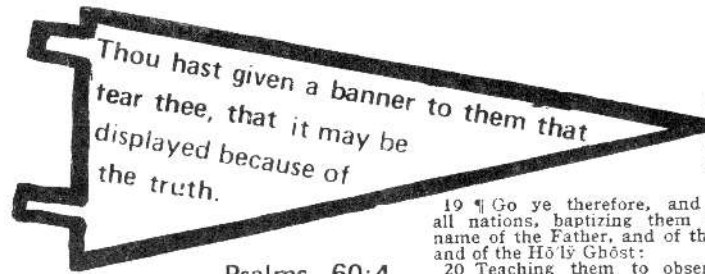
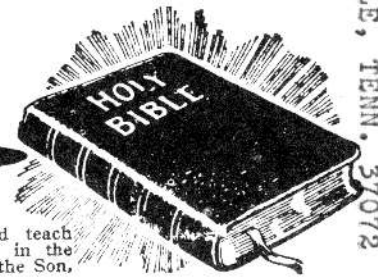


Baptist Banner

J. C. VANDERPOOL
104 HASTY DRIVE
GOODLETTSVILLE, TENN. 37072
MAY 76



Psalms 60:4



19 ¶ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway unto the end of the world. A-men"

Matt. 28: 19-20

VOLUME 10

GOODLETTSVILLE, TENN.

AUGUST, 1975

NUMBER 3

THE BODY OF CHRIST

SCRIPTURAL STUDY OF THIS TERM
CONTRADICTS POPULAR ERROR

"For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." (Ephesians 4:12.)

By ROSCO BRONG, D.D.
Dean, Lexington Baptist College

Fanciful misinterpretations and misapplications of figurative language in the Bible are among the means used by Satan and his ministers to discredit the word of God among the ignorant. With reference to the New Testament Church, Satan has accomplished one of his most cunning deceptions in the popular though ridiculous myth that the figurative "body of Christ," as Christ's church is scripturally called, is not really a body at all, but is identical with the family or the kingdom of God.

Scripture passages in which the church is referred to and described under the figure of a human body as the body of Christ include: Ro. 12:4, 5; I Cor. 10:16, 17; 12:12-28; Eph. 1:23; 4:4, 12-16; 5:23-30; Col. 1:18, 24; 2:19; 3:15.

A careful and intelligent study of these scriptures in context is enough to expose to the Bible believer the evident fallacy and folly of the universal church heresy.

A BODY ESSENTIALLY

"For as we have many members in one body . . . so we, being many, are one body in Christ." (Ro. 12:4, 5.) The essence of the comparison is the organization of different members in one body. If a human body is ground into hamburger and fed to the dogs on six continents, it is no longer a human body. Neither do Christians constitute a body scattered around the world in space and through 19 or 20 centuries in time. The idea is so superbly silly that it could have been spawned only by Satan and adopted

(Continued on page 2)

ORDINATION SERVICE

There is to be all-day services and an ordination at Mt. Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church, Alvaton, Ky. on Sunday, August 24, 1975. Sunday school will be at 10:00 A. M. and worship at 11:00 A. M. by the pastor, Elder C. D. Miller.

Lunch will be served at the noon hour.

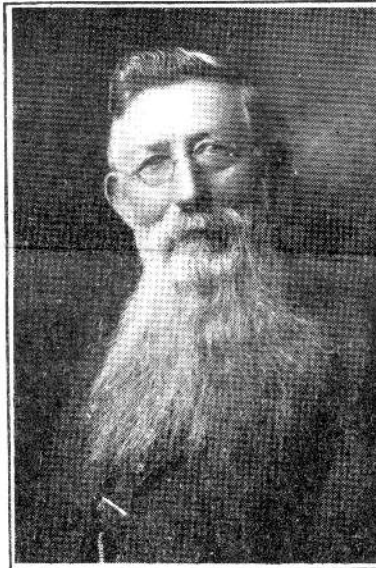
In the afternoon the ordination will be held for the purpose of ordaining brethren Ted Rose and Kenneth Forshee as deacons. A special invitation is sent to Faith Baptist Church and Fairview Memorial Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky.; Old Union Baptist Church and Fairview Baptist Church, Woodburn, Ky. and Drakes Creek Baptist Church, Franklin, Ky. A general invitation is given to sister church of "like faith and order," to send their ordained brethren to assist in the ordination. Any church which may be questionable on the issue of alien immersion is asked to please abstain for the works sake.

