By the awful gore of Calvary do you claim your sins have been washed away? And yet secretly despise His claims upon your life?

And do you say **"NO GOD,"** don't come into my life? Do you crucify the Son of God afresh and put Him to an open shame by going to those places and doing those things upon which you could not ask His blessing?

Are you guilty of dressing or undressing in such a way that you shame Him who loved you so much? Is your speech that which is

(Continued on Pg. 8, Col. 5)



The Baptist Examiner Bible Study Lesson

By Clyde T. Everman, Deacon
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Genesis Three, Continued

In 3:15 we have the promise of One who will be the Conqueror of Satan the one who caused man to fall. In verse 21 we have the act of faith upon Adam's part. Adam called his wife Eve - that is life, or life giver. Although sentence of death had been pronounced, his faith laid hold of the promise that through the seed of the woman life would come. Although there were no children at this time Adam had faith that there would be, therefore, he called his wife Eve, because she was to be the mother of all living.

In verse 21 we see God's mercy and grace displayed, "Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them." The fig leaf aprons were replaced by a clothing provided by God, the skins of slain animals. Note their coverings were obtained by the shedding of blood. In the clothing of Adam and Eve by the Lord God we have the first type given in the Scripture how men are redeemed. It foreshadows a sacrifice which should atone for sin and provide a robe of righteousness. In fact this verse gives us a miniature picture of the whole plan of salvation through the shed blood of the One who bore our sins on His own body, Christ the Lamb of God gave up His life in order to provide a robe of righteousness for guilty man. "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, — for he hath clothed me with the

garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness." (Isa. 61:10).

DRIVEN FROM THE GARDEN

Verses 22-24: It was impossible for fallen man to remain in the garden and continue in fellowship with God. God is holy and that which is evil can not enter into His presence. Sin is what separates us from God. "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear." (Isa. 59:2).

God had told the man and the woman, "In the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Not only were they to die physically but a far worse death - to die spiritually. Physical death is separation of body and soul, spiritual death is separation of the soul from God. Adam's fall caused all his seed to be by nature "dead in trespasses and sins." Those who die in their sins face the "Second Death." This death is not annihilation as many who come to your door will tell you, but it is eternal separation from God in eternal punishment in the lake of fire. (Rev. 20:14-15).

"So he drove out the man." Fallen man can not eat of the tree of life. As the poet has said: "The fatal fall, the sin, the shame, the doom, the death, the sword a flame: The crime, the curse, the tear-filled eyes, And earth no more is paradise."

Although man is banished from that earthly paradise we can by God's grace enter that heavenly one; and the remainder of the Bible tells us how this became possible.

The last we see of this earthly paradise we are told that cherubims "with a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life." (v. 24).

The tree of life represents the presence of God, the banishment from the garden illustrated the fact that fallen man can not approach God. As the veil in the tabernacle and the temple keep sinners from the presence of God so did the flaming sword. But the Son of God, by His death on the cross has opened for us a "new and living way" to the presence of God, that way being Christ Himself. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me." (John 14:6).

As we come to the end of chapter three, as some one has said, "The garden of Eden disappears from view, and is never mentioned again until we come to the last of the books of revelation. But in the Apocalypse it rises before us once more in all its pristine beauty and we see the sons of Adam walking on the banks of the crystal stream, and no longer excluded from the tree of life."

The Way to the Cross

By Paul Jackson, Pastor,
Landmark Baptist Church, Lyons, GA

You need to realize that you need to be saved. The Bible is so plain about this matter. It says, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23). Every person born after Adam has the same inherited sin. You need to do nothing in order to be lost. You need to realize that you cannot save yourself. Man has a desire to do something for salvation. But God's Word says, "By works of the law shall no flesh be justified." (Gal. 2:16). Also it says, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us..." (Titus 3:5). "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6).

You need to realize that Jesus provided a way to the cross. It is totally and completely through Him, and Him alone, that one can be saved. Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." (John 12:32). Jesus will draw His own to Himself because He loves His own. Paul said, "But God commendeth his love toward us (saved), in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:8). The way to the cross is made clear and it is for everyone who can believe that Christ died for them alone.

If the Holy Spirit has dealt with your heart, you will realize that you need to receive Him as your Saviour. John said, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power (authority) to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." (John 1:12). The Bible says, "Repent and believe the gospel."

Paul admonished the Romans not to be like the Jews and think that they could be saved by keeping the law, but, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." (Rom. 10:9).

You must realize that once you are saved, you need to unite with a New Testament Baptist church. Apostle Paul said, "Unto him be glory in the church..." (Eph. 3:21). The only place your life can count is through a New Testament Baptist church. Jesus said, "Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick (church)."; "and it giveth light to all that are in the house." (Matt. 5:15).

When you see the way to the cross, you will also find the way to true worship and real peace.

