"... Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty"--2 Corinthians 3:17

Baptist Is Our Middle Name

Paid Circulation in All States and in Many Foreign Countries

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

VOL. 68, NO. 11 ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, NOVEMBER 1, 1996 WHOLE NUMBER 2721

## CAN WE SAVE THE HOME

Editor's Note: This article taken from TBE dated Feb. 17, 1940. If the American home was in trouble back then, how much more today?

J. Wilbur Chapman once said: "The greatest need of the American nation today is homes. Not palatial buildings of necessity, but where Christ is honored, where God is loved and where the Bible is studied". And there's a reason for this statement, and that is because the Christian home is becoming a thing of the past.

Some time ago, a missionary returned to this country after spending twenty five years on the foreign field. And after being in California a little while, a reporter asked him what impressed him the most after being absent a quarter of a century. The reporter expected him to say that he was impressed with the telephone system which bound houses and cities together, or that he was amazed at wireless telegraphy by means of which on the wave currents of the air messages were sent from one city to another, but the missionary expressed no such surprise. Said he: "When I went away from America, almost every home had its family altar; now that I have returned I have watched very carefully and I find a family altar in a house is the exception and not the rule". In a word he saw that the homes of the nation had drifted from the age old principles of our foreparents, and that we were heading toward chaos and destruction.

Beloved, you and I might as well admit it. Our homes are quite different to the homes of yesterday. And the message that ought to be preached is "Set thy house in order for thou must die": And the question that ought to be asked of every father is "What have they seen in thy house?" Are our homes in order? Are we drifting from the

By Roy Hamilton



principles and practices of the Christian home? What do people see in our homes? Do they see praying mothers and fathers, or nagging mothers and drunkard fathers? I am persuaded to believe that we are drifting, and drifting fast for many reasons. Before answering the question, How can we save the home?, let me point out some disintergrating influences that threaten the destruction of the

First and foremost, I mention the idea of companionate marriage and free love. To me, Beloved, this is one of the most destructive ideas in the world today. Instead

of people marrying for life to establish homes, they marry for companionship, and if they do not get it they divorce. The idea today is experiment. Pick out the fellow you think you would like, live with him a little while, and if you don't like him leave him. I tell you, Beloved, it's no wonder home life is crumbling. When men and women start out wrong, they are bound to end up wrong, unless God intervenes. We need to pray for the enactment of laws to bring us back to the sanctity and sacredness of marriage.

One of the complex problems facing our missionaries today is free love. In South America, hundreds of couples live together without benefit of marriage. When they are saved, before they are baptized, the Missionaries teach then the sacredness of marriage and urge them to marry, after which they are baptized into the church. What about the home life? It's like a hog-pen. All sleep in the same

(Continued on Page 6)

## CANNED MESSAGES!

By Ray Waugh, Sr. (Now with the Lord)

After retiring from the last church that I pastored some years ago, it has been my privilege and my joy to visit and to fellowship with other churches and other people. I suppose that one of the things that an ex-pastor is permitted to do is reflect upon the state of the Church and the state of the churches

From my very, very distant seminary days of more than 40 years ago, I recall one of the points that one of my professors was ever striving to make as he encouraged and instructed those of us who were privileged to sit before him. He emphasized and then re-emphasized that fact that many preachers, pastors, and evangelists spend a great deal of their wasted time in the process of "whipping" the people gathered before them because of those who are not in attendance.

So very often this is the practice of those men who become somewhat desperate during the Wednesday evening prayer meetings when so very few make their appearance in church. Instead of praising God and giving thanks for those who bothered to spend their Wednesday evening in church, those involved in leading the church, in a very real sense, rant and sometimes rave because so few are in attendance, and because so few seem to feel any need to honor Christ with their presence and because so few have any interest



in praying

Then, when Sunday rolls around, and the main services of the week are in process, too often these same pastors, preachers, and evangelists spend a great deal of their time moaning and groaning, as well as often sometimes crying and complaining because "no one is walking the aisles," and because revival has not come or does not seem to be coming. Though these may not be intending to do so, in a very real sense, these Christian, Baptist, and religious leaders really are laying the responsibility upon God.

If I could, I would forget another experience that was mine while in the Seminary. As I recall, it was a Wednesday afternoon late, and my wife and I and a couple of other students and their wives were present in our seminary apartment. The question as to what one of the brethren was to preach that evening in his little church became the subject of discussion. I shall never forget the response of that dear brother. In effect, he said, "I'll probably be preaching another one of Spurgeon's sermons."

Though seminary should perhaps be a place where young men were being inspired to wait upon the Lord for a message from the Holy Word of God, oftentimes they are encouraged to preach what someone else may have preached not once but many times. Professors and teachers usually are looking for a level of perfection of which the creative minds of the young students are not capable. Therefore, while encouraging what we may speak of as competition, the students who have the best memories and who can best mimic the capabilities of professional preachers, pastors, and evangelists generally receive the better grades.

Too often, it is the seminary that those who will do most of the preaching for the coming genera-(Continued on Page 5)

# The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Interim Pastor Jack C. Whitt



#### INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." (2 Tim. 3:16). The Greek definition for righteousness as used in this verse of scripture is: "The doing or being what is just and right; The character and acts of man commanded by and approved of God, in virtue of which Bible, from Genesis to Revelation more and more meaningful as I read and reread and meditated upon

Timothy, leaves no doubt or question but that the entirety of the

the man corresponds with Him and is all God's Word, nothing more His will as His ideal and standard". and nothing less. He says: All I found this definition becoming scripture is given by inspiration of

For the purpose of this article, I have chosen the latter portion of The apostle Paul, in writing to the above verse, "instruction in righteousness" to be the title for (Continued on Page 2)

# THE BAPTIST EXAMINER Jack C. Whitt Interim Editor

Office Phone 606-325-2012
(USPS #042-340) (USPN #1082-1147)

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

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

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

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

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

Subscription rates are \$5.00 per year.

PLANNING TO MOVE? - Notify us three weeks in advance. The post office will only forward second class mail for 60 days at no charge to us. After this time the paper is returned to us at a 50 cent charge for each paper returned. Please save us this expense and the post office time. Periodical Postage paid at Ashland, Kentucky.

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

We apologize...

