

# Baptist Banner

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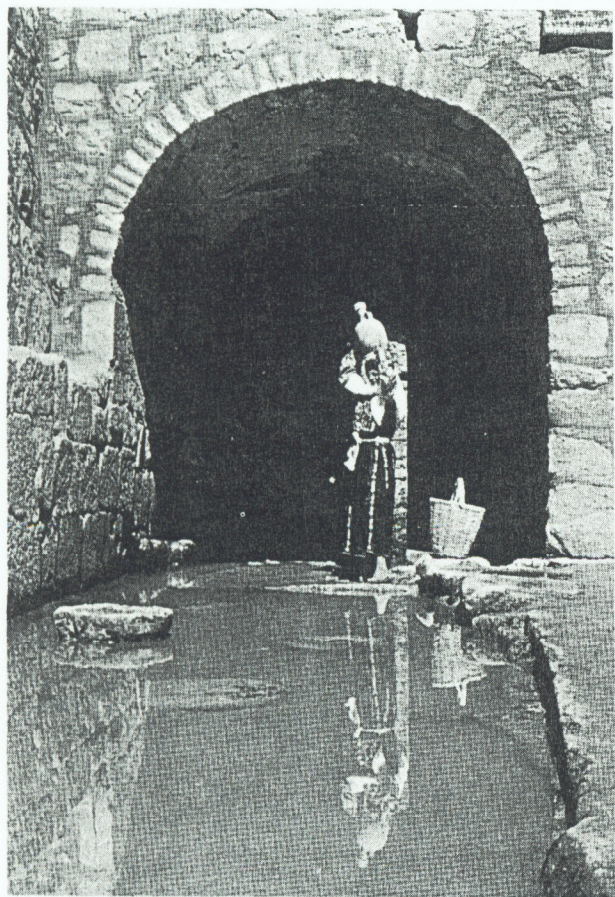
Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Psalms 60:4

VOLUME 15

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JULY, 1980

NUMBER 2



THE POOL OF SILOAM

## Special Singing At Mt. Calvary Baptist Church

You are cordially invited to come to Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 5208 Nolensville Road, Nashville, on Saturday evening, June 28, 1980, for the regular Saturday-night-before-the-fifth-Sunday singing. This singing will be a special BENEFIT SINGING to help raise money for the new church building program at Mt. Calvary. The singing will close out a two weeks singing school being taught by Brother Key Dillard. The ladies of the church will serve supper at 5:00 P.M. Singing will start at 6:30.

We have begun construction on a new church building, and a free-will offering will be taken during the singing to help defray the costs of building a new church house. We are expecting many singers from many places to be with us that night, and we hope you will come and join us. Above all please remember us in your prayers.

This pool was probably constructed by King Hezekiah as a reservoir at the southern end of the tunnel to receive the water of the Gihon spring. The pool is sacred to the Christians as it was to this pool that Jesus sent the blind man to wash the clay from his eyes. "So he went and washed and came back seeing" (John 9). In the 5th century a church was built over the pool, but it was destroyed in 614 by the Persians and never rebuilt.

**We Need You!**

Subscribe To  
**BAPTIST BANNER**



## The Invisible And True Church Ideas Compared

BY

ELDER W. T. RUSSELL

The entirety of the modern idea of a now existent "universal, invisible church" had its origin with the pedobaptist confessions of faith in the Reformation times, and the pedobaptists invented it to offset the equally erroneous idea of the Romanist "universal visible church." We need to be well indoctrinated on this point, because the error is not harmless. It is used to depreciate the True earth church of Jesus Christ, "the pillar and ground of the truth."

Even some of our learned writers that we have come to respect very highly in much of their writings will lead us astray in some vital teachings of the word of God. On page 167, B. H. Carroll, in his Interpretation of the English Bible, giving his views of the Church in glory

## Eternal Security Of The Believer



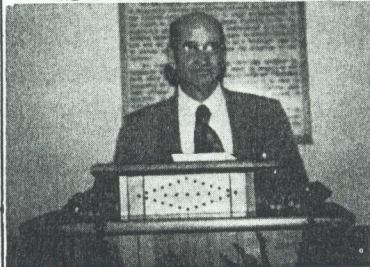
By Elder M. M. Henson

"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. After one has trusted Christ, he is then in possession of ETERNAL LIFE, and cannot come into condemnation, because he has already passed from death unto life. If a believer has eternal life, then apostasy is preposterous, because that life which he now has can never end.

When a person is born again, he is given a new nature and that new nature which is implanted within him is a sinless nature; it is the very image of the nature of God; he is a partaker of God's nature. In Rom. 7:22-25 Paul tells of the inward man which delights in the law of God and outward man which wars against the inward man.