THOUGHTS WORTH SHARING

Don't wait for the hearse to take you to church! If you do:

1. You will go regardless of the weather.
2. You will go regardless of how your family feels.
3. You will go regardless of those present you do not like.
4. You will have beautiful flowers but, you will not enjoy them.
5. Regardless of how good the singing, you will not enjoy it.
6. Regardless of what the preacher says, it will do you no good.
7. Your family and friends will weep, but cannot console you.
8. You will go regardless of how many hypocrites are there.
9. You will go regardless of how much you prefer staying at home.
10. You will go whether you are saved or lost.

The Pastor had rather help you now than try to console your loved ones if you die without God. So make it your choice to go to church while you have a choice.

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The Baptist Examiner Pulpit Forum I

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

Should a Christian Vote? Why?

Upon what principles should a Christian determine the way he votes? What if there are morally wrong positions by both candidates? Please be some what specific.

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"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers, For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God" (Rom. 13:1).

This means that the type of government by which each country of the world is governed has been chosen by God. One country may be governed by a king, another by a dictator, or some other form of government.

God has ordained the U.S.A. be governed by the republic form of government. This calls for representatives from the people to make the laws and rule. These representatives of the people are selected by the vote of the people over whom they are to rule, therefore it is necessary for the people to vote. If Christians failed to vote they would have no representation in the government. This would be "taxation without representation", only this time it would be due to failure on the part of those who are taxed not on the government. Why should Christians vote? In the words of that great statesman and president, Abraham Lincoln, that a "government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth".

Upon what principles should the Christian vote? It should not be based upon party affiliation. Sadly, many times Christians vote for the man of their party regardless of the man's character or what he stands for. The principles should be based upon the moral character of the individual

and the stand which one takes upon the moral issues of the day. If one is to be our representative he should stand for which we stand. If there are morally wrong positions by both candidates, which is often the case, then we may have trouble in choosing the best candidate. It may have to be a choice of "the lesser of two evils". In every instance we need to seek Divine guidance for whom we cast our vote.

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"Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evil doers, and for the praise of them that do well." (I Peter 2:13-14).

My answer to the first part of the question is "yes". I believe that a Christian should vote. A Christian should vote because that is a privilege given to us in a free country whereby we may choose representatives who advocate and practice that which we believe is proper in our society. If we would desire men and women to represent our view on morality and other matters of government, then we must vote.

Determining who to vote for is not always an easy, or clear-cut task. We as Christians, must vote for those who most nearly meet our beliefs and criteria for government. The principles upon which we determine who to vote for, must be the principles of God and His word. What the Bible teaches is to be our standard for choice of candidate. In our day and time that is not easy and in-

deed, the wrong choices bring about the mess we have at present in our Federal Follies in Washington, D.C., as well as our state governments in many states. It would seem that whatever God is against, the present government is for and heartily strives to advance Satan's principles. Our present state of the union and its leaders are abominable and certainly are contributing to the setting of the stage for the coming Anti-christ kingdom.

Sometimes we are faced with all candidates having some morally wrong position. We must first of all, let them know where they are wrong and what is objectional to God. It may do no good, but that does not excuse our responsibility. Secondly, we must remember Romans 13:1, which says, **"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."**

God is in control. The powers that be may be bad and play havoc with moral principles, but God is permitting them for some reason after His own plan and purpose. Pray for our nation and its leaders. It is our responsibility and duty. Let us remember Proverbs 14:34 which says, **"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."**



"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

AN UNPLEASANT SUBJECT

By Pastor Jim Orrick,
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We do not go far in the book of Genesis until we come to the first man. In Genesis 1:26 God says, **"Let us make man in our own image."** Genesis 2:7 declares, **"And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."** This first man, along with his wife Eve, was placed in a beautiful garden with only one restriction, **"And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, 'Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.'"** (Genesis 2:16-17). Genesis 3:1-19 gives the record of how Adam and Eve transgressed this law, thus bringing the curse of sin upon themselves as well as on all creation. Among the curses that God pronounced on them was that of death. God had said, **"In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."** The death that they experienced that day was spiritual death as they became sinners, separated from God and condemned by Him. The curse of physical death was also passed on them. **"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."** (Genesis 3:19).

I doubt that Adam and Eve knew the sorrow and pain this would bring upon them until that day that Cain killed Abel. We do not know how they reacted to that terrible crime, but perhaps Eve, holding Abel's bleeding head in her lap, wept and cried, "I didn't know it would be like this." I imagine Adam digging that first grave and saying over and over, "I didn't know anything could hurt so much."

Because of sin, the curse of death has passed on all mankind. **"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death hath passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."** (Romans 5:12). Genesis 5:1-31 lists the names of several of the early patriarchs and the great age to which they lived. But at least eight times in this chapter it is recorded, **"And he died."** Someday the same thing will be said about us, "He lived

and he died."