Due to an oversight in last month's mailing, several of our readers in the Ashland area did not receive their paper on time.

We regret this inconvenience to those affected!

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
NOVEMBER 1, 1996
PAGE TWO

# Editor's Update

By Interim Pastor Jack C. Whitt

Greetings! and best wishes to every one of our TBE readers. This is our November edition and we're running out of months for 1996. Soon we will be into 1997. Perhaps 1997 will be the year Christ will return and yet He could come any day before then. Thinking of November, in a few days it will be time to vote in our presidential election. It is my hope that voters who hold strong convictions on morals and family values will come out and vote. I do not believe names or parties are necessary to mention when speaking of which is the right choice. I hope voters who understand the issues and want to restore morality and decency to our country, will not stand with the persons or party who support the horrific killing of babies in the womb. I hope the majority of the American people would oppose this and other degrading issues such as, same sex marriages and homosexual demands being made. Yet, I must confess, I am not confident the majority of the American people care as much for the moral state of our nation as they do the economic. I hope I'm wrong.

The front-page feature article by Roy Hamilton may be of particular interest to many of you who have followed TBE publications for these many years. It is a good article about the home and although written 56 years ago, it is up to date.

We continue to receive complimentary letters from our readers about our paper. We do appreciate hearing from anyone who wants to write us. Our desire remains to publish the truth of God's Word and trust that it will bless our readers.

As of this writing, Calvary Baptist Church, remains in search of the man God would provide for our Pastor. We would again remind our desire for your prayers in this regard. Our church remains steadfast, relying on the Lord. Services have been good and visitors continue to come. We hope to see God adding to us as we become more evangelistic in soul-winning. "That all of God's churches would be more mindful in efforts to win the lost."

Plans are in place for a 3 day special meeting here at CBC. Bro. George Sledd, Pastor, Jordan Missionary Baptist Church, Sanford, Fl, is to be with us on Nov. 1-3. Anyone within our range is invited and encouraged to be with us during this time.

Again we pray God's blessings to be with all who receive our paper; those in foreign lands and those within our borders. May God provide fruit for your labors. Amen.

## **PULPIT**

(Continued from Page 1) the message contained herein.

No matter which way we look in the world today, we see the great need for "instruction in righteousness". The need is so obvious and yet so little desired by our countrymen and the world at large. The word, "righteousness" is hardly thought of much less practiced. Notice again the definition of this word as given above: "The doing or being what is just and right". There was a time in this country when what was "just and right" was a way of life that was taught and practiced in the home, the schools and in government. Because of degrading moral conceptions of right and wrong, people are making their own rules, or put in another way; no rules, anything goes, as spoken of in (Judges 17:6): "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes."

Another point I wish to make is that anyone and everyone may profit from God's Holy scriptures if they would but listen or read for themselves. Jesus said to the religious Sadducees: "Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God." (Matt. 22:29). This is the key to the plight of mankind's woes and ills today, not knowing nor believing God's word. Our nation would prosper if we had more people who loved God's Word. Those holding high political offices, including the President of the United States, would prosper if they believed in and abided by the commandments of God's Word instead of listening and abiding by the demands of perverted ungodly sodomites trying to force their ungodly lifestyles on decent, moral people of our communities. Truly, our country is in desperate need to be "instructed in righteousness".

But too, we must consider the

Christian and "righteousness" today. How is the average Christian church member living? There are many professed Christians today, filling church pews, whose views on morality, holiness and sin is no different from those who make no claim to being a Christian or believing in God. I say it is high time for Christians to start acting like, looking like, and talking like Christians are supposed to. Preachers need to preach against sin and compromise with the world. Many, so called of the clergy, decked in robes and finery, standing behind a pulpit on Sunday mornings are simply tickling the ears of their large congregations, making them believe their lies and heading them onto a path that leads straight to hell. We read of such in God's word: "Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the Lord." (Jer. 23:1).

Christians surely need to be instructed in righteousness today, just as 2 Tim. 3:16 states. But notice that verse also says: "Profitable for reproof and correction." Reproof means rebuke, censure and blame. Many professed Christians (real or false) are to be rebuked by God's Word for the way they are living and the poor example they are setting before the eyes of the world. But as Solomon writes of these: "A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise." (Prov. 15:12).

Brethem, if we are to be ambassadors for Christ, then we ought to be more like Him and less like the world. We ought to love what He loves and hate what He hates. This is not saying we should hate people but certainly we should hate their sin. Again God's word speaks: "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." (Prov. 14:34).

I close with this final "instruction in righteousness" from God's Word as recorded in (Philippians 3:17-21): 'Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for ensample. For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things. For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to

the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto



"When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the Lord thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands."

(Deut. 24:19).

As we enjoy God's bountiful harvest, may we be generous to those in need!

Every day is special because you are.



# The Baptist Examiner Bible Study Lesson

By Kirk R. Everman

Member of Calvary Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennesee

Studies in Genesis Service for Two (Gen. 29:1-30)

"Then Jacob went on his journey, and came into the land of the people of the east" (v. 1). In our last study, we witnessed Jacob's encounter with God at Bethel; in this study, Jacob reaches the land of his mother's family Desiring to obtain a wife. Jacob will get more than he bargained for.

"And he looked, and behold a well in the field, and, lo, there were three flocks of sheep lying by it; for out of that well they watered the flocks: and a great stone was upon the well's mouth. And thither were all the flocks gathered: and they rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the sheep, and put the stone again upon the well's mouth in his place" (v. 2-3). This is more than a description of the setting. The shepherds' detailed routine will impact Jacob shortly.

Jacob talks with the shepherds. In verses 4-5, Jacob learns that the shepherds are from Haran and that they know his uncle Laban. While learning that Laban is doing well, Jacob gets a pleasant surprise: "... behold, Rachel his daughter cometh with the sheep" (v. 6).

Perhaps at this very moment Jacob anticipates meeting his potential bride, but would prefer to meet her apart from the onlooking shepherds. "And he said, Lo, it is yet high day, neither is it time that the cattle should be gathered together: water ye the sheep, and go feed them" (v. 7). As explained in verses 2-3, the shepherds tell Jacob that the sheep are not watered until everyone has arrived. The routine of daily life initially defeats Jacob's quick thinking.