(Continued on page 4)

## SOLDIER IN ISRAEL PASSES



WILLIAM THOMAS TAYLOR  
1900-1980

Bro. W. T. Taylor was born in the year 1900, August 21, in Allen County, Kentucky. He was one of ten children born to Eugene and Nancy Catherine Tinsley Taylor and grandson of Bro. T. M. (Tom) Tinsley. He farmed a greater portion of his life living in Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana.

He professed faith in our Lord Jesus Christ in his 11th year at Maysville schoolhouse in 1912, and was baptised the same year into the fellowship of New Bethel Church by Bro. J. B. Witcher. Being of such small stature, some said he didn't know what he was doing and he often

(Continued on page 3)



Elder W. T. Russell

says, As a glory church it includes all the redeemed, and each one of the redeemed saved fully, in body, soul, and spirit." This I cannot endorse even when applied to the church in glory, much less on earth. In this speakers opinion Brother Carroll gets the Kingdom of the Father in glory crossed with the True church, the Bride of Christ. It is my opinion that the True church in glory will possess a much clearer identity than it possesses here. According to the scriptures, she will stand apart as a chaste virgin, and be married to Christ and possess that identity eternally in the Kingdom of the Father. Let us be sure we are able to recognize the difference between the Kingdom of the Father in glory and the kingdom of God on earth. 1 Cor. 15:24-26.

I do not know whether or not any of you have given much thought to the idea of now invisible kingdom of God existing in the hearts of people, and I must confess that I myself have learned quite a lot in my study and preparation for this subject, which it gives me great pleasure to pass on to you.

Those pedobaptists mentioned above having their origin in and around the 15th century knew they could not possibly prove by Scripture or history to be the church of the New

(Continued on Page 3)



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GOSPEL HOUR  
TELECAST**

The authority for operation and sponsorship of the Old Fashion Gospel Hour Telecast has been transferred from Russell Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Red Boiling Springs, Tenn. to East Main Street Missionary Baptist Church, Hartsville, Tenn. Bro. Bobby Pitt remains the co-ordinator of this work and Elder Billy J. Shoulders continues to serve as Treasurer of the Committee. These telecasts are now reaching viewers in 124 U. S. cities. Continue to support financially and to pray for this great mission work. Send your donations to: Old Fashion Gospel Hour Telecast, c/o Elder Billy J. Shoulders, P. O. Box 34, Monroville, TN 37121.

**THANK YOU**

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all those, including individuals and church groups, who mailed in the "CLEAN UP T.V." CAMPAIGN, Forms. Your concern and interest is highly appreciated. They have been forwarded to headquarters. - Editor

**NEW BOOK**

A new book is being printed titled TRAVELING TOWARD THE SUNRISE, which is a biography of Elder F. W. Lambert, whose ministry spans over 50 years. The price of the large, hard-bound book with many photos, postage and handling, is \$10.00 per copy. Prepublication copies can now be ordered from: Jake H. Lambert, 118 Chaparral Dr., Hendersonville, TN 37075. Release date is Sept. 1, 1980.

**Homecoming And  
Revival**

There is to be all-day homecoming services at Gateway Missionary Baptist Church, Lakeland Dr., Donelson, Tenn. on Sunday, July 27. Sunday School at 9:45 A.M. and preaching at 11:00 by the pastor Eld. Hilman Duncan. Lunch will be served at the noon hour and singing in the afternoon with the Inspiration Trio of Lafayette being the featured group.

The revival begins that night with the pastor, Eld. Hilman Duncan being assisted by Eld. D. W. Story. Services each night at 7:30 P.M.

**THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL**

By H.C. Vanderpool

Acts 2:37-47

**INTRODUCTION**

There are those who teach that the gospel was preached for the first time on the day of Pentecost, but this false doctrine has no scriptural basis. The gospel was preached to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. (Gen. 3:15). Abraham had the gospel preached to him. (Gal. 3:8). The gospel was preached to the Israelites. (Heb. 4:2). John the Baptist preached the gospel during his ministry. (Matt. 3:1-10; Mark 1:1-8; Luke 3:1-9; John 1:6-34).

While Jesus was on earth, and that before Pentecost, he preached his own gospel, the gospel of the kingdom. (Matt. 4:17, 23; Luke 4:18; Matt. 11:1; Mark 1:14; Luke 20:1). The apostles ordained and sent out by Christ preached the gospel before Pentecost. (Matt. 10:1-7; Mark 3:13-14; Luke 9:2-6).