AN UNPLEASANT SUBJECT

People would rather talk about taxes, inflation, corrupt politics, anything rather than death. When death comes, everything is done to take people's minds off of it. Funeral homes are among the nicest buildings in town, unsightly dirt at the grave side is covered with artificial grass and beautiful flowers, and what used to be called "graveyards" are now given beautiful names such as, Memorial Park, Sunset Acres, or Paradise Gardens. Brother Ralph Webb told that in one of the towns where he pastored there was a man who found that he was dying with cancer. The one thing he dreaded most about death was leaving his beautiful Cadillac, and so he found a cemetery that sold him enough lots that he could be buried in his Cadillac. He was buried in a nice suit, sitting up with his hands on the steering wheel of his beloved automobile. One of the workers at the cemetery, looking at that scene, was reported to have said to his co-workers, "Man, that's really living." No, that's death. In spite of all of the man's efforts to remove the reality of death with all its hurt and sorrow, death is still real. There is nothing artificial about it.

The Bible has a great deal to say about death. It tells that the world's entire population, with the exception of eight people who were in the ark, died in the great flood. It tells that an entire generation died in Egypt (Exodus 12:29), and that the army of Pharaoh perished in the Red Sea (Exodus 14:27-28). As unpleasant as it may be, we need to be aware that death is something that is appointed for us all. **"And it is appointed unto men once to die."** (Hebrews 9:27a).

LIFE IS UNCERTAIN

We not only need to be aware that death is coming, but also that life is uncertain. We do not know when the time will come when we will die. Death may be many years down the road of life, or it may be just around the corner. **"For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them."** (Ecclesiastes

(Continued on Pg. 5, Col. 4)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit Forum II

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

If Solomon knew enough to ask God for wisdom, and if God gave him wisdom; how could Solomon be so unwise as to become sexually, emotionally and religiously involved with so many women?

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TEACHER

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"Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing." (I Kings 3:9,10). "For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father." (I Kings 11:4).

This is a good question which bears with it much practical consideration to all of God's people, in all generations. The Scriptures indeed declare Solomon to have been the wisest man of his day. God blessed him not only with wisdom to judge the nation of Israel, but He also gave him great wealth. His fame and reputation was known among all the people and nations and He prospered for many years in this way.

Solomon's life gives to us, vivid illustration of God's way of dealing with His chosen people. As long as He put God first, Solomon would prosper and be blessed. But as time passed, we learn that his heart looked to the pleasures and desires of the world. "...And his heart was not perfect with the Lord His God..." It is the age-old story of many a saint of God: Losing sight of God through self-sufficiency, pride, then compromising with the world. It is when we allow the flesh to overcome our spiritual discernment to continue in well-doing, that we become victims to worldliness and the pride of life. "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the

world." (I Jn. 2:16). It is true that Solomon was or had been very wise but he did some foolish things.

Why did Solomon become so foolish and unwise? Only God knows for sure. One thing we know for sure, that man is imperfect in this life and prone to sin, and that no matter how well we begin with the Lord, we must continue our walk and close fellowship with the Lord. Solomon's life illustrates the necessity not to become a part of this sinful, worldly, pleasure seeking society, that wants no part of a life that honors God and denounces sin.

Why did Solomon become so unwise? We read our text again which says: "For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods." We see in this verse, two sins of Solomon: (1) having multiple wives, and (2) allowing his wives to influence him in further sin. No doubt, all of us have family or friends, perhaps in our household, who are either unsaved or maybe saved yet living in an un-Christian, liberal lifestyle. We may love them dearly but we must not allow them to compromise our faith and devotion to God. We should rather set a good example of Christian virtue that may eventually lead them to a life dedicated to Christ.

Solomon, like David, his father, sinned against God but neither lost their salvation. Salvation is not contingent upon a sinless life, but sin will rob us of the joy and close fellowship with God, that we so desperately need. I close with this verse of scripture: "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." (I Cor. 10:12).

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Sometimes, I thank the good Lord that I am not rich. Not being rich, I don't have to worry about someone stealing my treasure, I don't have to lie awake at night worrying about loosing what I have. Matthew 5:3 says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit."

Solomon was born with a silver spoon in his mouth so to speak. He had everything he wanted which spoils any child. He was the first living son of David and Bathsheba, it is recorded in II Samuel 12:24 that God loved him. He was anointed of God to build the temple and bring prosperity to Israel. He asked God for wisdom, he received wisdom. However, he used this wisdom to satisfy his own ego. It would seem that even though God loved him, his love for God was very weak, he loved pleasure more than he loved God. God gave him the wisdom to do great things, yet he used it to scheme and plot to get favour of other nations, and marrying the leaders' heathen daughters in order to have protection for his kingdom. These heathen wives led him like Eve, to rebel against God and look to other gods.

The god of sex meant more to him than the God of love, therefore, God backed off, so to speak, and left him hanging on a limb. The God that loved him had turned against him and His judgment was heavy. This, of course, affected his kingdom as well as himself.