"And while he yet spake with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep... when Jacob saw Rachel...and the sheep...Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock..." (v. 9-10). Jacob overcomes the routine by moving the wellstone for Rachel's flock without the others help! Then he meets Rachel: "And Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice, and wept" (v. 11). Finally, Jacob introduces himself to Rachel, explaining that he is the son of Rebekah, Laban's sister. Rachel runs home to tell Laban. Laban runs to greet Jacob and bring him home where Jacob shares his story. Laban accepts Jacob into the family: "Surely thou art my bone and my flesh."

"...And he abode with him the space of a month" (v. 14). This is a significant contrast to Abraham's servant who did not delay in bringing Rebekah back for Isaac to marry (Gen. 24:55-56). "And Laban said unto Jacob, Because thou art my brother, shouldest thou therefore serve me for nought? tell me, what shall thy wages be?" (v. 15). Before Jacob's response, we are told of Laban's treasures: his older daughter Leah and younger daughter Rachel. "Leah was tender eyed; but Rachel was beautiful and well favoured" (v. 17).

Jacob is ready to set his own pay: "And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter" (v. 18). Laban appears to agree: "It is better that I give her to thee, than that I should give her to another man: abide with me" (v. 19).

"And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her" (v. 20). Should we not serve God with even a greater passion that this! Having fulfilled his days of service, Jacob asks for his bride. Laban hosts a wedding feast. Then I aban deceives Jacob on the wedding night by giving him Leah as a bride (with Zilpah for a handmaid).

In the morning Jacob discovers the deception and confronts Laban: "What is this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve thee for Rachel? wherefore then hast thou beguiled me?" (v. 25). Laban defends his actions accord-

ing to culture: "...It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the first-born" (v. 26). Laban offers a new deal for Rachel, since Jacob has yet to receive his heart's desire: "Fulfill her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years" (v. 27)

So Jacob fulfilled Leah's wedding week. Then Laban gave Rachel (with Bilhah to be her maid) to Jacob. "And he went in also unto Rachel, and he loved also Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven other years" (v. 30). Jacob finally received that which he had longed for, but it is unlikely that the next seven years of service passed as beautifully as the first.

When the Way Seems Clear What is shown most vividly in this passage is the consuming passion and the sincere affection that Jacob has for Rachel. It appears that Jacob would have been willing to pursue any course for her to become his wife. As such, he served Laban — first for weeks, then for years. In studying this passage of Jacob's marriages to Laban's daughters, one may ask, "Where is God in all of this?" This is indeed a good question; one that Jacob should have sought to have answered. This passage primarily covers about seven years of Jacob's life and while we are told much of his affection for Rachel, there is no mention of Jacob seeking God for His guidance or His provision.

Let us look at the path that had been established for Jacob. He received the blessing from his father Isaac and also the command to take a wife from the daughters of Laban On his journey to the east, God revealed Himself to Jacob at Bethel giving him promises of a prosperous family and of His abiding presence. When Jacob reaches Haran, he immediately encounters Rachel (v. 6, 9). In light of these events, Jacob's course of action appears obvious and right in his own eyes. He serves both to meet

her needs (v. 10) and to gain her as his wife (v. 18). Jacob fulfills his commitment with sincerity and passion (v. 20). Yet the harvest of his labors produced bittersweet fruit.

It is easy to understand living a life of trusting God when the path appears difficult and the light surrounding us is very dim. In such circumstances we realize that except God places each step we take, we are doomed to fail. This is not always the most dangerous road to travel. Sometimes there are paths in which the way seems obvious and through the light of our own understanding and carried by our own efforts, we journey toward the intended destination. The danger is that reality has not changed: except God establishes the way we should go and places each step we take, we will fail. The Lord holds the hand of His child, the believer, not only to lead but to support us from falling completely when we stumble (see Psalms 37:23-34, Jude 24).

There are times that God will allow us to carry out our own plans and even give to us what we claim to be rightfully ours (see Num. 11, I Sam. 8, and Luke 15:11-32). How much better it is to seek His plans, accept His provisions, and act according to His schedule. It is not that He wants His children to fail, but we must learn that the good fruit is produced not by our independent labors and plans, but only as we abide in Him (see John 15:1-11).

The ability to keep a cool head in an emergency. maintain poise in the midst of excitement, and to refuse to be stampeded, are true marks of leadership.

# GOOD DIET IN UNHEALTHY PLACES

by C.H. Spurgeon

"When the air is infectious we are the more careful of our diet."

In sickly times and places men endeavor to keep up the strength of their bodies by nourishing food, and they strive to avoid sickness by wholesome meat. In this they act wisely, and according to the rules of prudence. An equal care should be exercised over our souls. When the very air seems to be laden with error and vice. believers should set a double watch as to what they hear, and where they go. Sin is as subtle and as deadly as the foul gas which bears within it the seeds of plague, and therefore the utmost caution must be used that we keep as far from its occasions and temptations as we possibly can. We must also live nearer to God than ever, and feed more upon Christ, and seek more of his Spirit than at any former time, that we may be fortified against the unusual dangers of the age. So shall we be error-proof and vice-proof, and, though a thousand fall at our side, the spiritual death shall not come nigh unto us. Errors, like diseases, prev upon the feebler sort, and though they bring no good even to the strong, vet these are able to cast off their deleterious influences, even as a man in armor shakes off the arrows which else would wound him grievously. To be strong in the Lord is the best preservative against the ills of our age, and the perils of our surroundings.

O Lord, we would dwell in thy secret place that abiding under thy shadow we may live unharmed even where Satan's seat is, should thy providence there pitch our tent.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
NOVEMBER 1, 1996
PAGE THREE



# The Baptist Examiner Pulpit Forum

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



# Many churches/denominations teach that Baptism is necessary for salvation. They make reference to Acts 2:38 and Mark 16:16 Please explain.

JAMES E.
HOBBS
Rt. 2, Box 182
McDermott, OH
45652
PASTOR:
Kings Addition
Baptist Church
South Shore, KY



Since salvation is by the grace of God and since Jesus Christ paid for our sins, there is nothing we can do to earn or gain salvation. 'For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: Not of works lest any man should boast." (Eph. 2:8,9). As can be plainly seen in this passage, grace and faith are both the gift of God. 'But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." (Titus 3:4-7). Jesus Himself lets us know that baptism is a work of righteousness. "And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now, for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness. Then he suffered him." (Matt. 3:15).