**SINCERE HEARERS  
OF THE GOSPEL**

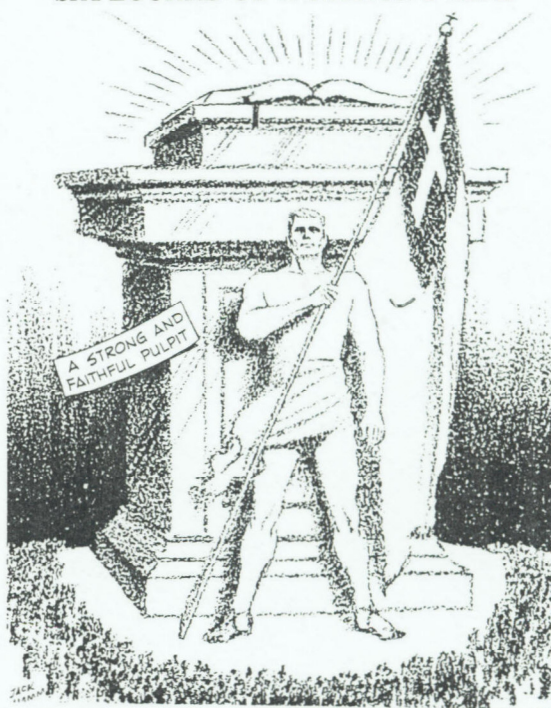
Peter had preached Christ crucified, buried and resurrected. The hearers were "pricked in their heart." The word "prick" is Greek "katanussō" meaning "to stab, pierce thoroughly."

Jesus had taught in Matthew 13:3-9, 18:23, that not all people hearing the gospel preached were honest and sincere hearers. That many were concerned with the cares of the world and would turn it aside, while others would sincerely listen and through conviction would come to repentance and faith for the salvation of their souls bearing good fruit.

These sincere hearers on Pentecost, when convicted of sin, asked, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Since there is much controversy over Acts 2:38, I would like to analyze the verse here in this lesson.

First, those who teach that baptism is essential to salvation, say that the word "and" between "Repent" and "be baptized" is a coordinating conjunction, which in English connects words or groups of words of equal rank or importance. If this were true in Acts 2:38, this would mean that baptism would be for the same thing that repentance is for, and just as important in the salvation of a soul.

In such case the subject and verb must agree in number and person of each clause.

**SAFEGUARD OF A NATION'S LIFE**

Now, let us examine the verse.

**First Clause:**

The subject is "Ye" — Second Person, Plural Number. The verb is "Repent" — Second Person, Plural Number.

**Second Clause:**

The subject is "every one of you" — Third Person, Singular Number.

The verb is "be baptized" — Third Person, Singular Number.

**Third Clause:**

The subject is "Ye" — Second Person, Plural Number.

The verb is "shall receive" — Second Person, Plural Number.

So we can see that clause one and clause three harmonize, but clause two does not agree with them in person and number, therefore, according to grammatical construction of the Greek and English, baptism is not for the same purpose as repentance which is unto life, Acts 11:18.

Those who have repented unto salvation, had their sins washed away in the blood of Christ, Rev. 1:5, are commanded to be baptized to manifest symbolically the true

cleansing by the blood.

Funeral directors do not bury those who are alive, but rather the dead. One is to be buried in baptism, not while "in sin" but rather when he is "dead to sin" (Rom. 6:7).

By a further study of the verse we wish to note the word "for" which also is falsely taught to mean "in order to obtain remission of sins." The word in Greek is "eis" which means "with reference to," --Thayer. The saved person is commanded to be baptized with reference to his having been washed in the blood of the Lamb. (Rev. 1:5).

Peter preached that the promise of salvation is unto you (the Jews) and your children, and to all that are afar off (the Gentiles) Eph. 2:13. God had said to the people of Israel, "And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children." (Isa. 54:13).

Let us now study verse 40. What did Peter mean when he said, "save yourselves from this untoward generation?" This was a wicked, or perverse generation, the man- (Continued on page 4)

**The Used-To-Be Sports Fan**

(A fable written by an unknown pastor)

Football in the fall. Basketball in the winter. Baseball in the spring and summer. Your pastor has been an avid sports fan all his life. But I've had it! I quit this sports business once and for all. You can't get me near one of those places again. Want to know why?

1. Every time I went, they asked me for money.
2. The people with whom I had to sit didn't seem very friendly.
3. The seats were too hard and not at all comfortable.
4. I went to many games, but the coach never came to call on me.
5. The referee made a decision with which I could not agree.
6. I suspected that I was sitting with some hypocrites...they came to see their friends and what others were wearing rather than to see the game.
7. Some games went into overtime, and I was late getting home.
8. The band played some numbers that I had never heard before.
9. The games are always scheduled when I want to do other things.
10. I was taken to too many games by my parents when I was growing up.
11. I recently read a book on sports and now I feel that I know more than the coaches do anyhow.
12. I don't want to take my children to any games, because I want them to choose for themselves what sport they like best.