He united with said church and was baptized in Cane Creek by Elder J. R. Bowman the second Sunday in January 1869.

For the history of the life and work of Bro. Grime, see, "Twentieth Century Baptists," pp. 15-17, Vanderpool & Russell.

Elder Grime wrote several books, including, "Hereditary Depravity," "Close Communion and Baptists," "History of Middle Tennessee Baptists," and also "History of Alien Immersion and Valid Baptism."

The last named book above was reprinted by Bro. Grime's son, Elder J. Hall Grime in 1969. Since they were all bought and the demand was for more copies, he has recently had the book reprinted again. THIS IS A VALUABLE BOOK AND SHOULD BE BOUGHT, READ AND STUDIED. Due to the increase in printing costs, the book now sells for \$0.75 per copy. Order your copy, or copies of "History of Alien Immersion and Valid Baptism," from Elder J. H. Grime, Route 9, Highway 231 North, Box 390, Lebanon, Tenn. 37087.



ELDER JOHN HARVEY GRIME
July 29, 1851 — August 8, 1941

Elder J. H. Grime was born July 29, 1851 in Putman County, Tenn. He was the son of John and Lois Smith Grime. Bro. Grime was converted in that county at Boiling Springs Baptist Church in December 1868.

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THE BODY OF CHRIST

(Continued from page one)

by people more influenced by the philosophy of Plato than by the teachings of Christ.

"We have many members in one body" (v. 4), referring to the human body of each of us, does not mean that we have one big universal invisible human body. But such a monstrous idea is exactly as sensible as the idea that the one body in verse 5 is universal or invisible.

Ecumenical, modernistic, and compromising interpreters who reject the Lord's church but try to count themselves in a mythical universal church need to study the abstract, generic, institutional, general, distributive, and ideal uses of words; or, if they already understand the truth about the church and reject it, they need to get saved.

Repeating, the essence of the comparison of a genuine New Testament church to the human body is the fact that each is an organization or organism having different members with different functions but all functioning for their mutual profit in the whole body.

A BODY EATING

"We being many are one bread, and one body; for we are all partakers of that one bread." (I Cor. 10:16, 17.) The reference, of course, is to the Lord's supper, which is scripturally observed by the members of one church or at least

one kind of church eating from one loaf or at least from one kind of bread.

But of course there are in the world many genuine children of God who belong to false churches or to no church at all, and who partake of different kinds of bread in mockeries of the Lord's supper or never partake at all; and of course those Christians are no part of the "one body," or one kind of body, referred to here.

A BODY EXERCISING

More than anywhere else in the Bible, the figure of the human body to represent an organized church is elaborated in I Cor. 12:13-28. The baptism in verse 13 is of course water baptism; the one body is what would today be called a Baptist church.

Note the words "no schism" in verse 25. Advocates of a universal church have an imaginary body full of schisms or splits—surely nothing fit to represent Christ, Who is not divided. (I Cor. 1:10:13.)

Verse 26 beautifully describes the ideal fellowship in a genuine church: I suppose that no believer in a universal church is stupid enough to pretend that the language fits his imaginary body.

A BODY EDIFIED

God gave Christ to be "Head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all." (Eph. 1:22, 23.) Christ in turn (Eph. 4) "gave gifts . . . for the edifying of the body of Christ." Again the expression "one body" in Eph. 4:4 means one kind of body, just as "one baptism" in the next verse means one kind of baptism.