God has blessed our leaders, as well as our country. God has loved this country because we started as a religious nation and practiced it for many years, but somewhere, along the way we forgot to keep God in our plans. We as a nation decided that we didn't need God, so we began to plan a way to get rid of God. We had to get God out of our government, we had to get God out of our schools, we said in essence, we will not have this God to reign over us. We are in debt over our heads and can not seem to figure out a way to pay our bills. Why? Because we have left God out, we

have turned against Him like Solomon therefore, God has backed off. Wake up America, let us get these ungodly people out of our government and find some honest ones to take their place.

UNPLEASANT

(Continued from Page 4)

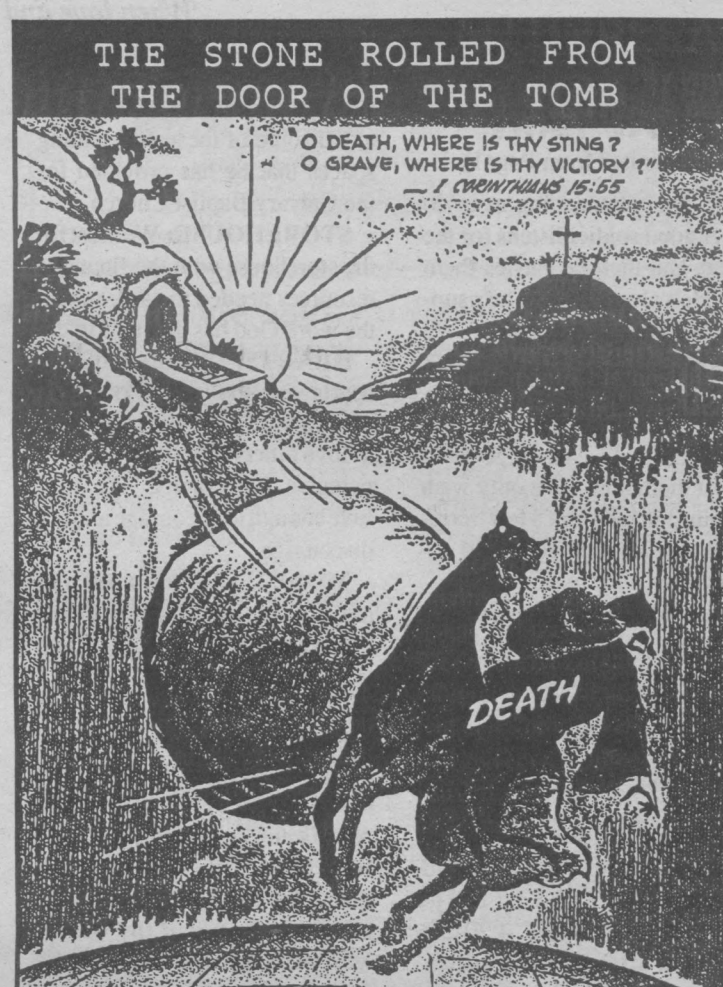
9:12).

In Luke 12:16-20, Jesus told of a man who thought he had many years to live and enjoy the things he had stored, but God said of him, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee." (Luke 12:20). There are many scriptures that warn us of the uncertainty of life. (Note James 4:14, Proverbs 27:1, I Samuel 20:3, Job 7:6 & 14:1-2).

Death is coming. Our days are like grains of sand falling through an hour glass; someday the last grain will fall, and we will be DEAD. Our days are like turning the page of a book; soon we will come to the last page that says "THE END."

ETERNITY

The end of our physical life does not mean the end of our existence. When God made man He made him "In His own image." This does not refer to the color of his eyes or to his size, et cetera. However, there are several things about God that He has placed in man, and that are not found in the animal kingdom. One



of these is that as God is eternal, even so He has made mankind so that we will never cease to exist. "And it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgement." (Hebrews 9:27). If death ended it all, then mankind would be on the same level with animals, but he is not. When God made man He put into him a living soul, something that will exist forever.

It is a very solemn thought that each of us must face God in eternity. The saved will stand before Him at what is called "The judgment seat of Christ." (II Corinthians 5:10). The unsaved will face God and their record at the "great white throne judgment." One of the Bible's most frightening passages is Revelation 20:11-15. Please take time to read this passage. Especially think upon verse 15: "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." How could anyone who is unsaved read these verses and continue to feel indifferent concerning their soul's eternal welfare?

Like it or not, death is coming and we must all face God. If you are not ready for death and eternity, flee now from the wrath to

(Continued on Pg. 8, Col. 4)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MARCH 26, 1994

PAGE FIVE

CAPTAIN

(Continued from Page 1)

serve, but commanding us to do so. A good soldier listens for the orders and then he carries them out. He's always where he's supposed to be, doing his duty. We must be good soldiers in the Lord's army.