**CARE TO DRAW ANY ANALOGIES?**

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**A Dad's Greatest Job**

I may never be as clever as my neighbor down the street;  
I may never be as wealthy as some other men I meet;  
I may never have the glory that some other men have had,  
But I've got to be successful as a little fellow's Dad.

There are certain dreams I cherish that I'd like to see  
come true,

There are things I would accomplish ere my working time  
is through,

But the task my heart is set on is to guide a little lad  
And make myself successful as that little fellow's Dad.  
I may never come to glory;

I may never gather gold;

Men may count me as a failure when my business life is  
told,

But if he who follows after shall be manly, I'll be glad —  
For I'll know I've been successful as a little fellow's Dad.  
It's the one job that I dream of;

It's the task I think of most.

If I fail that growing youngster,

I'd have nothing else to boast,

For though wealth and fame I'd gather,

All my future would be sad

If I failed to be successful as that little fellow's Dad.

— Author Unknown



# CHURCH IDEAS COMPARED (Continued from Page 1)

Testament. In order to satisfy their own minds and be accepted by the people, they preferred to depreciate the True church established by Jesus Christ during his personal ministry. In order to do this they settled on the idea of an invisible kingdom now existing but only in the hearts of the people.

By a false interpretation of Luke 17:21, "Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you," they endeavor to uphold the theory of the invisible kingdom. Everyone who will reflect for one minute must know that this is a false rendering of this passage. The words, "the kingdom of God is within you," was spoken to the wicked Pharisees, and it is certain that the kingdom was not in their murderous hearts. The proper translation is, "the kingdom of God is among you; that is, the members of the kingdom are in your midst." The kingdom spoken of so many times in the New Testament is not some invisible something in the heart; but, God hath, "translated us into the kingdom of God and his dear Son." Now note brethren--this translation is not the new birth or regeneration; if it were then we would have to teach that regeneration or the new birth is a translation into the church. This translation into the kingdom of God and his dear Son is effected by Scriptural baptism of a born-again child of God. Col. 1:13 (to put over)

It is absolutely certain that Christ has a visible kingdom in the world, and if there is another now existing only in the hearts of people that is to be set up during some future era, it follows that God will destroy the present kingdom to make room for the new kingdom, otherwise he will have two kingdoms at the same time on earth. The false theory of the invisible kingdom led many to deny or call in question the setting up of the "stone kingdom" of Daniel 2:35 as referring to the church visible.

D. B. Ray said over a hundred years ago, "I fear that the adoption of this new theory of setting up the stone kingdom will lead some to the entire rejection of the visible kingdom now on earth." (Ray's Text-Book on Campbellism, page 58)

Some of our brethren are troubled to find the exact time of the setting up of the kingdom of Christ. I am going to try to show by the light of truth the progress of the rise of this glorious superstructure, the everlasting kingdom of God. This stupendous work was not assigned to men to set up; it was the peculiar work of the God of heaven. When Daniel had unfolded to king Nebuchadnezzar the dream with its interpretation, showing in the mighty image the rise and grandeur of four human governments of despotism set upon earth. Daniel said, "And in the days of these kings (kingdoms) shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." Dan. 2:44

This prophecy has been almost universally applied to the setting up of the visible kingdom of Christ, called the Church; but some brethren of high rank, in point of learning and piety, have lately come to the conclusion that they have been wrong on this point all their lives, and that the stone kingdom has not yet been set up. Now I would say that the majority of our christian brethren would agree with us if we just called this the christian kingdom, but the difference is in the application of this text. Many have taken the position that the stone kingdom will be the millennial kingdom, which they claim to be altogether in the future. My honest opinion is that the millennial, as concerning the kingdom of Jesus Christ is the exaltation of Christ kingdom after the pulling down of strong holds of civil powers which denied the true church her desired liberties in the worship of God after the dictates of conscience. (soul liberty)

We will first attempt to answer the main objections urged against the old idea that the stone kingdom has already been set up by Christ himself; and then give an exposition of the setting up of the stone kingdom.

