

How men treat us will make little difference when we know we have God's approval

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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.

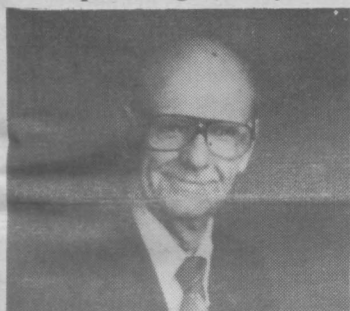
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THE WELL DRESSED CHRISTIAN

By Pastor Edward G. Graff

Grace Central Baptist Church, Mansfield, Louisiana

Colossians 3:12-15, "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even



as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful." (Text verse 14) "And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness."

A SPIRITUAL WARD-ROBE

Clothing styles come and go. Every season brings changes. But in the realm of the spirit there are some garments that never fade, never wear out, never go out of style. Paul said, "Because you have put off the old self and have put on a new self, you now are a new creation." Because of this taking place, old self for new self, the Christian must put on new spiritual raiment if he expects to be seen with the approving eyes of God. For the Christian to put on these new spiritual garments, he must first know what these garments are. It is a very sad thing, but most Christians today do not put on new spiritual garments, let alone know what these garments are. So let's look at this apparel: so that we

may know the spiritual garments to put on and do away with any reason for not doing so.

MERCIES

Today we would say, put on compassion. And a Christian without compassion is less than Christian. Compassion is a deep feeling of sharing the suffering of others and is the inclination to give, support, show mercy, show pity, and show sympathy. You suffer along with or rejoice with them. Romans 12:15, "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep" also Romans 15:1, "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves." Clothe yourselves by putting on behavior marked by compassion.

KINDNESS

Kindness is compassion in action. Jesus showed us how kindness works when He spoke of the Good Samaritan. The priest and the Levite probably had compassion of a sort. But, take note of the compassion in action of the Good Samaritan. His action equals kindness. Luke 10:33-34, "But a cer-

tain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was and when he saw him, he had compassion on him", now note in verse 34 the action of kindness, "And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him." He also left money for the inn keeper to see to all of the man's needs. What compassion in action, what kindness. Would we do this?

HUMBLENESS OF MIND AND MEEKNESS

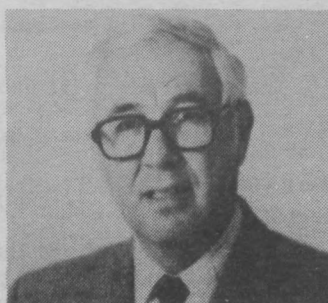
Jesus said, "Blessed are the meek." Meekness equals gentle ways and patience. Peter speaks of this in I Peter 5:5b, "Be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud." Be clothed in the garb of a servant, with freedom from pride and arrogance. Have gentle ways and patience. Self pride is a spoiler of all things that are good. Pride will bring a Christian down. Proverbs 29:23, "A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit." The big "I" detracts from

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The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor Eugene P. Helton

BORN FREE



"And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman, and uncondemned? When the centurion heard that, he went and told the chief captain, saying, Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman. Then the chief captain came, and said unto him, Tell me, art thou a Roman? He said, Yea. And the

"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins" (Eph. 2:1). "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures" (I Cor. 15:3). "God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" (Rom. 6:2).

1. From Ephesians 2:1 we see the sinner, **DEAD IN SIN**.

2. From I Corinthians 15:3 we see the Saviour, **DEAD FOR SIN**.

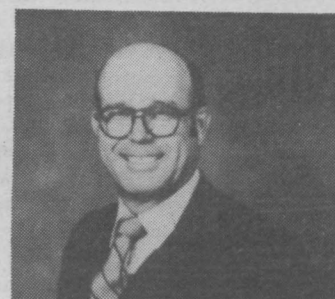
3. From Romans 6:2 we see **THE SAINT DEAD TO SIN**.

The first is **THE NATURAL CONDITION OF ALL MEN**.

The second is **THE GOSPEL OF GOD FOR ALL MEN**, and

The third is **THE RESULT IN THOSE THAT BELIEVE**.

First then, and from Ephesians 2:1, we view our first scene of death, and it is an awful view, it is the corpse of fallen humanity, it is **SPIRITUAL DEATH**, for it is the sinner, "**DEAD IN SIN**." Dear reader, spiritual death is a solemn thing, this is not a pretty sight, this is a scene so frightful and so repugnant that God cannot look upon it with approbation (Habakkuk 1:13a). Death is never a pleasing sight to behold, when we come upon an accident along the highway our curiosity will send us to the very scene, our feet will be swift to carry us there, but once we have beheld the bloody corpse we are troubled, we wish that we had not been so curious, we are grief stricken, we cannot seem to forget the terrible gory scene, it may even sicken us and rob us of sleep for



many days, this is physical death, and it is repugnant to all of Adam's race. But dear reader, there is a death that is far more repulsive even if we cannot see it and feel it with our natural senses. It is **SPIRITUAL DEATH**, king of fallen humanity, and both keeper and prison of the damned. Lost sinners are said to be "**IN THE CONGREGATION OF THE DEAD**" (Prov. 21:16). Oh, what a terrible scene is spiritual death, it is to be dead toward God, it is to be sold under sin (Rom. 7:14). It is to be soulish, it is to be dead in sins (Col. 2:13). A state of sin is a state of spiritual death. Those who are in sin are dead in sin. As the death of the body is the corruption of it, so sin is the corruption of the soul, and it ought to be a sobering knowledge for us to know that these are dead and what shall be their end... "Surely thou didst set them in slippery places: thou castedst them down into destruction. How are they brought into desolation, as in a moment! they are utterly consumed with terrors. As a dream when one awaketh; so, O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise their image" (Psalms 73:18-20). "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whoso-

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chief captain answered, With a great sum obtained I this freedom. And Paul said, But I was free born" (Acts 22:25-28).