The Lord gave us many marching orders and we're not going to repeat them now. We only wish to point out, by use of a few Scriptures, that He ordered us and expects us to obey and serve.

Having been a military man for 21 years, all this seems very logical to me; as well as being very constructive and efficient. Of course our Lord is perfect in all that He does, so it could not be otherwise.

To begin a soldier marching to the battle, he must first be called to attention. We find our call to attention in Proverbs 4:20-27: **"My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil."**

Now that we have been called to attention, let us now consider our marching orders.

I. **"... Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it."** (John 2:5). **"Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim."** (John 2:7).

Whatever the Lord tells us to do; that's what we should do. If the Lord gives us something to fill up, then we should work to fill it up.

Following are a few things the Lord gave us to fill up:

PEWS: We have enough pews at the Calvary Baptist Church to seat 400 people. The most I've seen in these pews was 65. Normally, it's far less than 65. If we truly carry out the great commis-

sion, I believe the Lord will begin to fill some of these 400 seating spaces that he has provided for the Calvary Baptist Church.

STOREHOUSE: We must fill the storehouse with the financial resources needed to carry out all the work God has given us to do.

HEARTS: We must fill our hearts with the love of our Lord and for our Lord. We must learn to love others in spite of what we perceive to be faults. We must love enough to encourage and not discourage.

MINDS: We must fill our minds with a knowledge of God's Word and then pray for wisdom to use it properly.

II. **"Now when he had left speaking, He said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto Him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing; nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net."** (Luke 5:4-5).

A lack of success in the past is no reason not to do what the Lord said do. As fishers of men, we should keep putting our net down. Why? Because the Lord said keep fishing. Simon said: **"Master, we have toiled all night, and have taken nothing; nevertheless at thy word I will..."** We find in Luke 5:6 that obedience to this order brought great results. **"And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes..."**

III. **"And He saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed Him."** (Matthew 4:19-20).

We see here immediate obedience to a marching order. We see Saul, i.e. Paul responded the same way in Acts 9:20. **"And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God."** We see an immediate response in Acts 16:10, by Paul, Silas, Luke, and Timothy to a marching order. **"And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them."**

IV. **"And as Jesus passed forth from thence, He saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and He saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose and followed Him."** (Matthew 9:9).

For many years, I was an accountant. If the Lord would let me, I could still be happy, as a Christian, being an accountant. Matthew's work was somewhat similar to mine. He left his work to serve the Lord full time. I left my work to serve the Lord full time. Why? Because the Lord said, **"follow me."** This was an order; not a request.

V. **"And He went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace."** (Matthew 20:3). **"And about the eleventh hour He went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?"** (Matthew 20:6).

Since taking this position, in obedience to the order given to me by my Captain, I have been awakened to conditions in God's Baptist army that trouble me. It seems there are out in the world, some of God's soldiers, who apparently have only two moving parts: (1) A tongue that talks a good fight; (2) A hand that writes of a good fight. It would seem to me that this is a result of being idle and not being an active soldier in the real conflict, which is with Satan and his army in the battle for men's souls. Please dear God, help us to see this and as a Baptist army for the Lord; let us engage the true enemy and not one another. We must grieve the Holy Spirit when we attack the soldiers of God's Baptist army.

Our spiritual and material prosperity is linked to serving our Captain as a good soldier and not fighting in the ranks of his army. **"And, behold, God himself is with us for our captain, and his priests with sounding trumpets to cry alarm against you. O children of Israel, fight ye not against the Lord God of your Fathers; for ye shall not prosper."** (II Chronicles 13:12).

Let us not stand idle and use the Lord's time to fight one another. Get into the real conflict. You're not my enemy; I'm not your enemy. Satan loves it when we fight one another, for in so doing, we won't be fighting Him. Let us get in step behind our Captain. He's already won the victory.

May our Lord bless BOTH you and me!

**PRAY
EACH
DAY**

FULFILLING

(Continued from Page 1)

another's burdens, and fulfill the law of Christ." The meaning of the Greek word burden, which is "baros", is a heavy burden or the pressure of a weight, often with the implication that it is too heavy for one person to bear. However, the implication is this burden may be relieved or transferred to another.

What is the general meaning to Christians? Paul is explaining to the Galatians the personal responsibility they should feel for the spiritual welfare of fellow saints, especially for those that have sinned. The truth is there are some burdens too heavy for any one individual to bear; and therefore, must have assistance.

The mode of how this word "burden" is used in the New Testament is fourfold. First, it is spoken of as a physical burden in Matthew 20:12. In this parable of the laborers, the laborers reproached the householder for paying all his workers the same wage, regardless of the time worked. Verse twelve implies the burden of the day was too much to bear; and therefore, they deserved a bonus. They begrudged the generosity of the employer to his employees.