What about Acts 2:38? First keep in mind that the question asked in verse 37 was not "what shall we do to be saved" but "what shall we do". Requiring a more extensive answer. In the commission to the church found in Matthew 28:18-22 baptism comes after salvation, which is as it should be. When we are saved our next act of obedience is to confess our Lord as Saviour and follow Him in baptism which is what Acts 2:38 says, "be bap-

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
NOVEMBER 1, 1996
PAGE FOUR

tized.. for the remission of sins.."
the word "for" is from a Greek
word that means "for" or "because of". Obviously that is the
meaning of this verse. "Be
baptized...because of the remission of sins."

Mark 16:16 again show that order - believe first then be baptized. Notice that it goes on to say "...but he that believeth not shall be damned." Baptism doesn't play a part in either the salvation or the damnation. It simply says that if you believe you should be baptized. New birth and salvation is through believing, not baptism. "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God..." (I John 1:1).

GEORGE R.
SLEDD
920 Upsala Rd.
Sanford, FL
32771
PASTOR:
Jordan Missionary
Baptist Church
Sanford, FL



The greatest heresy of all is the perversion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Baptismal regeneration is that heresy! I would not recognize any religious group who practices such to be a true church of Jesus Christ. Such are enemies of the truth! First, it is illogical itself to believe that the water of our baptistry would be able to wash away sin. That is nonsense! We believe that water baptism is the symbolic expression of the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord. It is the interpretation of what our church teaches about the way of salvation. This is precisely why our church will not receive "alien immersion." So many denominations give a false interpretation of the gospel by baby sprinkling, infant baptism, and sacramental grace. What is sad to me is that a great host of today's "Baptists" have no problem in accepting into their membership those who have received false baptism. I believe that such "Baptists" were never true churches to start with, or if they were the Lord's churches at one

time, they have ceased to be so through alliance with a false gospel.

regeneration interpret Acts 2:38

Those who espouse Baptismal

in this way: "Be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ 'in order to' the remission of sins." They force their views into a translation of the preposition "for". How can you build doctrinal position on a preposition? How can anyone with any sanity at all stake their very assurance of salvation upon the translation of a preposition "in order to?" That is a dangerous thing to do. The natural, logical translation of Acts 2:38 would be "Baptized with reference or on account of the remission of sins." A.T. Robertson said that this preposition in Acts 2:38 expresses "aim or purpose." The preposition "for" is really an indicator that points in relation to repentance that has already taken place. The aim of baptism is the symbolic expression of the gospel that is believed in the heart. Compare this passage with Mark 16:16: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." This speaks of a person who believes and is subsequently baptized and also one who does not believe. It does not mention baptism in relation to the one who fails to believe on Christ. See also John 3:18: 'He that believeth on him is not In this passage condemned." baptism is not mentioned as a part of salvation. Notice in Verse 36. John said, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life: but the wrath of God abideth on him." Again John who was the first to administer scriptural baptism does not give any hint that his immersion would be a part of salvation. The apostle Paul was converted and called to the ministry before he was baptized. Notice in Acts 26:19: "Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision." He received this vision before his baptism. In fact he even prayed

before his baptism. Only a true converted person can pray and obey God. In Acts 22:10 Paul again relates his conversion experience: "And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do." It was far more than just obeying the Lord in baptism. It was the work that God was calling him to do.

Baptism guards the door of the church. The proper observance of this ordinance will keep the church on track in the sound message of the gospel. The church should be strict on baptism. There can be no deviation as to the purpose of baptism. Why is this? The way we baptize and the baptism we accept as a church will have a definite effect upon both the message and character of our church.

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



Taking passages out of context, forcing a connotation that is in conflict with other Scriptures, or simply making a passage conform to a theological system are ways in which many show a Scripture to teach something it does not. Whole "denominations", "movements", or "churches" are based on a few verses used in the above ways. Baptismal regeneration is one of those teachings that has come about through the ways just mentioned and has split many "Christians" into opposing factions.

Before looking at the two Scriptures asked about, I want to point our a couple of truths we need to keep in mind. First, we need to remember that baptism is not a part of the gospel, by which men are saved. (Corinthians 15:1-4). Baptism is an integral part of the commission to the church.

(Matthew 28:18-20). Secondly, we need to remember that Jesus and His apostles taught water baptism as an ordinance to be obeyed as an outward testimony of an inward change (regeneration). They never taught that one must be baptized to be saved. There is no conceivable way in which baptism can remove sin. Thirdly, the thief on the cross was saved without baptism.

Acts 2:38 states: "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Notice that repentance is before baptism. When one repents he is saved. Repentance is a complete change of mind brought about by the Holy Spirit's implantation along with faith. They are inseparable. Hence, the verse is saying, to be baptized "eis" (unto, for) the acknowledging, or showing forth the remission of sins. It cannot mean to be baptized in order to be saved.

Mark 16:16 says, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." If this scripture were taken by itself, it would seem to mean that both faith and baptism are necessary for salvation; but this cannot be true in the light and comparison of other Scriptures. No physical act, or work saves. and baptism is a physical work. (Romans 4:1-6. Titus 3:5). Christ's blood alone cleanses from sin. Mark 16:16 is simply saying that one who believes and then proves the genuineness of his, or her belief by being baptized will be saved. We cannot base a doctrine on 1 or 2 verses and ignore the whole teaching of Scripture. "By grace alone, through faith alone, to God alone be the glory"

> Remember a missionary in prayer today.

## **MESSAGES**

(Continued from Page 1)

tion are encouraged to be plagiarists and copyist. As a result, the people before whom they will labor for the next 40 or 50 years will have very few occasions to hear a message from God. These who will be going forth as pastors, as preachers, and as evangelists will spend very little if any of their time actually waiting upon the Holy Spirit of God for a message from the very throne of our almighty God. Rather, these men will make it a point to "keep on hand" study and sermon outline books. Now, with a computer on most church study desks, pastors, preachers, and evangelists may not even need to visit the local bookstore.