The Apostle Paul, here in Acts 22, was giving an account of his salvation experience and his calling to the ministry. The crowd listened attentively for awhile and then became incensed at his words. The chief captain commanded that

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Eugene P. Helton
Editor

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BORN FREE

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Paul be arrested and examined by scourging. As Paul was being bound with thongs, he identified himself to a centurion as being a Roman citizen. The centurion told the chief captain that Paul was a Roman citizen. The chief captain then asked Paul: "art thou a Roman?" "He (Paul) said, yea." The chief captain then informed Paul that his freedom required the payment of a price. To this Paul replied: "but I was free born." Using this exchange of words between the Apostle Paul and the chief captain in Acts 22:28, let us consider our own national freedom as citizens of the United States

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
SEPTEMBER 10, 1994

PAGE TWO

Editor's Update

By Pastor Eugene P. Helton, Editor

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Today is August 3, 1994. I'm beginning to prepare the September 10, 1994 edition of the Baptist Examiner. I'm writing at the desk of my son-in-law, Second Lt. Kevin Hickman, from his home on Robins Air Force Base Georgia. In the distance, I can hear the roar of jet engines; probably F-15's and C-141's. My son-in-law says the jet engine noise is the sound of freedom. Having served almost twenty-one years in the United States Air Force myself, I fully agree.

The events of my life at the present time speak much of the providence of God. I shall try to explain. In the spring of 1984, I became pastor of the Gethsemane Baptist Church in Marengo, Ohio. At that time my youngest daughter, Melissa (Missy) was entering the tenth grade. During the nine years that I pastored Gethsemane, I was blessed to be the pastor of Robert and Katie Wingo. I became very close to this wonderful elderly couple. A few years ago, Robert and Katie moved to Macon, Georgia. My daughter, Missy, married Kevin Hickman in July 1988. Kevin entered Ohio State University that fall on a U.S. Air Force R.O.T.C. scholarship. In March 1993, Kevin graduated from Ohio State and the same day was commissioned a second Lt. in the U.S. Air Force. In September 1993, Kevin and Missy were assigned to Robins Air Force Base at Warner-Robins, Georgia; approximately twelve miles from Robert and Katie Wingo. Approximately July 1, 1994, while working in my office at the Calvary Baptist Church in Ashland, Kentucky, I received a call from Katie Wingo, who was then in the hospital in Macon, Georgia. Katie described her most recent illness and then asked this question: "Brother Helton, will you preach my funeral?" Yesterday, August 2, 1994, at the Pine Forrest Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia, I, along with Pastor Stuart Menarry, preached the funeral of Katie Wingo. Today August 3, 1994, I just returned from the Robins Air Force Base Hospital, where my daughter, Missy, visited the obstetrician. Her first child is due as I write today. Is this the providence of God? Certainly! Today, I'm almost eight hundred miles and ten years from first meeting Katie Wingo and Missy entering the tenth grade. Now the Lord has brought me to south central Georgia to bid farewell to my wonderful Christian friend, Katie Wingo, at the very time I'm to be here to welcome my new grandchild into the world. The Wingo's could have moved someplace else. Kevin and Missy could have been assigned many other places in the world. Katie could have gone to be with the Lord at another time or Missy's baby could have been due in the winter instead of the summer. Our God of providence brought the people and the events of their lives together just as He planned. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

Until next time, may our Lord bless and keep you!

of America.

I. Our National Freedom

A. "With a great sum obtained I this freedom."

Freedom has never been free. Freedom has to be paid for; to secure it; to maintain it. Americans from the beginning have been willing to pay that price. The price was paid in the Revolutionary war to secure freedom. **THEY UNDERSTOOD FREEDOM!** The price has been paid many times since to maintain our national freedom. The Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam; these were conflicts with our freedom at stake. Many paid the price for freedom with their lives. **THEY UNDERSTOOD FREEDOM!** The price was paid in the Middle East, during early 1991, against a dictator who would take away our freedom; at least our economic freedom. **THOSE WHO DIED IN THAT SHORT WAR UNDERSTOOD FREEDOM.**

B. "But I was free born."

We living in the United States of America today that were blessed of God to be born here; we were

born into freedom. You might say, we were free born or born free. However, our freedom was not free and will never be free. Each generation must be willing, as our forefathers were, to pay the price for freedom.

II. There is a greater freedom—born again freedom

A. Like our national freedom, our spiritual freedom required the payment of a price. It was not free. It cost God a great price.

"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).

"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (I Corinthians 6:20).

B. This freedom is only possible through Jesus.

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:36).

"Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of

bondage" (Galatians 5:1).

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath annointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18-Jesus speaking).

C. The Bible proclaims this freedom.

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

D. The Holy Spirit delivers this freedom.

"Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" (II Corinthians 3:17).

E. Some would try to steal our freedom.

"And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage: To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of

the gospel might continue with you" (Galatians 2:4-5).

F. This freedom is not freedom to practice sin.

"For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another" (Galatians 5:16).

"This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:13).

In conclusion, allow me to leave you with the following to think upon: many have died to pay the price to secure and maintain our national freedom. We owe them a great debt. One has died, was buried, and was resurrected to pay the price to secure and maintain our spiritual freedom. His name is Jesus. We owe Him everything!

May our Lord bless you richly!

Epilogue

For several days now I've been visiting my daughter and son-in-law at Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. To see the activity of an Air Force Base is in many ways a visit to my past. I was in the United States Air Force for twenty-one years.

I've been very conscious once again of how precious and wonderful it is to be free and to be an American. As I observe the professionalism and dedication of the men and women of the U.S. Air Force, I'm convinced more than ever that our country must remain militarily strong to maintain our freedom.

There are still very real threats to our national freedom from without. The so called "cold war" was won because we were militarily superior to those who would take our freedom from us. To some it seems the threat has gone and we can relax and greatly reduce our military capacity to respond to the tyrants and would be dictators of the world. This is not true. The world is more volatile today than ever before. We became free and we continue to be free because we loved freedom so much we were willing to fight and die to have it. The world respects military strength. There are those in the world who would take advantage of an America drastically weakened militarily. There are still forces in the world that would enslave us if the conditions were favorable to them. We must make sure those conditions never exist. We must be strong militarily.

There are threats to our national freedom from within. We have taken a freedom from the unborn child; a freedom that at one time

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The Baptist Examiner Bible Study Lesson

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

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God's Covenant to Noah Genesis 9

"AND God blessed Noah..."
(v. 1).

The flood was gone, Noah and all that were in the ark had been told to leave the ark. They stepped out into a world where there was no living creature except those that came out of the ark. Noah now takes his place as the second head of the human race. This was a new beginning. A fresh start. Sin had been punished. God in His grace was ready to guide and bless those who were to fill the earth.