In I Thessalonians 2:6-7, the apostle Paul spoke of material burdens. He gently reminded them that he had not sought for glory from men when he was able to be a burden (or burdensome) as an apostle of Christ. Verse seven the NIV says, **"We might have required you to support us, as Apostles of Christ, but were gentle among you."** It was his right, and he was entitled to their material support; but he was not compelled to require it. These are burdens that make a demand on one's material resources and may require assistance in order to bear that particular burden.

Acts 15:28 speaks of a third type of **"crushing burden;"** these are religious burdens. Acts 15:1 delineates the problem; certain men from Judea were teaching you had to be circumcised in order to be saved. This was totally foreign to New Testament teaching so a council of brethren concerned in Jerusalem to settle this matter. When the council drew up its decision the letter read, **"It seemed good... to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things."** Doubtless they were thinking of the "yoke" which

neither they nor their fathers had been able to bear as stated in Acts 15:10.

There are many well intentioned individuals that will attempt to place religious burdens, not biblical ones or scriptural ones, on God's people. They demand we live according to their legalistic laws and standards. These, like the Judaizers, have nothing to do with biblical standards of discipleship. We can't, nor are we required to, bear these unnecessary burdens.

Our text, Galatians 6:2, speaks to us of the fourth type of **"crushing burdens;"** these are spiritual burdens. Paul exhorted the Galatians to be considerate of one another and urged them, **"Bear ye one another's burdens."** (Galatians 6:2). Many of our fellow Christians are under heavy burdens and need help. Paul had a friend in Titus, as given in II Cor. 7:5-6, that comforted him and shared his heavy burden. Human friendship is part of the purpose of God for his people.

In Galatians chapter six, verse one, Paul gives an example of burden bearing by telling us three things. First, Paul tells us what we are to do. We are to restore such a one. The Greek word for restore means to repair or to restore to a former good condition. It is also used of reconciling factions, setting of broken bones, or of mending fishing nets. Paul used it metaphorically of setting a person straight, bringing one who has fallen back into line. However, this restoration must be done according to the principle stated in Matthew 18:15-17. Secondly, Paul tells us who is to do it. He describes them as **"ye which are spiritual,"** those who were living their lives in dependence upon the Holy Spirit and had the fruits of the spirit as given in Galatians 5:22-23. Thirdly, Paul explains how it should be done. He describes the process being done in the spirit of meekness. This word meekness can also be translated gentleness. It's the same word used in the fruits of the Spirit just mentioned. Paul is suggesting that gentleness is born of a sense of our own weakness and proneness to sin. The phrase he used was **"consider thyself, lest thou also be tempted."**

The second type of burden is what I call **"compelling burdens;"** as found in Galatians 6:5. First, let's consider the meaning of burden in the Greek. (Continued on Pg. 7, Col. 1)

FULFILLING

(Continued from Page 6)

It means a burden which is customary and suitable for a person or thing; such as a soldier's pack. In the general application to Christians, there are some burdens we cannot share because they are light enough for anyone to carry; and it is our responsibility alone.

The mode of how their burden is used in the New Testament falls into two categories. Let's call the first one the burden of discipleship. Jesus used this word in Matthew 11:29-30 where he said, "my burden is light." The burden of Christ is a load which he expects every child of God to carry. No one can do yours or my personal discipleship. I John chapter 5 and verse three says, "...and his commandments are not grievous." The word grievous means burdensome. Secondly, in our text, Galatians 6:5, Paul talks about the burden of duty. "Every man shall bear his own burden." (verse 5). This is a burden that is suitable and must be born regardless of its weight. The burden in verse two refers to those that are much too heavy for one person to bear, but the burden in verse five speaks of that personal responsibility no one may share.

There are personal duties each one must bear. For example, family responsibilities can't be shared. We all must bear our own load of being a good father, mother, son, or daughter. The list could be endless as we think of responsibilities to God, church, government, etc. No one can perform my personal duty. But if there is a problem, can I really function as God expects me to do? Yes, with the help of a sovereign God, all things are possible. I Corinthians 10:13 says, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able; but will with the temptation, make a way to escape it, that ye may be able to BEAR it."

The third type of burden is the "costly burden" found in Hebrews chapter twelve, verse one. The Greek word for burden used in this passage is "onkos." It means an encumbrance, bulk or mass, also a swelling or tumor in one's body. In our text, Paul uses the illustration of a runner in an

athletic contest. The word weight in the Bible is "onkos." The runners would strip to nearly naked in order to run more swiftly. Paul says we are to rid ourselves of any encumbrance that would slow down our Christian race.

The mode of how "onkows" (burden) is used in the New Testament is twofold. First, it is used as an occasion to hinder our race. This word is used in the medical field to mean cancer. From a physical viewpoint, cancer can and will hinder a person. If not caught in time, it could, and many times does, kill. From a spiritual view, anything that would hinder us from serving Christ or slowing our Christian race must be cast aside. Secondly, it is used as an obstacle to be handled. It is up to every individual to lay aside that weight. In I Peter 2:1, he describes several things that we must lay aside if we are going to desire the sincere milk of the Word.