Objection first: The stone kingdom was to

be set up in the days of the divided state of the Roman empire, symbolized by the ten toes of the image; but this division did not occur till long after the setting up of the church, therefore the stone kingdom was not set up while Jesus Christ was upon the earth. This seems to be a serious objection; but it can be removed without much difficulty. I remark, in the first place, that it can not be proved that the toes of the image symbolized ten kingdoms at all. That which one cannot prove should not be taken for granted. If the toes of the image symbolize kingdoms, there is no intimation of it, either in the dream or the interpretation. What right have the people to say there were only ten toes to the image. As it was a giant image, probably it had six toes on each foot like the giants of old. Some also say that the two legs represent eastern and western Rome. If so, what did the two feet represent? Do the feet represent eastern and western Rome too? If so, do we not have all the toes on the western foot, from the fact that the ten kingdoms supposed to have been symbolized by the toes, are all located in western Rome? I do not think that, in the application of the image, we are bound to make the toes symbolize kingdoms any more than the fingers symbolize kingdoms. Who ever heard of a toe being the symbol of a kingdom? In this image the clay with the iron is intended to represent the divided state of the kingdom; for Daniel says, "Whereas thou sawest the feet and toes part of potters clay and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it the strength or iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it the strength of iron mixed with miry clay. Daniel calls all of the image, from the knees down, iron, clay and all the kingdom, not kingdoms. But what do these kings in the 44th verse refer to, if they do not allude to kings reigning over the "toe kingdoms"? I answer that the term kings in the 44th verse is used in the sense of kingdoms, and refers to the only four kingdoms symbolized in the image. So then, the interpretation does not require that the stone kingdom to be set up in the divided state of the last, or Roman empire, but only after the last kingdom in the image was in power. It is evident that "these kings" cannot represent a succession of kings over the same kingdom. I also think that the terms kings and kingdoms are used interchangeably in this and the seventh chapter of Daniel.

A king is the representative of his kingdom. Daniel said to Nebuchadnezzar, "Thou art this head of gold," although it was really the Babylonian kingdom which was the head of gold. And so, in the seventh, the angel said to Daniel, "These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth." These four beasts, which answered to the four metals of the image, are called kings; yet we all know that they symbolize kingdoms, for it is said in the 23rd verse that "the fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth."

It is now seen that the terms kings and kingdoms are used interchangeably in the interpretation of the dream as well as that of the four beasts. So, when Daniel said, "in the days of these kings," he means the same as though he had said, "in the days of these kingdoms shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom. In fact, these kings are called these kingdoms in the same 44th verse. Now in the days of what kingdoms was the stone kingdom to be set up? We answer, in the days of the four kingdoms symbolized by the image--the first by the gold, the second by the silver, the third by the brass, and the fourth by the iron mixed with clay. These four are the only kingdoms mentioned, either in the dream or the interpretation. We are therefore forced by the rules of language to make these kings, or kingdoms, refer to the kings or kingdoms already mentioned in the discourse. The toes are not called kings in the discourse of Daniel; therefore, we must not apply these toes to kings or kingdoms. It may be objected that these four kingdoms did not bear rule at the same time, but it must be remembered that during the reign of the fourth beast, or kingdom, "The rest of the beasts (kingdoms) then had their dominion taken away; yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time." Daniel 7:12

(Continued on Page 4)

## A SOLDIER IN ISRAEL (Continued from Page 1)

recalled the time saying, "I was so happy shouting for pure joy in being lifted from the darkness of sin to the glorious reality of becoming a child of God, that if what happened that night doesn't take me to the glory world, nothing can." This is where his membership stayed until at age 16, he and his parents moved their letter to New Middle Fork Baptist Church. The following year, he let it be known of his calling to preach the gospel.

After being fully satisfied with his calling, he was ordained on Feb. 4, 1921, to the full work of the ministry at the age of 21, by New Middle Fork Baptist Church. It was then the meaning of carrying the gospel to the lost and to the saved a greater meaning of the teachings of "The Book" began. This was an expression he carried "I'll give you the Book, it has to be right." He was greatly hampered in his endeavor, however, by having little formal education and carried a double burden farming by day and studying by night, always afraid of not rightly dividing the word. He would take encouragement and criticism in love spurring him on to greater zeal.

In December 1921, he was united in marriage to Bera J. O'Neal by Bro. Joe Meador and from that union was born one son.

He never failed to preach when asked or when called, unless an act of God prevented saying, "It is my life's breath, God called me. It is my first work." He would often refer to the abilities of the older ministers in carrying on the work, of Ebenezer with their long service together and the many other churches he helped in revivals. The last church he served was New Mt. Gilead near Scottsville, Ky.

He had a special feeling and love for the newly called out men to the ministry, always ready to talk, teach, reason and help whenever asked, being careful to not be obtrusive.

He did some mission work in Indianapolis, Indiana, prior to moving to the state. He never felt he should keep a personal record of professions or baptisms saying, "God does the work, I'm only an instrument in his hands. He knows all and can keep a better record than me, I

make mistakes."