Noah's first act upon leaving the ark was to build an altar and offer burnt offerings unto God (8:20). These offerings were to God "a sweet savour" and after stating that He would not curse the ground any more for man's sake and that the seasons would remain as long as did the earth, "God blessed Noah and his sons." This new beginning as did the first beginning, start with God's blessing (Genesis 1:28).

In some respects this second "beginning" was similar to the first. Like the first, they were commanded to "be fruitful and multiply," and the animal world was to be under man's subjection (2:2). But there is a main difference that it is important for us to see: all now rested upon A COVENANT OF GRACE BASED UPON SHED BLOOD.

There are several aspects of the covenant that we need to look into. As to the "source" of the covenant, it was God Himself that made the covenant with Noah, not Noah with God. God was the giver, Noah the receiver. Note: "And I, behold, I establish my

covenant with you, and with your seed after you" (9:9). Do we need to be reminded that we are the seed of Noah and as such we are included in this covenant? "I will establish my covenant with you" (v. 11). This was God's covenant and man had no part in the making of it or the keeping of it. Note: "I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a token of a covenant between me and the earth" (v. 13).

The contents of the covenant: In addition to the promise that while the earth remained the seasons would remain (8:22), God also said, "neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth" (9:11). This covenant was made more than four thousand years ago and the keeping of these promises year in and year out demonstrate the faithfulness of God. We hear much about the laws of nature but very little about nature's God. It is nature's God which controls nature's laws.

The purpose of the covenant was to give man the assurance that never again was there to be a repeat of a flood that would destroy all living creatures. "This in the token of the covenant which I made between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations" (9:12). It was also to affirm that God had control of all, the hot and the cold, winter and summer, day and night, all under the control of the One who upholds "all things by the word of his power" (Hebrews 1:3).

Next we need to note man's requirements. There were three in number. Blood was not to be

eaten, murder was forbidden, the human race was to multiply and fill the earth. We need to study each of these carefully.

"But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat" (9:4). By looking at some passages where the word "blood" is used we can see that blood is to be regarded as sacred. The blood of Abel "cried unto God from the ground" (Genesis 4:10). "The blood is the life," therefore blood must be held sacred (Genesis 9:4-6). Joseph's coat was dipped in blood and brought to his father, this being a type of "the blood of the Son being presented to the Father" (Gen. 37:22, 26, 31). In Genesis 42:22 we learn that blood is required at the hand of those who shed it. In Exodus 4:9 the waters of the Nile were turned into blood, teaching us that blood is the symbol of God's judgment upon sin. The applied blood upon the door posts provided a covering for the first born from the wrath of God (Ex. 12:13). It is important to note that the first requirement of the covenant God made with Noah, that man should be taught to regard blood as sacred. We are told in I Peter 1:19 that we are redeemed by the "precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."

"Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed for in the image of God made he man." Here we find the illustration of human government. Before the flood we find no mention of any type of human government to prevent crime and to punish evil doers. Cain killed Abel but his own life was spared.

Lamech, likewise killed a man but nothing is said of him being brought to trial for this act. But now, after the flood, capital punishment is to be the penalty for murder. Note this penalty was ordained by God Himself. It was ordained many hundreds of years before the Law of Moses was given, therefore, it is still binding today the same as it was in Noah's day. The reason for this penalty is "for in the image of God made he man" (9:6).

From this we see that human government is ordained of God. In Romans 13:1, 2 is said, "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. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God...." Those who oppose capital punishment oppose the ordinance of God.

"And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein" (9:7).

God had given the same command to Adam (Gen. 1:28), now he repeats it to Noah. The human family was now starting out anew. This was a new beginning. Noah now stood as the head of the human race. The human race now consisted of only eight people (I Peter 3:20). If the earth was to be filled as God had purposed man must "be fruitful and multiply." As further proof that Noah was now head of the human race and all the animals were delivered into his hand as they had been delivered into Adam's hand (9:2).

To be continued...

THREE

(Continued from Page 1)

ever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:11-15).

Secondly, from I Corinthians 15:3 we see THE SAVIOUR DEAD FOR SIN. "Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you, the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures" (I Cor. 15:1-4). We can praise God for "the old rugged cross," we can praise God for bloody Golgotha where our blessed Redeemer died in our stead as our suffering substitute. Isaiah 53:6 proclaims "ALL WE LIKE SHEEP HAVE GONE ASTRAY; WE HAVE TURNED EVERYONE TO HIS OWN WAY; AND THE LORD HATH LAID ON HIM THE INIQUITY OF US ALL." Dear reader, your sins are damnable, and must condemn you unless they are purged away by the great sin-offering. Behold then the cross of Calvary, behold the blessed suffering Saviour as He deals with the sins of His people, as He puts it away by the sacrifice of Himself (Heb. 9:26). The wages of our sins being death (Rom. 6:23). He took our sins, bearing them in His own body on the tree (I Pet. 2:24), that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh (I Pet. 3:18). Behold Him then on rugged Golgotha, not dying but dead, behold His bruised and battered body, the body that was broken for His sheep, and behold the blood that stained the old rugged cross (Matt. 26:26-28 and I Cor. 11:24-26). The sins of His people were laid on Him and by His stripes we are healed. But oh, dear reader, behold what sin hath done to the blessed Son of God, Acts 2:23 lets us know that with wicked hands, men crucified Him. Read the 22nd division of Psalms and behold what it cost the Lord to be our Redeemer. Isaiah 53:3

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The Baptist Examiner Pulpit Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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Explain Genesis 12:3, "I will bless them that bless thee, and curse them that curse thee."

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"And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed" (Genesis 12:3).

God said this to Abram, whose name was later changed to Abraham, who was living in Ur of the Chaldees. From what Joshua said concerning Abraham it seems that he along with his father and family were serving other gods (Joshua 24:2, 3).

God had told Abram to get out of his country, leaving his father's house and his family and go to a land that He would show him. It was to be a new beginning for Abram. He would become head of a great nation and his name would be great for he would be a blessing (Genesis 12:1, 2). God did not tell him where he was to go nor what he would find when he got there. He was to travel under sealed orders so to speak. He did not know what dangers that he would face on the way or when he got to the land that God would show him. But he had the promise from God that all who would treat him with kindness (bless him) God would return that kindness by being kind to them. On the other hand, anyone who mistreated Abram (curse him), God would in turn punish (curse) that one.

What this meant is that Abraham could go forth with complete confidence that he would be fully protected by the God of the universe. Studying the life of Abraham we see that this promise was carried out many times.