"The best of sermons", "the best of devotionals", and "the best of sermons for special occasions" such as weddings, funerals, and many sort of anniversaries and dedications will be immediately available on "disks" or "CD's"! Those who may have occasion to sit under the ministries of these men may suppose that they are receiving a message from God, when, in reality, they may be getting a message that was designed by another mortal man a few days, a few months, a few years, or a few decades or centuries ago. Just recently, I had occasion to read of a brother who was sitting in a service wherein the message being delivered was one of his of another day.

After the service this dear man who had once preached the message that was repeated that morning before several hundred people, most of whom he did not know, and most of whom he had never met, went to the pastor and advised him that the message that day was accomplished with more vigor and emotion than in the day when he had delivered it originally. So, he was not critical of the pastor whom he had heard that morning. Rather, he commended him.

In my reflection, I have come to the conclusion that it may be that this is one of the major problems that is troubling churches of our Lord Jesus Christ across our nation and around our world. Men (and tragically sometimes women) are preaching other men's sermons. It may be that these plagiarists and copyists have not heard from God in a long, long time—if ever!

Evangelists, pastors, and some preachers who have widespread

radio, television, and printed ministries often have secretarial staff members who answer the letters and the inquiries of those who have listened and those who have watched by referring to books of Bible questions and answers that have been in print for weeks, months, years or decades. Some of these men repeat word for word, the messages that other men have preached and written sometime in the recent or distant past. In a very real sense, we may say that much that is going forth among the people of God and in the churches of God today is SOMETHING THAT IS CANNED!

When I was a child, I used to love to watch and sometimes help my mother can fruits and vegetables that we would enjoy later. I remember wrapping green tomatoes in newspapers in late summer or in the fall, so we could have fresh tomatoes in December. I remember how very good my Grandma's canned sausage would be at breakfast with fresh eggs during the cold days of a January winter. How I delighted in the jams and the jellies, and sometimes the honey that I would spread over my pancakes before that long walk to school in the snow and the four-foot drifts.

Though I really enjoyed such canning of natural products, across the more than 50 years that I have been privileged to walk with my Lord and to serve Him in some measure, I have searched the Word of God for some justification for "canned sermons." To this hour, I have not found that justification.

On the contrary, everything that I have read in the Word of God has led me to suppose that our God wants those of us who are His servants to get our messages from Him and from His Holy Infallible Word. Because men by the millions have gone contrary to the purposes and the design of God, the churches of our Lord Jesus Christ are today plagued with the fleshiness of uncommitted and often unsaved people. Consequently, today CANNED SERMONS have encouraged CANNED MUSIC CANNED RESPONSE LET-

Just recently, I shared with a few churches the following words, "Is is not sad? you have some of the most excellent musical talent...Then, you permit 'the world of the lost,' some of whom will be eternally damned, to provide the musical background for

your 'specials.' In a very real sense, surely this is a resort to that Roman thesis that was spawned in Hell, 'The end justifies the means'...Maybe you have not yet realized that your people can get all of that kind of entertainment out of their 'Boob Tube.'...In their 'worldly outreach' (your people are hearing too many of 'the spirits' and are not being fully led by the Spirit of God....'

In my mail, just today, I received a brochure that was designed for preachers, pastors, and evangelists, "Want to show your congregation that you care?" Inside of this brochure, there were these words and this advice to the men who received the same, "You often don't have the time to create effective letters...Instead of spending hours trying to write the perfect letters, now you can choose from letters that have already been written for you! Just personalize each letter with the reader's name, add your church's name, and type them on your church stationery. Then add your signature, and they're ready to mail.. it's that easy!"

Certainly, upon reflection, I must declare that there is something desperately unholy with "canned sermons" that are the product of some other mortal mind rather than a message from God. I must go further and declare, also, that there is something desperately unholy with "canned music", "canned responses to inquiries", "canned answers to questions," "canned responses" to prayer requests such as those of my ex-nephew, Robert Tilton, and likewise there is something desperately unholy with Elmer Townsend's "canned caring letters" that he dramatized with the headline, "Want to show your congregation that you care?"

Upon reflection, I really do not marvel that our God has not sent and that our God is not sending revival to the churches of the Lord Jesus Christ in our time. Rather, it seems that we have once again come to that place in which the apostle Peter made reference, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God; and if it first begin at us what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" (I Peter 4:17-18).

## ROSCOE

By Irene Orrick

I declare the following little odyssey really happened. I have embellished it only slightly. Our cat, Roscoe, though accomplished in many areas, cannot talk—he is less than a year old. Nonetheless, he is adept in communication skills. Here is the story. The other day Jim and Roscoe went to town to make some minor purchases. They drew up in the parking lot of the auto parts store. Jim-going into the establishment and leaving Roscoe pouting in the van. The details are somewhat unclear from this point. Jim vows that the cat must have been horsing around and got the van into gear. Ros indicates with a silent sneer that Jim left it in gear. In any event, without particular intention, Roscoe started down the parking lot in the van. He was scarcely able, as you can well imagine, to see over the wheel and barely managed to keep away from other vehicles. Luckily, some alert, fleetfooted, probably near-sighted, man finally overtook him and stopped the blue van without its having been involved in much. The man then ran inside the store and breathlessly reported to Jim that his van had been rolling down the lot with a dog in it. Roscoe remains completely closed-mouth as to how, or why, he convinced the man that he was a dog.

Both Jim and Roscoe were somewhat unsettled and on the outs afterwards. They both were even reluctant to divulge the incident's having taken place until quite some time later. Roscoe seems often to ruminate upon the fact that his life and limb were hanging so precariously by such a thin line. But, ever the law-abiding citizen, Jim's biggest concern is that Roscoe drove without a license. Roscoe sulks and appears to have observed that Jim did not give a hoot nor thanks that the cat did not have to be carried to the vet in several pieces, but was concerned only with the keeping of the law. Jim's attitude brings to mind some verses of Scripture: "For the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life" (2 Cor. 3:6). Also, "We should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter" (Rom. 7:6). Some of the meanest spirited people claim to keep the ten commandments and live without sin. It's hard to tell whether their attitude comes from feeling themselves so holy that they disdain others, or from being angry because they really want to indulge in the things they are denying themselves. If "holiness" gives a savage, critical, uncaring attitude, then others cannot desire that holiness—that haughty holiness that says, like the priest in the good Samaritan story, "Sorry, neighbor, I can't help you, I'm on my way to church."