Bro. Taylor was instrumental in establishing Bethel Association of Indianapolis, Indiana.

Bro. Taylor became a charter member when Freedom Missionary Baptist Church of Indianapolis, Indiana, was organized on December 10, 1961, and served as her assistant pastor until July, 1976, when he moved from the state.

Part of his last work in his home church was the baptizing of 8 who had professed faith in Christ, preaching the sermon for the ordaining of our deacons, preaching the Dedication Sermon of the new building in December of 1977 and then in the fall of 1979 he returned for a series of sermons at the "little church", a particular expression of love he used. A devoted, faithful and dedicated member and man of God labored continuously and steadfast.

In his last months an expression of love and consideration was paid him, from people and churches for his devotion and dedication. Death came on May 15, 1980. Services were conducted on May 17 at Old Macedonia Baptist Church. According to his express wishes he was laid to rest without pomp or splendor, with Bro. F. W. Lambert, whom he had closely associated with through the years, to give comfort and solace to the ones left and letting the greatness of the Lord suffice his going.

He is sadly missed but gone to greater glory. Truly, a soldier in Israel has passed.

## The High Cost of Butter

Are you willing to pay the high cost of butter? I do not mean the kind we serve on the table, but the kind we get when talking to some members who say:

"Yes, I'm a Christian, but er . . ."

"I know that I should attend Sunday school, but er . . ."

"I don't want to shirk my duties, but er . . ."

"I want to go to heaven, but er . . ."

—Copied

## Revival Announcements

### SUNDAY - JUNE 29

Cedar Bluff Missionary Baptist Church, Macon County, Tenn. Highway 52, Pastor James Lawson is to be assisted by Elder Bobby Gann. Services daily at 11:00 A.M. and 7:30 P.M. The public is invited.

Lula Missionary Baptist Church, 1700 Batts Blvd., Springfield, Tenn. Pastor James Gardner is to be assisted by Elder James L. Shoulders. Services each night at 7:30 P.M. Everyone is invited.

### SUNDAY - JULY 13

Maple Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Scottsville Rd., Lafayette, Tenn. Pastor J. B. Shoulders is to be assisted by Elder H. C. Vanderpool. Services daily at 1:30 P.M. and 7:30 P.M. Everyone is invited.

### SUNDAY - JULY 20

Old Union Missionary Baptist Church, Highway 240, Bowling Green, Ky. Pastor Paul W. Bryson is to be assisted by Elder Bernard M. Skaggs. Bro. Terry Thornton and Bro. Coy Allen are to be in charge of the singing. Services daily at 2:00 P.M. and 7:30 P.M. The public is invited to attend.

Haysville Missionary Baptist Church, Scottsville Rd., Lafayette, Tenn. Pastor Bobby Gann is to be assisted by Elder James Gray Beal. Services each night at 7:45 P.M. Everyone is invited to attend.

Pennsylvania Avenue Missionary Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn. Pastor Tommy Ashford is to be assisted by Elder James L. Shoulders. Services nightly at 7:30 P.M. You are invited.

### SUNDAY - AUGUST 3

Lafayette Missionary Baptist Church, Lafayette, Tenn. Pastor D. C. Barton is to be assisted by Elder Tom Armstrong. Services each evening at 7:30 P.M. Everyone is invited.

## THE CLOCK

The clock of life is wound but once,  
And no man has the power  
To tell just when the hands will stop  
At late or early hour.

To lose one's wealth is sad--indeed.  
To lose one's health is more.  
To lose one's soul is such a loss  
That no man can restore.

39 people died while you read this short poem. Every hour 5,417 go to meet their Maker. Are you ready?

## BOOK-Republished-BOOK

What True Baptists Believe  
The book, handling and postage is \$1.00 per copy. If churches wish to have several copies for distribution, I'll be happy to send them.

Send Orders to:

Elder H.C. Vanderpool  
104 Hasty Drive  
Goodlettsville, TN 37072



# CHURCH IDEAS COMPARED

(Continued from Page 3)

If this be objected to, we ask, with emphasis, how can the stone break the gold, silver, and the brass to pieces, yet in the future, when these kingdoms have passed away. Jesus Christ, the God of heaven, has fulfilled that part of this prediction that concerns the setting up of the kingdom.