What is most important for us to see concerning this promise is that while it was made to Abraham it also extended to his seed.

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the seed through which "all the families of earth would be blessed". The Lord foretold to Abraham that his seed would serve another nation as slaves but said of that nation, **"I will judge"** (Genesis 15:14). Following the history of the Israelites we see that where others were kind to them, God was gracious to them, those who ill treated them God judged.

It is important that we remember that this promise holds true just as much today as when it was made to Abram. Those who mistreat the Jews today can expect a curse from God, those who are kind to the Jews can expect God to bless. This could explain why God has not sent judgment upon America due to all her wickedness. Up to now America has been a friend unto the nation of Israel, but woe to her if she turns her back upon Israel. Remember, **"I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curse thee."**

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"And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed" (Genesis 12:3).

The promise and its parts made to Abram here in Genesis 12:1-3 is exceeding great and precious to all peoples. We who are Christ's have been blessed through this promise for the Saviour came through this line of Abraham. The promise is as valid today as it was when spoken to Abram who became Abraham. All of its parts are valid and operative down to today.

Primarily the part asked about in this question was spoken to Abram for his protection and blessing. God would bless those who would bless Abram and curse

those who cursed him. This was an unconditional promise made specifically to Abram, but it also applied in a secondary and much broader sense to his descendants; the Jewish nation. God has marvelously blessed and protected His people down through the centuries. Those who have cursed, hated, or rejected the chosen people have been cursed and their grave markers and remnant pieces are with us today. God declared that His attitude toward men and nations would depend on their attitude and action toward Abram and consequently his descendants.

In Genesis 27:29 we see Isaac repeating these words of blessing and cursing as he blesses Jacob in Esau's place. He again says those who curse will be cursed, those who bless will be blessed. In Numbers 24:9 Balaam repeats these words in regards to all Israel as he looks upon Israel abiding in their tents.

I have always contended that one of the reasons the United States has received great blessing is because of our treatment of Israel since their rebirth as a nation in May of 1948. A careful study of Israel in history and her relationships with all nations as a captive, or not, will bear out the fact that God's promise stands sure. Let us bless Israel and pray for her capital as Psalm 122:6 tells us when it says, **"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee."** God never changes, nor do His promises.

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We know that Israel was God's covenant people. God made a covenant with Abraham. This involved a seed coming from his loins, a seed that could not be numbered. It also involved giving his seed a land (the land of

Palestine). Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour was born out of this race of people. It is sad that by and large they rejected him as the true Messiah! I believe God allowed this to happen. **"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob"** (Romans 11:25-26). We are now living in the "time of the Gentile" ingathering.

Now here is a crucial question: Is God finished with Israel? No, I still believe the Scripture bears the fact that God still loves the Jew. He will not break the covenant He made with Abraham thousands of years ago. This promise of God is two-fold. First, it involves a certain portion of land. **"And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an EVERLASTING POSSESSION; and I will be their God"** (Genesis 17:8). Everlasting means just what it says, Everlasting! The Jew is going to possess all of Canaan. In recent years we see this bearing true! Secondly, it involves a spiritual lineage. **"I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice"** (Genesis 22:17-18). Now compare this scripture with Galatians 3:7-9: **"Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham."**

"And if ye be Christ's then ARE YE ABRAHAM'S SEED, AND HEIRS ACCORDING TO THE PROMISE." We know Christ came through the line of the Jewish race. Every believer in Him is spiritually considered a child of Abraham. If you are saved, spiritually you are a Jew! So I answer the question in two ways: First, since Israel is God's chosen nation, those who help her are blessed in that they are moving positively in the line of Bible prophecy. Those nations that have assisted Israel in securing their land and safety have been prosperous. Check it out, it's true! Secondly, since every Christian is Abraham's seed, to help a believer will certainly bring a blessing. Jesus Himself said **"Whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."**

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In Genesis 12:1-3, God has commanded Abraham to depart from the land of His father which was a place of idol worshipping. He was to separate himself from even his kindred. God promised to make his name great and he would become a blessing to the world. God kept His promise to Abraham. His name is widely known throughout the world today. Both Christians and Jews alike recognize Abraham to be a great man of God. He is even revered in the Moslem religion. He is known as the father of the Jews and the man who walked with God. Of course through the succeeding generations of Abraham, is the human genealogy of Jesus. This is the meaning of Genesis 12:2, when God said to Abraham: **"And thou shalt be a blessing."** Jesus was and still is the greatest blessing ever given to this world. Only through Him

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TODAY'S ISSUES

By David L. Walker, Robbins, Tennessee

Almost anytime an individual desires, he can either pick up the most current magazine, or book, and read about the so called "issues" of our day, or he can tune in almost any network, station, either radio or television, and listen to endless rhetoric concerning today's so called "issues." Such phrases as "the current issues," "the issues of our day," "right on the issues," etc., are quite often heard. So much talk about "issues," yet by definition of the word, the things most commonly referred to as "the issues of our day" are not really "issues" at all.

One real "issue" faces our world today, and that is the question of whether we will accept God's Word. Oh yes, there are a host of topics that we like to discuss, that the media likes to exploit, government likes to evade, politicians wag their tongues about, and Christians won't take a stand on. Some of those so called "issues" are abortion, homosexuality, euthanasia, premarital and extramarital affairs, feminism, legalization of drugs, capital punishment, abolition of religious right, etc., just to name a few.

An "issue" by definition, is a question, topic, or point to be disputed or decided. The fact is, none of the above topics qualify as "issues" for they are not to be decided. They have long since been decided and catalogued in God's Word. The only real "issue" is whether or not we will allow God's Word to be the final and sovereign rule governing our world.

A close, singular look at these and some other so called "issues" reveal that all we are doing is tossing around the idea of whether or not we want to abide by the Word of God, or do as those in Judges 17:6, where it is said that "every man did that which was right in his own eyes."

Abortion, for example, under the law of God in Exodus 21:22-25, even though it be unintentional, was punishable by law, bringing with it the sentence of death. There is no question about

it, abortion is not an "issue." It is SIN!