Serving Christ, sound knowledge, and holiness cannot be tacked onto our lives by observing laws, rituals and traditions. True holiness is knowing Christ. If the Spirit of Christ is in us, inevitably His works will come out of us. The law kills, makes bitter and resentful; Christ's Spirit gives life.

### THE UNUSED KEY

by C.H. Spurgeon

"A key rusteth that is seldom turned in the lock."

It becomes hard work to stir it, for it becomes rusted into its place. Neglect of prayer makes prayer become hard work, whereas it should be a privilege and a delight. We cannot restrain prayer, and yet enjoy prayer. Frequency in this matter helps fervor, and constancy in it brings out the comfort of it.

Am I becoming slack in devotion? O Lord, forgive me, and save me from this grave neglect before it begins to eat into my soul and corrode my heart!

The Bible will keep you from sin and sin will keep you from the Bible.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
NOVEMBER 1, 1996
PAGE FIVE

## CAN WE SAVE

(Continued from Page 1)

bed, and the children become moral perverts before they are half grown. Can we expect the ideal of the Christian home to be established, much less preserved under such conditions? And ere we condemn our South American neighbors too strongly, are not we guilty of the same?

I talked to a young man once about his immorality and he said "Why should I marry? Do you think I want to support a woman when I can enjoy her free love?" Why just the other day, June 3, 1939, I clipped this from one of the papers. The head line reads, EX-WIFE FIGHTS HIS RE-MARRIAGE. Minneapolis. -"Formal attempts to solve an odd sex triangle will be made here next Monday." The case centers around efforts by a woman to prevent her wealthy divorced husband from marrying the girl of his choice. The principals are Edmund L. Burke, 40, high salaried manufacturers agent, his divorced wife, Marie Blaska Burke, and Eileen Wennerlyn, 30 Burke's fiancee. When the former wife saw the notice in newspapers indicating Burke's intention to wed Miss Wennerlyn she complained to the authorities. She said they had been married in 1929 and were divorced in 1935 but that they resumed living together and that in September, 1936, they made a mutual marriage contract without benefit of clergy and then lived together as man and wife until March of this The former Mrs. Burke thus claims she is his commonlaw wife and the laws of bigamy prevent him from marrying Miss Wennerlyn". These Beloved are samples, but they indicate that which is becoming broadspread and that which is undermining the homes of the American people.

Another thing that is threatening the destruction of the Christian home is worldly literature. Instead of reading God's Word to the children and encouraging them to read good, clean, wholesome literature such as our Christian papers and magazines, parents are giving their children all sorts of sexy, lust breeding literature and are themselves reading that which isn't fit for a dog to look at. Go into your drugstores

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
NOVEMBER 1, 1996
PAGE SIX

and notice the kind of magazines and other reading matter on sale. When you see it in your home say, that's why Charles won't mind, and that's why Mary won't help with the house work. Ah, Beloved, unwholesome, worldly literature is a menace to society, and the great American home will go on the rocks because of it. Yes, it's a serious threat to the Christian home.

In this connection, let me say that lax discipline is one reason why our homes are fast drifting. That old adage "Spare the rod and spoil the child" is hardly believed today. Yet it is true, and spoiled children do not make good homes.

But one of the most menacing evils, and that which is weakening the whole social structure is the modern dance. To some it appears as an innocent pastime, but to those who know and who have experienced the ravages of the dance, know better. As some one has said "That modern dance is the child of sin and the father of lust. It is a wrecker of mankind, a debaucher of woman and a destroyer of virtue."

A woman after burying her daughter who had come to an untimely end because of the dance marched around her grave crying, "Gone to hell and the dance did it. Gone to hell and the dance did it. though friends tried to comfort her, she could not be comforted because the dance had robbed her of her only daughter.

Yes, beloved, the modern dance is a menace to society and a serious threat to the Christian home

But what about drink? Does it not present a serious threat to all home life? Has it not wrecked more homes, starved more children, killed more people, and dug more graves than perhaps any other evil?

How many wives are heartbroken, how many mothers are griefstricken, how many children are fatherless, all because of this one evil.

Then, there's the degrading influence of worldliness. How wide it is in its sweep. The movies with their sex appeal, the race track with its dishonest appeal, and the modern church with its less appeal, is it any wonder the Christian home is crumbling?

Instead of praying, parents are playing. And what are they playing? Is it not bridge? A boy came home once with his pockets full of money to hear his mother bragging about the beautiful vase she

had won playing bridge. And the son, displaying his money with an air of pride said, "And this is what I won playing cards." The mother was horrified, and accused her son with being a gambler, but was she not as much a gambler as he? To be sure she was.

I tell you, beloved, these things are constantly menacing the home life of the American people, and will without doubt undermine, weaken, and finally destroy the great American home.

But the question faces us, can it be saved? Is there anything we can do to save our home life? Must we stand idly by and see Satan rob us of this God-given institution? Can the Christian home be saved? I thank God it can and herewith offer a few suggestions to this end.

First, we must take God into consideration. No man can forget God and have a Christian home. That's why Joshua said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Said he, "If ye forsake the Lord,....then He will turn and do you hurt,.....after that he hath done you good." (Josh. 24:15,20). Can't you see, beloved, that the stability and preservation of the home depends upon your attitude to God?

When Israel took God into consideration, their safety and standing as a people was established. But when they forgot God, their homelife was destroyed and they suffered greatly. Think of the homes that went on the rocks when Israel was carried into captivity. Then take warning, return unto God and around Him erect a home that will stand in the midst of these evils.

To save the home, the husband and wife must regard as sacred their marriage vows. The solemnity of that hour should never be forgotten. I think one of the reasons why so many homes have gone on the rocks is because many couples have never been brought to realize the sanctity and sacredness of the marriage contract.

To preserve the Christian home, parents must exercise parental authority. You let the child rule and reign and nine times out of ten, your home will be destroyed. But you "bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," chastening when they do wrong, and rewarding when they do good and you will guarantee the serenity of that home.