**OBJECTION SECOND:** In the parable of the nobleman who went into a far country to receive a kingdom and return, Jesus represents himself as having gone to receive a kingdom, and when he returns the second time, that kingdom will be set up on earth. This is the time of the reign of antichrist; and the time for Christ to reign has not yet come. Christ and antichrist will not reign together in this world." This is considered to be an insuperable objection to the position that the stone kingdom is already set up, and is visible and organic today. But let us examine: As to the objection based on the parable of the nobleman; in order to understand it, we must take into consideration a number of other Scriptures bearing on the same subject. It must be evident to every student of the New Testament that the kingdom is often spoken of as having already come, and sometimes it seems to be represented as yet to come in the future. There is no contradiction when we understand the subject. We are satisfied that the kingdom is now in existence in visible form, having passed through many trials, having fought many battles with the weapons that are spiritual, not carnal, by which many strong holds have been pulled down. It is not the setting up of a different kingdom but the exaltation of the one already up.

This is in perfect harmony with the parable of the nobleman. The nobleman had regal authority before he came to reckon with his citizens. He says: "But those nine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither and slay before me." So this nobleman did reign over the good servants, for they submitted to his authority in his absence.

In like manner, Christ is now reigning over the good servants, and his kingdom is now fighting for the dominion of the world. If Christ had no kingdom in the world, then there could be no warfare; but the rival kingdoms of Christ and antichrist are keeping up the warfare. It is true that the time for the triumph of the kingdom of Christ has not yet come, for 1 Corinthians 15:25 tells us, "Christ must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet."

It is absolutely certain that Christ now has a visible kingdom in the world; and if there is an invisible kingdom that has existed in the hearts of people now dead and still exists in the hearts of people now living, which is to be set up a visible one in what is termed a millennial age, it follows that God will destroy the present kingdom to make room for the new kingdom, otherwise he will have two kingdoms at the same time. But Christ will not have two kingdoms, neither will he destroy the present kingdom which has been bought with his own blood; therefore the stone kingdom is the present visible kingdom of Jesus Christ carrying out the commission of Jesus Christ to earth's remotest bounds.

This is in keeping with the increase of the stone; it was small at first, cut out of the mountain without hands. It was not a great mountain (kingdom) at first, but it finally became a great mountain (kingdom) and filled the whole earth." If the new theory be correct that the stone kingdom is to be organized or set up of the resurrected dead, of all the redeemed righteous, then it would be a great mountain (kingdom) to begin with--don't you agree? If you agree, then you must admit that this is not in harmony with the idea of the stone becoming a great mountain. This gradual increase of the stone is in perfect harmony with the increase of the mustard-seed kingdom.

The present kingdom is known to be the bride, through her fidelity has been tried in the fires of persecutions; but when Christ the bridegroom shall come this same bride the Lambs wife will be taken to himself from among all the saved of earth and exalted to the marriage supper to wear the crown with Christ the head.

Christ will never forsake his bleeding; hated, and persecuted bride, and marry another. no.

Why have all kings and tyrants always regarded Baptists as enemies to their thrones, if there was no visible kingdom whose doctrines did not tend to the overthrow of their governments? And why have Baptists been hated of all nations, if there be no visible organization, the preaching of their principles being antagonistic to such nations? Every Baptist will admit that the universal prevalence of our principles would destroy all monarchy and tyranny. This work was not intended to be accomplished by carnal weapons. Just as far as despotism and tyranny have been unsettled or overthrown, just that far as the stone kingdom performed its work on the image. The preaching of "soul liberty" strikes at the very feet or foundation of all despotism. That is what brought her out of the wilderness of obscurity after the dark ages and gradually granted her liberty to spread the gospel through missions throughout the world.

(Continued Next Month)

## Does Daddy Go?

Daddy had a little boy,  
His soul was white as snow  
He never went to Sunday School,  
'Cause Daddy wouldn't go.

He never heard the Word of God,  
That thrills the childish mind  
While other children went to class,  
This child was left behind.

As he grew from babe to youth,  
Dad saw to his dismay,  
A soul that once was snowy white,  
Become a dingy grey.

Realizing that his son was lost,  
Dad tried to win him back;  
But now the soul that once was white  
Had turned an ugly black.

Dad even started back to church  
And Bible study too;  
He begged the preacher, "Isn't there  
A thing that you can do?"

The preacher tried, failed, and said,  
"We're just too far behind;  
I tried to tell you years ago,  
But you would pay me no mind."

And so another soul was lost,  
That once was white as snow;  
Sunday School would have helped  
But Daddy wouldn't go.



## BIBLE LANDS TOUR

DEPARTURE:  
OCTOBER 27, 1980

HOSTED BY:  
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## THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

(Continued from Page 2)

jectory of which was about to be destroyed because of their rejection of Christ as the promised Messiah.

The hearers were a troubled, convicted people, in need of salvation when asking what to do in verse 37. Upon their obedience to the preached word they had become a happy, or changed people, verse 41. On this day about three thousand were saved, baptized and became members of the church.