Homosexuality, or sodomy as the Bible calls it, carried with it the sentence of death also. See Leviticus 20:13. No question about it, homosexuality is not an "issue." It is not an acceptable, alternate lifestyle suitable for anyone. It is SIN, and "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

Premarital and extramarital affairs are strictly forbidden by the law of God and violators were subject to death. See Leviticus 20:10, Exodus 20:14, and Proverbs 6:32. Here again, not an "issue," but rather, SIN! The Bible words for sexual relationships outside marriage are adultery and fornication.

Feminism, the idea that woman should have political, economic, and social rights identical to those of men, violates every Biblical principle governing man and woman. Women are not to be considered property of men, but at the same time there is a Biblical order governing the family, the nation, the Church, etc., and that order is: Man is to be the leader, woman is to follow. See Ephesians 5:21-33, Genesis 3:16, and I Timothy 2:11-15. Feminism, is not an "issue," it is SIN!

Euthanasia, the act or method of procuring painless, easy death advocated to end the suffering of those plagued with the terminal disease, or to end the life of one regarded as a burden to, or no longer able to contribute to society. Oh, how selfish, heartless and cold. Nowhere is it suggested in the Bible that man has the right to determine when an individual life should end, based upon that person's ability to contribute to society, or whether that person is welcomed by biological parents or not. Suicide, assisted suicide, abortion, and out and out murder, there is no difference. The Bible says "Thou shalt not kill" (Exodus 20:13). The murderer is subject to death. See Exodus 21:12. Call it mercy killing, assisted suicide or call it whatever you will; it remains, not

an "issue," but SIN! PEOPLE CARE MORE ABOUT THEIR DOGS, CATS, AND BIRDS THAN THEY DO OF HUMAN LIFE! Listen to what the animal rights activists are saying about animals and then compare that to what others are saying about human beings and their right to life.

The use of drugs and alcohol or any substance which brings an individual into a state of stupor or drunkenness is condemned in the Bible. See Proverbs 20:1, 23:29-32. Here as well, not a "issue," SIN!

Capital punishment, the act of executing the sentence of death upon those who have taken another individual's life. Here, ironic as it may seem, many of those who advocate euthanasia, and abortion will buck the thought of "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth." What is being advocated is that it is acceptable to kill unborn babies who have committed no crime, end the lives of those who can no longer contribute to society, and yet spare the life of a cold blooded murderer. The Bible teaches capital punishment. This is not an "issue," it is settled in God's Word. "And he that killeth any man shall surely be put to death." (Leviticus 24:17).

On and on we could go about the so called "issues" of our day. It remains, however, that the only real question facing the world today is whether we will accept the sovereign rule of God, or do as in the book of Judges where everyone was doing his/her own thing.

There may well be some very pressing "issues" facing our world today, but those things which are clearly addressed in the Bible do not qualify as legitimate "issues." Again, the only real "issue" is whether or not we are willing to abide by God's Word and accept it as the final and sovereign rule in every aspect of our existence and conduct.

Love one another

THREE

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reveals that He is despised and rejected of men. Why do lost men despise Him? Can you answer me this? Men deny that they despise Him, but that word despise means to look down upon, or to feel contempt for, and whether lost men like to admit it or not this is their action toward Him who the Bible says is "ALTOGETHER LOVELY" (Song of Solomon 5:16). So answer the question if you can my lost friend, why do you despise Him who is said to be "THE FRIEND OF SINNERS" (Matt. 11:19)? Indeed, why did we who are now so wondrously saved by marvelous grace despise Him so long? But behold Him there, DEAD FOR SIN, our sin. "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:6-8). "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation" (Rev. 5:9).

Thirdly, from Romans 6:2 we see the saint "DEAD TO SIN," and this is what Christ both died and arose from the dead for, this speaks of liberty, a true born-again child of God is dead to sin, he was dead in sin but now through the operation of God he is lifted up. "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins" (Col. 1:13-14). "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is rich

in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us" (Eph. 2:1-4). Where are you right now my dear friend? Are you dead to sin or dead in sin? If you are dead in sins you are dead indeed, but you can be passed from death unto life if and when you repent toward God and have faith in His Son, Jesus Christ. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24). Lost sinner friend, hear the blessed Saviour calling the oppressed, come ye heavy laden and I will give you rest, and come, come to Christ or you shall forever perish, come to Him who will save not only your never dying soul but your life as well, the Christian life is the greatest life there is, and then you have heaven...What is the work of Christ?

1. Christ died to redeem (Titus 2:14)
2. He rose to justify (Romans 4:25)
3. He lives to save (Hebrews 7:25)
4. He comes to glorify (Colossians 3:4)

Do you consider yourself faithful?

1. Is a car that starts once out of seven times "faithful"?
2. Is your paper boy "faithful" if he misses you with your paper every few mornings?
3. Is a refrigerator that quits for a day now and then "faithful"?
4. If your hot water heater greeted you with cold water 1 or 2 mornings a week, would it be "faithful"?
5. If you fail to come to work 2 or 3 days each week would you be "faithful" to your job?

Now, if you fail to come to worship God once or twice a month, are you really faithful?

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR
SUBSCRIPTION THIS YEAR??

WHY ART THOU CAST DOWN?

By Brother Jack Whitt

"Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God" (Psalms 42:11). This verse along with Psalm 42:5 and 11, the Psalmist David asks himself these three times "Why art thou cast down, O my soul?"

Have you ever been cast down my friend? Of course you have and so have I. You may be in such a way this very moment. One thing you and I may be sure of, that no one is exempt from this condition. We may find some consolation in the fact that many, no doubt all, great men and women of the Bible had times of being cast down or disquieted (the state of an unsettled or disturbed condition). But too, we find in reading of such, that in their most difficult and trying hour, they could look to God and find strength to rise above whatever provoked their despair. Read in your Bible of Moses when the children of Israel rebelled against him, of David fleeing from King Saul, of Daniel in the lion's den, of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abendago thrown into the fiery furnace, of Hannah despairing in want of a child, the Apostle Paul facing the many trials of preaching Christ to the Christ-rejecting Jews, yet he could say: "Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day" (Acts 26:22a). These are but a few of so many who suffered to serve God, and found Him to be their only consolation in times of great despair. Yes, without doubt these had their share of being "cast down." David gives the answer to the question before us: "Hope thou in God for I shall praise him, who is the health of my countenance." Ah, but do we always do this; turn to God when we are cast down? It is likely most Christians do not "hope in God," in great enough extent and do not make Him the "health of their countenance." Too often many of us sink even deeper in despair. If this be the case, we are to take stock of ourselves and how strong a faith we have in God. Do we not have a big God?