In our text in Hebrews 12:1, Paul equates that weight with sin. It must be remembered God will never call us to anything that will draw us away from communion with Him. There is a human tendency to place many different weights, or burdens, on our bodies or in our path that will slow us down, such as hindrances of society, business, and yes, even religion. These are weights that we are at liberty to cast aside but choose to retain. It is very interesting that this is the only place in the New Testament where the word "onkos" is used.

In conclusion, the question each of us must consider is, am I fulfilling the law of Christ? All the law is fulfilled in loving our neighbor as ourselves (Galatians 5:14). Also, Paul said that we fulfill the law of Christ by bearing one another's burdens.

As we examined the three types of burdens taught in the New Testament, it became apparent what our responsibilities are. In Galatians 6:2, Paul said there are some burdens too heavy for any one individual to carry, therefore, we need help. Galatians 6:5 tells us there are burdens that are suitable and God expects us to carry them by ourselves. In Hebrews 12:1, Paul said there are some burdens, if retained and not released, will hinder our spiritual progress in the Christian race.

Therefore, if we are going to fulfill the law of Christ, we must accept our responsibilities in all three areas of life. Remember, some burdens we can't carry,

some we must carry, and finally, some we had better not carry.

How Much Does A Prayer Weigh?

How much does a prayer weigh?

There is a story of a grocery store owner who tried to weigh one.

A tired looking woman came into the store and asked for enough food to make a dinner for her children. The grocer asked her how much she could spend. The frail woman answered "I have nothing to offer but a little prayer." The store keeper was not very sentimental, nor very religious, so he said, "Write it on paper and I'll weigh it." So she did. The grocer placed the prayer on the weight side of his old-fashioned scales, then he began piling food on the other side. But to his amazement the scale would not go down. He finally became flustered and gave the woman a large bag of food. The grocer never saw the woman again, but he treasures the slip of paper upon which the woman's prayer had been written - "Please, Lord give us this day our daily bread."



A Woman's Touch

By Wendy Barkman



We meet again, through pen and paper. I am very grateful to the Lord for this opportunity to share another small part of my manuscript with you. May the Lord bless, as you read.

She Was Thirsty And The Lord Gave Her Water
John 4:4-42

Now Jesus "must needs go through Samaria." He came to a piece of land and "Jacob's well was there." The story, you know it well. He met a woman, a Samaritan woman. We know her as the "woman at the well." "Give me to drink" was all that He said, but that was all that He needed to say. Her questions came, as her curiosity grew. Why was a Jewish man asking a Samaritan woman for a drink of water? No prejudice here. But why? Everyone knows that Jews and Samaritans don't get along, she kept on asking. They talked some more. Now He says He can give me water, much better than this old well water. But I see no bucket in His hand; I see no other water. Who is this man, anyway? I'll never be thirsty again, He said. What kind of water can He be talking about, and who is this man, anyway? I'll take some of your water; I'm tired of being thirsty. She called Him "Sir", for she was still unsure. Who is this man, anyway? Your husband should be here, He kindly suggested, but He already knew of her live-in arrangement. Shy and embarrassed, she quickly confessed. She did not know why, but she just couldn't lie to this man. Who is this man, anyway? She was amazed at His knowledge concerning her past, which included five husbands, for she had not even bothered to marry the sixth and last. You must be a prophet, she quickly exclaimed. But where should we worship? He gently and kindly explained that it was not where, but how we worship the Father, that was important. We must worship "in spirit and in truth." That is what He said. I am confident that when the anointed one (Messiah called Christ) comes, He will explain all of these things to us, she told this man. Who is this man, anyway? "I... am he." Thus, the conversa-

tion ended. Nothing more was said between the two. The disciples came and she left, leaving her bucket behind. "Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: Is not this the Christ?" He forgave her past, helped her with the present, and offered her new hope for the future.

This woman was going for water, to quench a physical thirst. She met the one who could give living water for a spiritual thirst she never even knew she had. (Psalm 42:1-2; S.O.S. 4:15; Isaiah 12:3, 55:1; Jer. 2:13; John 6:35; Rev. 22:17).

Well Meetings

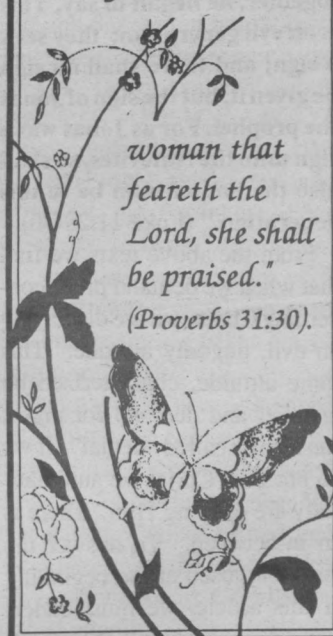
1. Abraham's servant meets Rebekah, Isaac's wife (Gen. 24:11-20).
2. Jacob and Rachel (Gen. 29:2-12).
3. Moses and Zipporah (Ex. 2:15-21).
4. Samaritan woman meets her Saviour (John 4:6-29).