Edification of a genuine New Testament church, an organized body of baptized believers under the headship of Christ, is fittingly figured in Eph. 4:11-16. Note the emphasis in verse 16 on "the whole body fitly joined together." In plain words, the figure means that the church needs to be well organized in order to experience "the effectual working in the measure of every part."

A BODY ENGAGED

"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church; and he is the savior of the body." (Eph. 5:23.) "The church" or "the body" is no more universal or invisible than "the husband" or "the wife." The terms are used abstractly, generically, or ideally, and express reality only when applied to real entities. No man ever yet loved a universal invisible wife. The church which Christ loved and for which He gave Himself (v. 25) is an organized body of baptized believers in Him, having Him alone as its Head.

A BODY EXALTED

"And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in all things he might have the preeminence." (Col. 1:18.) See how Christ has honored and exalted the church which He Himself organized during His personal ministry on earth and declared that He would continue to build upon Himself! Under the figure of a building, He is its foundation; under the figure of a body, He is its Head.

Shall He recognize as members of His body rebellious children who have refused to join themselves to Him as Head in a church relationship? The supposition is mere fatuous fancy, without

a shred of scriptural support.

A BODY ENDURING

Paul rejoiced in his sufferings for the saints at Colosse that he might "fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church." (Col. 1:24.) Of that church, he tells us in the next verse, he was "made a minister." Now, it hardly needs to be pointed out to intelligent readers that Paul's ministry was not performed merely in an abstract idea, but in real assemblies of the saints having definite organization and location.

Because or by means of the sufferings of Paul and the afflictions of Christ in the flesh of other faithful ministers through the centuries, the figurative body of Christ, formed during His earthly ministry, has endured to this good hour; and such churches will still be here when He comes again. (Mat. 16:18; 28:20; Eph. 3:21; etc.)

A BODY ENLARGING

Christianity in general is in a spiritual decline, having less and less of God as it has more and more in numbers and wealth; less and less of truth as it dotes more and more on bogus miracles; or, in the language of scripture, "having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof." (II Tim. 3:5.)

A genuine New Testament church, however, being an organized body holding fast to Christ as its Head, "from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God." (Col. 2:19.) This is the kind of growth we need.

A BODY ENROLLED

"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful." (Col. 3:15.) How can the peace of God rule in hearts that rebel against the teaching of His word on the church and its ordinances?

The first church at Jerusalem (before Pentecost) had a roll or list of names to the number of "about an hundred and twenty." (Acts 1:15.) They had been called not only to salvation but also to the peace of God ruling in their hearts in one body. As one body they carried on business for the Lord, including the election of Matthias as a successor to Judas Iscariot.

How thankful we ought to be, if our names are enrolled not only in the Lamb's book of life, but also in the membership of the kind of church which Jesus organized, commissioned, and promised to be with until the end of the age! (Mat. 16:1; 28:20.) True members of this kind of church will eventually be brought together in one heavenly city, the new Jerusalem, as the bride of Christ. (Rev. 21:2.)

CONCLUSION

Saul of Tarsus learned that when he persecuted the church he persecuted Christ (Acts 9:4), and as Paul the apostle to the Gentiles he learned to honor and serve Christ by honoring and serving His churches. Modern seekers for self-glory who downgrade and minimize the sacred importance of Christ's churches are either ministers of Satan

(Continued on page four)



H. C. Vanderpool, Pastor
New Bethel Baptist Church
Goodlettsville, Tenn. 37072

RELIGIOUS DISCUSSION

OCTOBER 20-23, 1975
NIGHTLY: 7:00 P. M.



Glenn B. Ramsey, Minister
Carthage Church of Christ
Carthage, Tenn. 37030

THE PLAN OF SALVATION

PROPOSITION NO. 1 (October 20-21)

"The Scriptures clearly teach that repenting alien sinners are saved, receive remission of sins, at the point of faith in Christ and before water baptism."

H. C. Vanderpool, Affirms
Glenn B. Ramsey, Denies

PROPOSITION NO. 2 (October 22-23)

"The Scriptures clearly teach that water baptism to the penitent believer of the gospel is essential to his salvation from alien sins."