Or is it that we are to be shamed for making Him a small God, unable to deal with our problems? It is to be admitted there are often tremendous trials, sorrows, and temptations we all must face at some time in this journey of life, and it is not an easy task to give up our burdens, even though God calls upon us to do so. Jesus said: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

We will not have to look far to find reasons to be cast down, they are all about us. But God allows us to give our burdens to Him. Then why don't we? "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you" (1 Peter 5:7). An old hymn says: "I'm living by faith and feel no alarm." Easily sung but another thing to practice. Make no mistake! It takes faith. And this kind of faith means time spent with God. It means spending time in communion with God every day, in good times and in bad times. It is of little worth to seek God only when hard times come and have forgotten Him in times of ease and prosperity.

Three times David repeated the question: "Why art thou cast down, O my soul?" And three times he answered his own question with: "Hope thou in God: For I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God." And so it is for us to likewise, hope in God, to praise Him in all circumstances of life, trust Him as Job did when he said: "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him: But I will maintain mine own ways before him" (Job 13:15). When we are able to do this, even our countenance, (physical appearance), is healthier, we look better, which others will see and appreciate. It is a good reminder that though no one is immune to being cast down, we should strive to overcome this state of soul for the benefit of others as well as ourselves. David had reason to be cast down in his soul, and just as true with many of us today. But we have the same God, the same hope, the same ability as did David, and as he found strength in God, so may we also.

It is true Christian faith when we learn to give up on self and give in to God. It is to practice (Continued on Page 8)

DRESSED

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our service to the Lord and to others. But putting "they" or "you" in front of service gains much good.

FORBEARING AND FORGIVING

The meaning of forbearing is: the manner in which a person conducts themselves toward others. To bear up, support, bear the weight of others. Looking to the needs of others before yourself. Our behavior toward, quality of respect, and attention given to others. As God has done to you, do also to those around you. Be gentle and do not hold a grievance or complaint against one another. Forgive, readily pardon, be tender hearted one to another. Galatians 5:13 "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty: only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another."

THE GREATEST OF ALL THE SPIRITUAL APPAREL—LOVE TEXT VERSE 14

"And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness." The most visible mark, above all, is love to the world and to other believers.

Love is the garb that shows the world Christ through His elect. A believer is to enfold themselves in this attire, which is the raiment that shows the bond of perfectness, and locks all in flawless

harmony.

Ephesians 5:2, "And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour." We are to walk in love (charity) for those around us, in all parts of the earth. But, above all, for the elect whom we are a part of. "Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?" (James 2:22).

Putting on the garment of love completes the spiritual wardrobe and puts us in complete harmony with God and with the chosen. With the garment of love we have reached the supreme expression of faith in Christ Jesus. If we really believe and have faith we also go and do the work of love with joy in our hearts.

We now have a complete new spiritual wardrobe, if we have put on bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering, forbearance, forgiveness, and love as we have been taught. Let each of us look to their spiritual clothing. Do you have the garments that never fade, never wear out, and never go out of style; because these garments are given by God.

Have you checked your spiritual wardrobe lately? Live in love and be a total witness for Christ Jesus our Lord.

HIS GRACE IS SUFFICIENT!

CHANGING TIMES

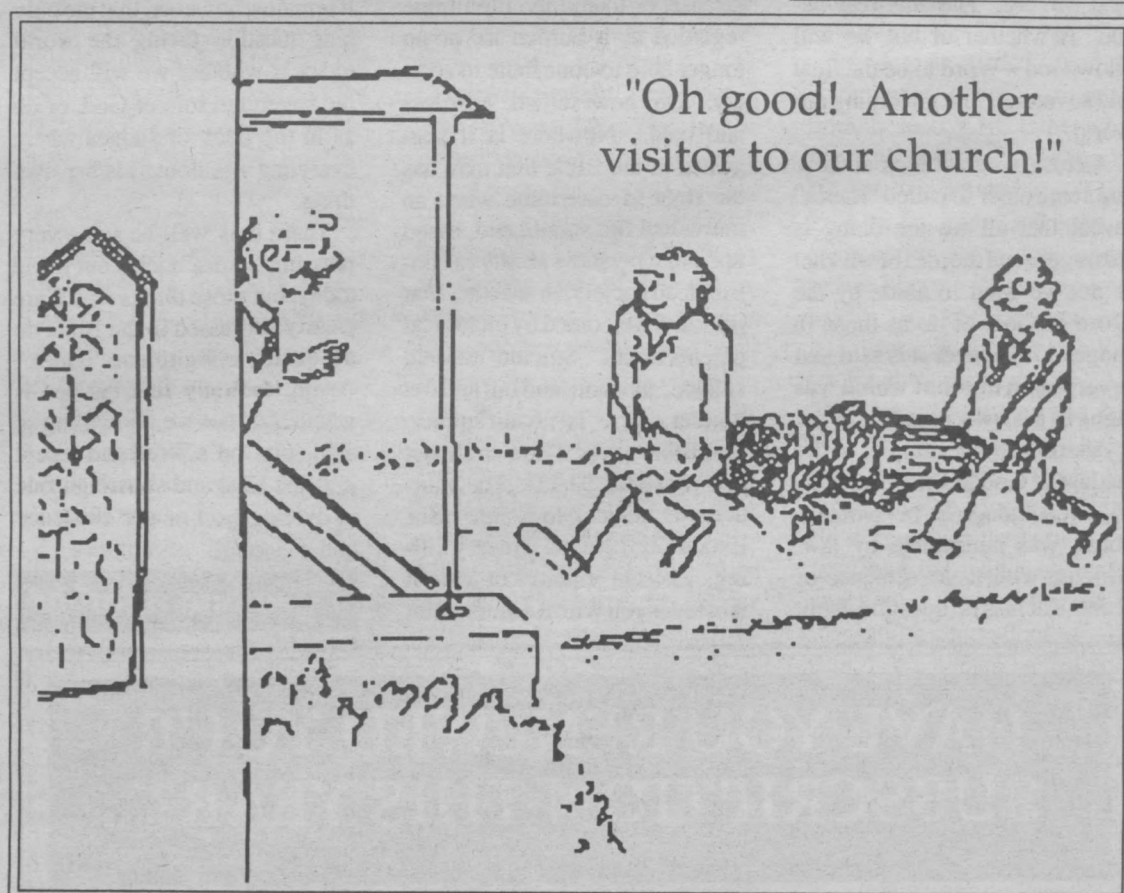
The old oaken bucket
That hung at the well
Is mentioned more
Than tongue can tell
But another memory
We don't hear of late
'Tis the old iron tea kettle
That hung at the gate.