But the strongest foundation upon which to build a Christian



Dear Editor,

I truly enjoy the Examiner and can't wait to read it. I love the Bible Study Lesson, the Pulpit Forum and the Pulpit Sermons, in fact all of it.

God Bless you in your ministry. Katherine Whitaker Richmond, KY

Dear Friends,

Thank you for faithfully sending us the good paper these many years! We let a young man, a single father, have it when we finish with it & he says it is the best reading material we give him!

Thank you & we pray for your good work!

Mrs. J.P. Morgan Charleston, WV

Dear Editor,

Enclosed find a donation of ... for your excellent paper the Baptist Examiner. I enjoy it very much.

Mabel Buck Oakland City, IN

Dear Editor,

I appreciate so much your paper, and the plain preaching of the Gospel through the messages printed there in.

> Pastor Ernest Johnson Landmark Missionary Baptist Church Hermiston, OR

home is love. That love, which you promised to one another at the altar and during the days of courtship must be practiced. Edgar A. Guest once said, "It takes a heap of livin' in a house to make a home." And another said, "Yes, and it takes a heap of loving to make a home, too." Paul said, "Nevertheless, let everyone of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband" (Eph. 5:33). The practicing of this precept alone, will strengthen if not establish the home life of any people.

Then last, but not least, I mention the family altar. Can you think of a greater force for good, a greater power for conduct, a

greater means of strengthening, character, than the reading of God's Word around the throne of grace? I can't.

The home that is built on the Word of God has nothing to fear. It's like the house built on the rock. Nothing shall destroy it. It is founded on a rock. Matt. 7:24, 25.

So resting upon such a structure, and gathering new strength at a throne of grace through prayer and communion, let us go forward to save and safeguard the Christian home. We can, if we will. We can't, if we won't. Will we? May God help us in this greatly neglected matter. The Lord bless you.

# 12 CHARACTERISTICS OF A FAITHFUL PREACHER

I Thessalonians 2:1-12

- He must be willing to suffer for Christ's sake without quitting (vs. 1-2).
- He must be bold in preaching the gospel to the lost, many of whom hate the gospel and preachers of the gospel (v. 2).
- · He must be pure in his motives and actions (v. 3).
- · He must be a good and faithful steward of the gospel (v. 4).
- · He must be seeking to please God instead of trying to please men (v. 4).
- · He must not use flattering words as a cloak of covetousness (v. 5).
- · He must seek to glorify God, not to be glorified by men (v. 6).
- · He must be gentle, loving and giving toward others (vs. 7-8).
- He must be willing to work hard and to make sacrifices for Christ and others (v.9).
- · He must live holily, justly and unblamely before God and man (v. 10).
- He must instruct, encourage and correct others as a father does his children (v. 11).
- · He must help others to walk worthily of God (v. 12).

-submitted by: John a. Kohler, III, Pastor, Lighthouse Baptist Missionary, Michigan City, Indiana

# **New Testament Church Membership**

# I. The Bible teaches the concept of a regenerate church membership.

- A. Scriptural salvation is a prerequisite to Scriptural baptism (Matt. 3:5-8; 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15-16; Jn. 4:1-2; Acts 2:38, 41-42; 8:12-13, 36-38; 9:1-18; 10:34-48; 16:14-15, 30-34; 18:7-8; 19:1-5).
- B. Scriptural salvation and Scriptural baptism are prerequisites to church membership (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 2:41-42).
- C. No New Testament church knowingly or deliberately admits unsaved or unbaptized persons into its membership.

#### II. The Bible teaches the concept of a definite church membership.

- A. This is taught in the following verses: Acts 1:15; Rom. 1:7; I Cor. 1:2; 5:1-13; II Cor. 1:1; Gal. 1:2; Eph. 1:1-2; Phil. 1:1; Col. 1:2; I Thes. 1:1; II Thes. 1:1; Philemon 2; II Jn. 1; Rev. 1:4, 11; 2:1,8,12,18; 3:1,7,14.
- B. All of the New Testament passages that teach church discipline (e.g., Matt. 18:15-18; Rom. 16:17; I Cor. 5:1-13; II Cor. 2:6-8; 6:14-18; Gal. 6:1; II Thes. 3:6-15; I Tim. 1:19-20; 6:3-5; II Tim. 2:16-18; Tit. 3:10) presuppose a definite church membership.
- C. Only those individuals who are members of a church can be disciplined by that church (I Cor. 5:11-3).

# III. The Bible teaches the concept of a voluntary church membership.

- A. Compulsory or involuntary church membership is totally foreign to the Scriptures.
- B. Persuasion, rather than coercian or deception, should be used to bring people into the church.
- C. These New Testament principles are violated by those churches that practice infant baptism.

"Far too many Baptists are more concerned with how many members they get into their churches than they are with what kind of members they get. The Scriptures teach much about quality and little about quantity when it comes to admitting folks into the Lord's churches." Darrel Owens

# A Woman's Touch

By Wendy Barkman



## Damaris Acts 17:34

#### General Information

Acts 17:34 - She was a female convert of Paul of Mars Hill. After Paul's famous message at Mars Hill (Acts 17: 16-34), she was one of few who believed and followed Paul's teaching concerning the



Lord. The Scripture says that Damaris and these others clave unto Paul, and believed. They were glued, cemented, joined fast together. Only two of the few who believed and were converted are named, Damaris being one, and a man by the name of Dionysius, one of the judges of the Athenian court. One authority wrote that some of these others were unnamed, because they were really indifferent, not against what Paul was teaching, but not completely stirred or convinced enough to join with him as did Dionysius and Damaris. In other words, these others were not among the mockers. Damaris probably was not the wife of Dionysius, as some have concluded; for had she been his wife, she would have been named as such, or most probably not even mentioned at all. This was, it appears, the Oriental custom. The Greek wives lived lives of loneliness and isolation. It has been thought that Damaris was one of the Hetairai, a group of well educated women with low moral character. These women associated with the philosophers and statesmen, probably asserting themselves in a prideful manner, showing their intelligence, thus her attendance at this meeting. Another authority points out that no respectable Greek woman would attend such a meeting. Still, another authority claimed that she was one of the honorable women in Acts 17:12. According to yet another, Damaris was not a part of this audience, but was converted before or after this meeting on Mars Hill. Most, however, do agree that Damaris was a woman of significance, or she would not have been named with such an important man as Dionysius. Some authorities believe that Dionysuis, Damaris, and the "...others with them", were the beginning of a church (local assembly) at Athens, with Dionysius being its first bishop or pastor.