Glenn B. Ramsey, Affirms
H. C. Vanderpool, Denies

UNDER LARGE TENT-SMITH COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS, CARTHAGE, TENNESSEE

HELP! STOP MADELINE MURRAY O'HARE HELP!

Madeline Murray O'Hare is at it again! Several years ago she succeeded in making it illegal to read the Bible or to pray in public schools. Now she has obtained 27,000 signed letters protesting the decision of the astronauts to read the Bible as a Christmas message to the world from their space craft while orbiting the moon in December, 1968. She plans to present these letters to NASA with demand that the astronauts be publicly censured for their act and a further demand to prohibit any further demonstration of religion by public leaders. If this goes through, it could stop the mention of God and prayer on T. V.

You can help stop her this time. An effort is being made NOW to secure 1,000,000 signed letters commending the astronauts for their faith in God and the Bible publicly declared. This would defeat Mrs. O'Hare it is believed. She will in all probability succeed, IF you do nothing.

YOU CAN HELP. Pastors, churches, individuals, groups, Sunday School Teachers, COPY the address and letter below—with as many letters attached as you need—get as many people to sign their names and address and mail them SOON to the address of NASA as given below.

Date _____

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS & SPACE ADMINISTRATION
JOHNSON SPACE CENTER
ASTRONAUTS' OFFICE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77158

Gentlemen:

I appreciate and wholeheartedly support the decision of the astronauts to read the Bible from their space craft as they orbited the moon December of 1968.

I further support the right of any human to express his faith in God and the Bible publicly without fear of censor.

Sincerely,

Names

Addresses

NEW MISSION AT FAYETTEVILLE, TENNESSEE

A new Baptist Mission has been started at Fayetteville in Lincoln County, Tenn. a few miles north of the Alabama state line. Elder Bobby Hale and Elder Calvin Brawner, members of Rocky Mound Missionary Baptist Church, Westmoreland, Tenn., are conducting the work there. This is approximately 125 miles south of Westmoreland traveling Highway 231.

The Mission is located just off Highway 231 going into Fayetteville from the north, near the intersection of Mulberry and Norris Sts. Anyone who can attend the services are invited. Sunday morning worship at 11:00 A. M. and Sunday evenings at 6:00 P. M.

SINGING SCHOOL AT McFERRIN CHURCH

There is to be a Singing School at McFerrin Baptist Church, 1208 McFerrin Ave., Nashville, Tenn. On August 18, 19, 20 and on 25, 26, 27. This will be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights of the two last weeks in August.

Services are to begin each night at 7:00 P. M. Bro. Don Hines is to be the teacher. Everyone is invited to come that can.

HOMEcoming AT RAYON CITY CHURCH

The annual all-day Homecoming at Rayon City Baptist Church, 205 Keaton Ave., Old Hickory, Tenn. will be Sunday, August 10. Sunday School will be at 10:00 A. M. The morning worship service will be at 11:00 A. M. with preaching by the pastor, Elder D. W. Story. Lunch will be served at the noon hour.

In the afternoon there will be singing with the following groups as featured singers: The Fellowship Quartet, Glasgow, Ky.; The Harmony Echoes, Bowling Green, Ky.; The Happyaires, Glasgow, Ky. and the Crusaders of Scottsville, Ky. Everyone who can is invited to come.

THE BODY OF CHRIST (continued from page 2)

or unfaithful in their ministry for Christ.

Enemies of truth may accuse us of believing that only Baptists are saved. They lie. Salvation and church membership are two different things. Every saved person on earth ought to be a member of a genuine New Testament church, but many saved people, perhaps most of them, are not. Their numbers cannot justify their disobedience. (Ex. 23:2.)

Jesus organized and commissioned only one kind of church. That kind of church is better in the sight of God than false churches organized by men, and certainly it is infinitely better than a universal church which does not even exist except in heretical imaginations.