With a chain through the
handle and a stone for
weight
There was never a quarrel
Who'd close the gate.
For Pa with the groceries
Or for kids hurried play
Its swing saved us time
'Till the close of the day.

Such things now replaced
With a spring and the
spigot
A purpose is served
And we're glad to get it
Much can be said
For the primitive ways
We never knew crime
As we have nowadays.

When time is o'er
On the Golden Shore,
The methods of old
Will be no more.
We'll serve with gladness
The Savior we know
And forget the troubles
of long ago.

By Mrs. J.P. Morgan
Charleston, WV



BUT AFTER THIS THE JUDGMENT

By Robert Barkman, Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church, Marengo, OH

Hebrews 9:27, 28 — "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

In our above text we find four basic truths:

1. All men (both lost and saved) are appointed to partake of physical death.

2. After death, all men (both lost and saved) will face judgment at the hand of God.

3. Christ was an offering given by God the Father to bear the judgment of the sins of many.

4. Because of Christ's work, we can escape the Father's wrath against our sins and we can look forward to a glorious redemption from our sins and their results.

As we take a few moments to study these truths let us look to the Lord for His grace in applying these truths to our hearts.

I. "And as it is appointed unto men once to die" — We all realize the truthfulness of this statement. This is the one truth we can accept by sight. Death is all around us. Every day we read, hear or know of someone who has departed from this physical world. Death is a certainty. None of us can escape its power. There truly is no discharge in the war of physical death.

"There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it" (Eccl. 8:8).

II. "but after this the judgment" — Remember, both lost and saved must face physical death and, likewise, both lost and saved will face judgment following their death. "I said in mine heart, God shall judge the righteous and the wicked: for there is a time there for every purpose and for every work" (Eccl. 3:17).

Even though both lost and saved must face judgment at the hand of God, we must realize that the judgment of saved and lost differ.

The judgment of saved individuals is a judgment of their works (whether the works are of faith or of flesh). "Therefore we are always confident, knowing

that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight)...For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (II Cor. 5:6-10).

All saved individuals must realize that following their death they will face a judgment of their works (probably during the 1000 year reign or immediately after the rapture). Did we take advantage of the opportunities to serve Him that He opened for us? What were our motives for our service? Were our outward actions pleasing to God? Answers to these questions, and may others, will be revealed at our time of judgment: the BEMA (judgment) seat of Christ.

As we said previously, not only will the saved face a judgment of their works but so, too, will the lost.

"And thinkest thou this, O man...that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil...But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good...For there is no respect of persons with God" (Romans 2:3-11).

In the above verses we have the two judgments of God compared. The saved, based upon their faithfulness in service (given to them by God's grace) will receive glory, honor, and peace. The lost, however, only have indignation, wrath, tribulation and anguish to look forward to. Their judgment is based upon their wicked actions they have committed while

upon the earth. As lost men continue to live lives of sin, they are constantly laying up wrath for their coming days. Oh, how sad. Oh, how we all must realize the existence of this judgment. The word is clear, all those who are lost are facing eternal judgment and punishment for their wicked deeds. A lost man is currently under God's wrath and is facing eternal condemnation.

How can a lost man escape this condemnation? How can an unbeliever be saved? This is where the third truth of our text comes in:

III. "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many" — Here, we find that the Lord Jesus Christ was sent by the Father to save His people from the wrath to come. It is only through Christ that we can find true salvation from our sins. "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole...Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:10-12).

This same Jesus died on the cross and arose again so that we might be saved. This same Jesus faced God's wrath against sin so we would not have to. This same Jesus took upon Himself the punishment for our sins. "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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 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 3:16-18).

IV. "And unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." — Here, we have the beautiful summary of the salvation Christ alone can give. Instead of facing eternal wrath we, as sinful mankind, can look forward to eternal salvation. How

(Continued on Page 8)

A Woman's Touch

By Wendy Barkman



Unequally Yoked

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers..." (II Corinthians 6:14). Paul's instructions, from the Lord, to the Christians in the church at Corinth, teach a very important truth concerning the separation of believers from unbelievers (II Cor. 6:14-18). Paul himself admitted, however, that we would have to leave this world, if we are to avoid being with unbelievers altogether (I Cor. 5:9-13). We have many friends and acquaintances from among the lost world. We work with unbelievers, we shop in the same stores, we sit in the same doctors' offices, we eat in the same restaurants, we drive our cars on the same highways, and on and on the list goes. But the difference occurs, when we enter into any type of a relationship where we have agreed, with the other person, to work toward a common goal, a common purpose. It is for this reason that only two believers should go into business together, to ensure fair and honest dealing with the public. While you may have many friends and acquaintances who are unsaved, the person you choose to call your "best friend" should be another Christian, one who desires to please the Lord as much as you do. Most important of all, a believer should only marry another believer, both agreeing to live and raise their family according to His Word. Be careful to only worship with those, whose purpose and desire is to glorify and honor Him. We find these same commands given by God, through Moses, to the Israelites, concerning the heathen nations, which they were to drive out from the land of Canaan. They were not to enter into any kind of a covenant with these people, nor were they to marry into their idol worshipping families (Exodus 34:15-16; Deut. 7:1-4). We can see, in the lives of two Israelite kings, the overwhelming, devastating effects of breaking these commands. One multiplied his sin one thousand times; the other needed only one to turn his heart away.

Solomon's Wives

I Kings 3:1, 7:8, 9:16, 11:1-8,

14:21, 31; II Chron. 8:11, 12:13; Neh. 13:26

"But king Solomon loved many strange women...of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites...the Lord said...Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods...And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart...For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods..." (I Kings 11:1-4). "And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel..." (I Kings 11:9). Not only had Solomon broken the commandment against marrying a woman of any of these heathen nations, but he also broke the command not to "multiply wives" (Deut. 17:17). Solomon began worshipping the gods of his wives, even building places of worship for these gods, and it was this sin of idolatry that caused the Lord to become angry with Solomon. God's Word directly attributes the division of the kingdom of Israel to Solomon's change of heart, his idolatry (I Kings 11:9-13, 14, 23, 26, 33).