Some have questioned the possibility of three thousand being baptized on one day, that is having been immersed, and have argued that affusion or sprinkling was used. What a false doctrine. Such practices did not come into usage until a long time in the future.

On the other hand immersion had clearly been practiced by John the Baptist, and was involved in the original meaning of the word and it is not likely that the ordinance should have been curtailed of its full proportions at this early date.

The symbolic meaning of the act required immersion in order that it might be clearly manifested, and Rom. 6:4, and 1 Peter 3:21, imply the more complete mode. The pools of Bethesda and Siloam, the bathing-pools, John 5:7; 9:7, and the so-called Fountain of the Virgin, near the Temple, the bathing places within the Tower of Antony, (Josephus, Wars, Vol. 5, Chpt. 6) were evi-

## Eternal Security

(Continued from page 1)

When a child of God sins, it is the natural, and not the spiritual man which sins, because the inward man which has taken on the nature of God cannot sin. See 1 John 3:9 and 1 John 5:18. If one who has partaken of that new nature cannot sin, it is impossible for him to be lost, since sin is the only cause of the separation of man from God. Even though the outward man sins, he will not be lost. David said in Psa. 37:23-24: "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord; and he delighteth in his way; though he fall, HE SHALL NOT BE UTTERLY CAST DOWN: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand."

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them ETERNAL LIFE; and they shall NEVER perish, neither shall ANY MAN pluck them out of my hand. My father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and NO MAN is able to pluck them out of Father's hand." Jno. 10:27-29. A child of God is in Christ, and he with Christ is in God (Col. 3:3). "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." After being saved a child of God is sealed by the Holy Spirit (Eph. 4:30); therefore, to bring back under his dominion a person that has been saved by the grace of God, the Devil would have to break the seal of the Holy Spirit, go through God, the Father, then through Christ; thereby, overpowering the Trinity in the God-head. If we had to depend upon ourselves for the preservation of our souls, there would be no hope; but we are kept by the power of God. See 1 Peter 1:5. As God is all-powerful, a believer cannot fall away so as to be lost. Paul said: "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor ANY OTHER CREATURE, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." After one has once been saved, there is not the slightest possibility of his ever being lost again. "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day," 2 Tim. 1:12.

dently used as places of immersion. The sequel shows that many converts were made from the Hellenistic Jews who were present at the Feast, Acts 6:1, and that few, if any, of the converts were of the ruling class, Acts 4:1-2.

It is obvious that some of these converts may have gone back to the cities whence they came, and may have been the unknown founders of the churches in Damascus, Alexandria, or Rome itself.

## CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

Some of the greatest blessings of life come to saved people when united together in church fellowship. While contending for the truth and doctrine of Christ they grow stronger together. The Church at Jerusalem enjoyed this kind of fellowship daily as they continued to be a praying church.

They joined together in acts of fellowship with each other, in worship, in acts of mutual kindness and benevolence. Prayer included private and public devotions. They had been taught to pray. (Matt. 6:9; Luke 11:1). The plural "prayers" seems to indicate recurring times of prayer at fixed hours. (Acts 3:1).

Fear came upon every soul. The Greek text shows a careful distinction of tenses. Fear (reverential awe) came specially at that time.

## SHARING BLESSINGS

In verses 44, 45, we learn the teaching of Jesus in Luke 12:33, had literally been fulfilled. They had all things in common, not by a compulsory abolition of the rights of property, but by the spontaneous energy of love.

One may wonder why these people would publically worship and praise God in the city of Jerusalem after Christ had been rejected by the majority, the Jewish leaders and finally had been crucified. But they remembered that Jesus had claimed the Temple as His Father's House, that His zeal for that house had been as a consuming passion, John 2:16, 17, and therefore they had attended its worship daily before the Day of Pentecost, Luke 24:53; and it was not less, but infinitely more, precious to them now, as the place where they could meet with God, than it had been in days of ignorance before they had knowledge of Christ in their hearts, and through him they had learned to know the Father.

We note the closing verse of the lesson that God's blessings were upon the church as people were saved and became members of the church daily. The correct reading of the words is "The Lord added daily to the church those that were being saved."

## History Republished

Several years ago I found an original copy of "The Annual Register of The Baptist Denomination in North America," by John Asplund, 1791. We have had it republished. While I paid \$35.00 for the copy, the valuable volume is now offered to you for \$10.00 per copy, including handling and mailing. It has been received from the press.

All copies that were ordered in recent weeks have been mailed. The response was excellent!! There is a LIMITED NUMBER! Order from: Elder H. C. Vanderpool, 104 Hasty Dr., Goodlettsville, TN 37072. For a called in order, call: (615) 859-5780.