First Sunday—August

White Hill Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, Tenn. Pastor James Gardner is to be assisted by Elder H. C. Vanderpool. Services daily at 7:00 P. M.

Lafayette Baptist Church, Lafayette, Tenn. Pastor Charles Moore is to be assisted by Elder Kenneth Massey.

Union Hill Baptist Church, Dobbins Pike, Gallatin, Tenn. Pastor D. C. Barton is to be assisted by Elder Charles Stapleton.

Reynolds Chapel Baptist Church, Buffalo, Mo. Pastor J. H. Ingram is to be assisted by Elder F. L. Ray.

Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 5208 Nolensville, Rd., Nashville, Tenn. Pastor James H. Smith is to be assisted by Elder Eugene Brown.

Friday, August 8

Faith Baptist Church, East Tenth St., Bowling Green, Ky. Pastor James Suttle is to be assisted by Elder Everette L. Fields. Services each night at 7:30 P. M.

Second Sunday—August

Bethlehem Baptist Church, 1401 Lischey Ave., Nashville, Tenn. Pastor O. E. Russell is to be assisted by Bro. Delana Goad.

Third Sunday—August

New Bethel Baptist Church, Old Dickerson Rd., Goodlettsville, Tenn. Pastor H. C. Vanderpool is to be assisted by Elder W. T. Russell. Services each night at 7:30 P. M.

Beckwith Baptist Church, Mt. Juliet, Tenn. Pastor Thomas Armstrong is to be assisted by Elder G. C. Smith. Services daily at 7:30 P. M.

Revival Reports

Grace Baptist Church, 9835 Hayes, Detroit, Mich. No professions or additions. Pastor Eugene Brown was assisted by Elder H. C. Vanderpool.

Faith Baptist Church, Rose and Burbank, Nashville, Tenn. Three professions of faith with two additions to the church. Pastor A. G. Gregory was assisted by

Polk County Missionary Baptist Association To Meet

Polk County Missionary Baptist Association will meet in its 108th annual session on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 12, 13, 1975, with Bismont Missionary Baptist Church, about nine miles northwest of Bolivar, Missouri.

Last year Elder Austin McGinnis was elected Moderator and Bro. David Gallivan was elected Clerk.

Services are to begin each day at 10:00 A. M. On Tuesday night there will be services beginning at 8:00 P. M.

Elder James (Pete) Porter, Bro. J. W. Gregory led the singing.

Calvary Baptist Church, Carthage, Tenn. Three professions of faith with six additions to the church. Pastor Thomas Carter was assisted by Elder H. C. Vanderpool and Elder Tommie Lankford was song director.

Fairview Memorial Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. No professions of faith or additions to the church. Pastor W. T. Russell was assisted by Elder Kenneth Massey.

Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, Washington, Ill. No visible results. Pastor Raymond Hargis was assisted by Elder H. C. Vanderpool.

Lafayette Baptist Church, Lafayette, Tenn. Three professions of faith with three additions to the church. The meeting was conducted by two young ministers of the church, Brethren Harold Carman and Bobby Gann.

McFerrin Baptist Church, 1208 McFerrin Ave., Nashville, Tenn. One profession of faith with one addition to the church. Pastor Howard G. Taylor was assisted by Elder A. G. Gregory.

Rayon City Baptist Church, 205 Keaton Ave., Old Hickory, Tenn. One saved and one addition to the church.

Madison Baptist Church, Madison, Tenn. No visible results. Pastor F. L. Ray was assisted by Elder Kenneth Massey.

Parkwood Baptist Church, 244 Ewing Lane, Nashville, Tenn. One profession and one addition. Pastor L. W. Smith was assisted by Elder Howard G. Taylor and Bro. Don Hines led the singing.

Becker Drive Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky. No visible results. Pastor Alton Lewis was assisted by Elder Thomas Armstrong. Bro. Ronnie Galloway led the singing.

Lyons Baptist Church, 904 Gagel Ave., Louisville, Ky. One saved and two additions to the church. Pastor Kenneth Davis was assisted by Elder W. T. Russell.