King Ahab and Jezebel

I Kings 16:31-33, 18:4, 13, 19, 19:1-3, 21:1-29; II Kings 3:1, 2, 13, 8:18, 26, 9:1-37

"And it came to pass...that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. And Ahab made a grove;...did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him" (I Kings 16:31-33). "But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord, whom

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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PAGE SEVEN

BORN FREE

(Continued from Page 2)

assured their right to be born. We have given special freedoms to many who sin grossly against the Most High God. We gained our freedom and maintained our freedom because godly and scriptural principles were used to launch our nation into existence and these principles have remained constant during much of our short history. However, these principles have been laid aside in favor of secular humanism. Where a state of high morality was once the norm; a state of gross immorality is now the norm.

Our freedom as a nation is threatened. Threatened by a sense of false security and a declining emphasis on the need to remain militarily strong. Threatened by a departure from adherence to the godly and scriptural principles that served to guide our country for so long. Threatened by rampant gross immorality.

God please help us. God please save us from ourselves. God please bless America!

FORUM

(Continued from Page 4)

can man be redeemed of His sins and inherit eternal life in Heaven.

As to the explanation of: "I will bless them that bless thee, and curse them that curse thee." God called Abraham to be the vessel by which He would build a great nation. Nothing would be allowed to interfere with God's sovereign, master plan. His will and purpose for His chosen people would be accomplished. Many nations opposed and fought against Israel as they moved forward to remove them and claim the land that God gave them. We must recognize in all this that God made a covenant promise to Abraham that the land of Canaan was to be his and his descendants. The area of Palestine which is being disputed over today, belongs to Israel by the promise of God. Most of the world will not recognize this. All the nations of the past who have been a friend of Israel have been blessed. Therefore our nation, the United States, should never turn our backs toward Israel. To do so would assuredly incur the wrath of God.

Pray for Jerusalem, where one day our Lord and King will reign.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

SEPTEMBER 10, 1994

PAGE EIGHT

A WOMAN'S

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Jezebel his wife stirred up (I Kings 21:25). Jezebel, the heathen wife of King Ahab, introduced Baal worship into the northern kingdom of Israel, also killing the prophets of the Lord. It was because of Jezebel, that her husband's family would no longer reign over the northern kingdom of Israel. The kingdom was given to Jehu and his family (II Kings 9:7-10, 22). Once again, the idolatrous practices of a heathen wife were responsible for turmoil in the nation of Israel. We are told that King Ahab did have other wives, though it seems that Jezebel was his greatest influence to do evil (I Kings 20:3, 5, 7).

CAST DOWN

(Continued from Page 6)

those things we know to be true. As Paul said: "Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you" (Phil. 4:9).

Heavenly Father, help me be more like you, and less like me!!!

Why art thou cast down?



JUDGMENT

(Continued from Page 7)

can this take place? Simply by trusting in Christ. Once we receive Christ, by faith, we can know that we have been delivered from the penalty of sin, that we are currently being delivered from the power of sin in our life, and that someday we will receive deliverance from the very presence of sin (at the second coming of Christ). As Christians, we can be at rest knowing that our past, present, and future is in His hands.

In this article, we have presented the four main truths we find in Hebrews 9:27-28. These four truths are the heart of God's Word He has given to mankind. Throughout the pages of His Word, we find these four principles presented to us repeatedly. Oh, how important these truths are. Oh, how necessary it is that we accept these truths with an active, living faith. Oh, how we must turn to Christ and receive Him into our lives as our Lord and Saviour.

Once we are saved, we must serve Him and proclaim His truth to the world realizing we will receive future rewards for our faithfulness and that we are being used of God to save lost mankind from their sins.

Our prayer is that the Lord might apply these truths to your heart today, before it is eternally too late.

A Letter to the Editor

Dear Brother Helton:

Greetings in the name of Christ. Congratulations to you, and to your people on the turn around of the Calvary Baptist Assembly and of the Baptist Examiner.

The articles in The Baptist Examiner are very good, and to the point, without striking someone in the face. A person can stand on a point of truth, or against a point of wrong without being mean spirited.

It is our hope at Grace Central that The Baptist Examiner will live long and prosper. Many have been blessed by The Baptist Examiner and many more will be.

Keep up the good work, and walk always with Christ.

In Christian Love,

Edward G. Graff

Edward G. Graff,
Pastor

1994 CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

BIBLE CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 16-17, 1994

September 16, 1994

- 6:30 p.m. Congregational and special singing
- 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Pastor Jim Hobbs, Kings Addition Baptist Church, South Shore, KY
- 7:30 p.m. Congregational and special singing
- 8:00 p.m. Speaker: Pastor Clarence Grigsby, Salem Baptist Church, Grayson, KY

September 17, 1994

- 9:00 a.m. Congregational singing
- 9:15 a.m. Speaker: Pastor John Lenegar, Walnut Creek Missionary Baptist Church, Delaware, OH
- 9:45 a.m. Special singing: The Bluegrass Boys
- 10:15 a.m. Speaker: Pastor Ronnie Wolfe, First Baptist Church, Harrison, OH
- 10:45 a.m. Special singing: The Bluegrass Boys
- 11:15 a.m. Speaker: Pastor Bobby Lakes, Faith Baptist Church, Versailles, KY
- 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Lunch in the fellowship hall
- 1:15 p.m. Congregational singing
- 1:30 p.m. Speaker: Pastor Jon Rule, Zion Baptist Church, Taylor, MI
- 2:00 p.m. Special singing: The Bluegrass Boys
- 2:30 p.m. Speaker: Pastor Carl Morton, First Baptist Church, Alexandria, KY
- 3:00 p.m. Special singing: The Bluegrass Boys
- 3:30 p.m. Speaker: Pastor Bob Jones, Northside Baptist Church, Lexington, KY
- 4:00 p.m. Congregational singing
- 4:15 p.m. Speaker: Pastor Willard Willis, Northland Missionary Baptist Church, Delaware, OH
- 4:45 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Dinner in the fellowship hall
- 6:30 p.m. Congregational and special singing
- 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Pastor Charles Lybrook, Waverly Road Baptist Church, Huntington, WV
- 7:30 p.m. Congregational and special singing
- 8:00 p.m. Speaker: Pastor Jim Orrick, Storms Creek Baptist Church, Ironton, OH

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US!