#### Name Study

Damaris - heifer, calf, a little wife; from a word meaning gentle, a heifer, to tame: translated heifer, tame: Mark 5:4, Heb.. 9:13, James 3:7,8.

#### Personal Application

If Damaris was just another Greek woman, maybe even someone's wife, or may be even among the honorable women (Acts 17:12), then we have the following: Paul was preaching to a group of superstitious, idol worshipping people. Most people hearing this message, concerning the resurrection of the Lord, mocked. Others believed, Damaris humbled herself as a child in a gentle, tame, trusting manner, receiving the message which Paul brought concerning Christ. We have most of the philosophers and other well educated men mocking Paul and rejecting his message concerning Christ.

#### Practical Application

We, as Christians, ought to have a gentle spirit about us. Gal. 5:22-23; I Thess, 2:7; I Tim. 3:3; 2 Tim. 2:24; Tit. 3:2; James 3:17; I Peter 2:18. We have Christ as our example. 2 Cor. 10:1.

Don't try just trust THE BAPTIST EXAMINER NOVEMBER 1, 1996 PAGE SEVEN

#### MIRACLES HAPPEN EVERY SUNDAY THRO' OUR CHURCH

Attendance at church last Sunday was mighty poor. I don't reckon I oughta grumble 'cause I had a bunch of sick members, and when you add that to all my shut-ins, we don't have a sight of pew fillers.

So I went ahead and preached to what I had. Only thing was, the echo in the near-empty church hurt my ears. My wife said I need to get out and drive awhile and let the fresh air clean my head. It done the trick!

Our little ride not only cleared my head; it made me feel right good inside. What I saw made me rejoice; I saw a miracle after miracle!

Old Hezekiah, who was deathly sick that very morning, had roused up and was riding down the highway with his fishing poles. Nothing but a miracle could have rescued old Hez from the jaws of death in such a short time.

Now there's Rufe's brother. Rufe told me Sunday morning that his brother's back was in foul shape and they were afraid an operation was gonna be necessary. We remembered him in our prayers and, lo and behold, at 2:00 p.m., there he stood at the driving range hitting golf balls. If that wasn't a quick recovery. I don't know what it is.

All told, about 20 of my sick folks had roused and was taking nourishment in one form or antoher. But what really made me happy was to see so many of my shut-ins out riding around and enjoying the world.

Hezekiah's pa, who don't attend church 'cause he can't stand crowds, was heading for the drag races; sister Nell's mama, who was too weak to get out the house, was in town shopping. Ellie Nikeslinger's sister, who can't come on account of her kidneys, stood in line two hours to get into the show. It was a show about "The Miracle Worker." I thought it was right appropriate, seeing how a miracle had happened to her.

Yes sir, it thrilled my heart to see what I saw. I ought to have a packed house next Sunday with all my sick folks being healed and the shut-ins set free. I just hope they don't overdo themsleves before next Sunday and have a relapse.

-Copied-



#### MOTHER

A young man has been heard to say, "My mother! she is the best and dearest woman in the world: let anyone dare speak a word against her, my mother, I would die for her!" Would he? But the dear old lady does not want her boy to die for her. She only asks him to come home a little earlier at night; occasionally to go with her to meeting, and sit by her side: to show her some little attention. Such simple things display love more effectually than any amount of cheap heroics! And so the Lord Jesus does not ask His disciples, except in rare instances, to die for Him. He asks them to live for Him.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
NOVEMBER 1, 1996
PAGE EIGHT

Count your blessings

Till trouble leaped inside my door And hurled its blows at me; That Jesus ever sees or hears How little did I care. Till anguish swept away in tears My castles in the air! Amid beguiling sunny hours My sense of need was rare, Till sorrow wilted all my flowers And stripped my garden bare; Then, in my withered paradise, Mid disenchantment grim, When nothing earthly could suffice I learned my need of HIM. Drab sky ahead, lost joy behind, While vain regret assails, At last, in JESUS, now I find The love which never fails. I'm learning, too, as now I sit A pupil in His school, What'er God's wisdom may permit, His love can overrule: His kindest, loveliest purposes To bless us, so it seems, Oft wind by strangest processes To joys beyond our dreams: So now in His great love I rest, His life enfolds my own; He's working out some purpose blest

To me, as yet, unknown.

scarcely ever guessed before How real my Lord could be.

-copied-

## TAKE HEART

When the sky of life seems darkened By the clouds that line your way; When earth's shadows have deepened, And the day isn't quite so gay; Take Heart!!

Lift your eyes to the blue above you, Look around at the firmament; Put off the shutters, see life anew; And, knowing that God is living yet, Take Heart!

Come out of your shell of self-importance, Gaze at the derelicts sweeping by; Put forth the hand of faith and comfort, And say to those who. in anguish. cry. Take Heart!

By laboring thus for another's life, You'll fulfill the Master's love; And, in the midst of all your strife, You'll hear Him saying from above, "Take Heart!"

> -submitted by Raymond Waugh, Sr. Midland, TX.

# MEMO

FROM: James Hobbs, Pastor
King's Addition Baptist Church
P.O. Box 634
South Shore, Ky 42275
Phones: 606-932-4741 or 614-259-2402
TO: Churches of Like Faith and Order

We at King's Addition plan to start a BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE & INSTITUTE. We hope to have classes and also correspondence courses.

These classes will teach and stand for A SOVEREIGN GOD, THE LOCAL CHURCH TRUTHS, THE DOCTRINES OF GRACE, and THE PREMILLENIAL, PRE-TRIBULATION RETURN OF CHRIST. We will stand for and encourage INDEPENDENT, MISSIONARY EVANGELISTIC CHURCHES. We will stand against sin including that which is accepted in the world as "alternate lifestyles" or men and women going contrary to Biblical standards in their life or service to God.

It is not the desire of our church or school to take away from the local church's responsibility to teach her own, but to be used as assisting her in the education of her people.

If you have anyone who might be interested in taking classes or desire more information, please have them contact us.

Thank you and may God bless.