"Thou hast put gladness in my heart."

PSALM 4:7

"Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a

woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised."
(Proverbs 31:30).



THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MARCH 26, 1994

PAGE SEVEN

WHAT MUST YOU DO TO BE LOST?

By Pastor Robert Barkman
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"Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." (Acts 16:29-31).

In our text, we find the supreme command given to all mankind—"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ". This command is of absolute necessity because "without faith (belief) it is impossible to please Him..." (Heb 11:6). No one can find favor in the Lord's sight without an exercise of faith.

In today's society we all have a tendency to live by sight. We shy away from trusting anything or anyone. We say "seeing IS believing". We demand proof. This same attitude was present in Biblical times as well:

"Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said, He saved other; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God. The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth." (Matthew 27:41-44).

Christ, Himself addressed this attitude in Luke: "And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet. For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation." (Luke 11:29-30).

From the above texts we find that when we demand proof concerning Christ, we are displaying an evil, ungodly attitude. This same attitude, characterized by unbelief and demand for proof, can also be called "denial". If we do not trust Christ we automatically are denying Him. There is no in-between. To answer the question posed at the beginning of this article, we must understand this basic point: "Denial IS unbelief."

So then, WHAT MUST I DO TO BE LOST?

1. Deny the Obvious

A. The Existence of God
"The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory." (Psalms 97:6).

B. Man's Sinful Condition
"God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, that did seek God. Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one." (Psalms 53:2-3).

2. Deny the Truth

A. God's Attitude About Sin
"And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:15-18).

B. God's Punishment of Sin
"The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:" (II Peter 2:9).

3. Deny Christ

A. His Work
"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Whogave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee." (Titus 2:13-15).

B. His Message
"For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him,

may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:38-40).

4. Deny Our Responsibility

A. Submission to the Lordship of Christ

"And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;" (Hebrews 5:9).

B. True Repentance and Belief
"And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." (Mark 1:15).

WHAT MUST YOU DO TO BE LOST? Simply live in a state of denial about these very important truths. WHAT MUST YOU DO TO BE LOST? Simply demand proof of these things which are spiritual in nature and cannot be proven to the physical eye. WHAT MUST YOU DO TO BE LOST? Simply continue on as you are... "He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (John 3:18).

A letter from a subscriber:

Dear Elder Eugene Helton,

Enclosed is \$6.00 for another year of TBE. Sorry I let it lapse. The layout of the paper seems to have better eye appeal lately. I'll be praying for you as you Pastor at Calvary and work as the new Editor of The Baptist Examiner.

Elder Larry J. Killion
The Lord's Baptist Church
Tacoma, Washington

UNPLEASANT

(Continued from Page 5)

come by fleeing to Jesus and receiving Him as your Saviour, your Redeemer the only True Place of Refuge for your soul. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16).

CHRIST

(Continued from Page 2)

becoming to a Christian? Is your life pure or is it in reality a sham? Do you curse, drink, smoke cigarettes, commit adultery, if only in your heart, do you read objectionable material, do you watch objectionable programs? Are you faithful, or are you guilty of staying away from His services?

Listen my dear friend, if you as a Christian go back to the things of the world from which the death of Christ has separated you, you are denying the cross of Christ... That is what happens every time we do those things which are contrary to His will... If we really understood that, we would truly be a separated people, "with the world crucified unto us and us unto the world."

My dear brother and sister in Christ, we owe too much to the One whom the world rejected to go on with that system which has thus treated our blessed Redeemer.

Dear Brother Helton,

The **Faith Baptist Church in Covington, KY** will be having their **Twenty-Fourth Annual Missions Conference** on April 1-2, 1994.

The speakers we have lined up are; **Friday Night** - Brother Andy Sexton and Brother David Swallow.

On **Saturday**, the speakers will be; Brother Roy Humble, Brother Carl Sadler, Brother Don Scott, then a break for lunch. After lunch speakers will be; Brother Tony Vance, Brother Doug Banforth, Brother Harry Helton and Brother Dwayne Reinhardt, then a break for supper. After supper speakers are; Brother Clarence Grigsby and Brother Donnie Burford to finish out the services.

Meals will be served at the church. Offerings will be taken for mountain missions.

We warmly welcome you and the readers of The Baptist Examiner to attend the conference.
His Servant,

Randall O. Rosbrook

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"See that none
render evil for evil
unto any man;
but ever follow that
which is good, both
among yourselves,
and to all men."
(I Thessalonians 5:15)