

The Baptist CHALLENGE

a voice of independent Baptists

VOL. XXXIX, No. 4

November 2001

WHOLE NO. 445

Biography of the Apostle Peter

King James Version

“Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; and looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus” (Jn. 1:35-37). “One of the two was Andrew. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah which is, being interpreted, the Christ” (Jn. 1:40-41).

“And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jonas: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone” (Jn. 1:42).

“Follow Me”

“And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Mt. 4:18-19).

“Thou Shalt Catch Men”

And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret, And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets.

“And he entered into one of the ships, which was

Simon’s and prayed him that he would thrust but a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.

“Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.

“And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: never-

theless at thy word I will let down the net.

“And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.

“When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken ... And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not: from henceforth thou shalt catch men. And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him” (Lk. 5:1-11).

In Peter’s House

“And when Jesus was come into Peter’s house, he saw his wife’s mother laid,

Was Your Grandmother An Ape?

By Roy Mason

Evolution is taught as a *fact* in most schools of this day. Students are taught evolution in the grades, then in high school, and on through college and university. The teaching of biology, botany and geology is *based on* evolution. Many of our denominational colleges teach evolution. The teaching of evolution is significant religiously because it is incompatible with the teachings of the Bible. It has had wide-spread practical effects on the moral life

of the human race, for as some one has said, “Monkey men make monkey morals.” Young people leave college believing that they are but highly developed brutes, and they go out into the world to live and act like brutes.

Evolution has been defined as “Continuous progressive change, according to certain laws, by *means of resident forces.*” No God is necessary — change is by *resi-*

(See **APE** on page 14)

(See **PETER** on page 16)

Quiz The Pastor -- #4**Will We Know Each Other In Heaven?****By the late Nick Michalinos**

Question: Do we know whether we will recognize and know one another in Heaven?

Answer: Yes, I am convinced that in that future life beyond our earthly life, we will recognize and know one another. After our Lord's resurrection out from among the dead, He suddenly appeared to His frightened disciples in a place called the upper room, and we read: "Jesus *himself* stood in the midst of them" (Lk. 24:36). Though now clothed with immortality, He was still "Jesus *himself*." for we are told He then sought to assure His disciples at that time that it was truly He that stood before them, by saying to them: Behold *my hands and feet*, that it is *I myself*, handle *me*, and see" (Lk. 24:39). The reason He showed them His hands and feet is because His hands and feet still had the wounds of the crucifixion nails in them.

They now recognized

Him without any problems. It was not another Jesus. In fact, for 40 days after His resurrection, He showed Himself alive to them "by many infallible proofs" (Acts 1:3).

When our Lord ascended up into Heaven on a cloud while in the presence of His disciples, two men in white apparel (angels) told them, "this *same* Jesus" will come back to earth the same way, to the same place, and with the same wounds (Zech. 13:6).

You see, He didn't change in His bodily appearance for He still had "flesh and bones" [no blood] (Lk. 24:39). Why would God go to the trouble of resurrecting His body, or the bodies of the saints unless these resurrected bodies will retain to some degree the same physical appearance they had prior to death? Job realized that even though "worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God" (Job 19:26).


This more than implies the resurrection of His body. In Matthew 17:1-4 Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus on a mountain that we call the Mount of Transfiguration, and His three disciples, Peter, John and James, recognized Moses and Elijah though they had never seen them before. They knew them. Even in a disembodied state there is recognition. The rich man in this true story, though in Hell's torments, knew Abraham and the beggar Lazarus (Lk. 16:23). In the future kingdom of our Lord on earth, we "shall *see* Abraham and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets" (Lk. 13:28-29). Certainly, this implies recognition.

King David had great comfort in knowing that he would one day meet his infant son who had earlier been slain by God (2 Sam. 12:23). He knew he would see him and know him. This brought joy to this great man's sorrowful heart.

As for me personally, I want to see my Lord first of all in Heaven, and then to see my loved ones and fellow saints that have preceded me in death, and oh, what joy unspeakable and full of glory this brings to my heart. Together and forever in eternal bliss.

But here is a sad note also. I believe the lost in the Lake of Fire will also recognize one another. Imagine, families and relatives and friends together in eternal torment (Rev. 20:15). Children there forever hating their parents because these parents didn't concern themselves with spiritual and eternal

things in order to acquaint them with saving faith in Christ so they might be delivered from the Lake of Fire. How very tragic! Eternal damnation is now their portion when there was a way of escape available through the redeeming merits of the cross. They neglected the most important decision a person can make, that will affect them for time and eternity.

That decision is to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, and escape eternal damnation. "Broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and *many* there be which go in thereat" (Mt. 7:13). 

Love Is Manifested In Obedience

F. B. Meyer tells of an early-morning visit to one of the dearest saints in his congregation. The man started very early to work. The pastor climbed the stairs to the little room where he saw the old man poring over the Book by the light of a taper. "And what are you doing?" asked the pastor.

"Oh, I am trying to see whether I love the Lord." The pastor was astonished at this. "What do you mean trying to find whether you love the Lord? You know that you love the Lord."

The old man replied, "I have just been reading here that 'he that loveth me keepeth my commandments.' So I am hunting through the Book and studying into some of the commandments to see whether I am keeping them."

(See **LOVE** on page 7)

THE BAPTIST CHALLENGE**M. L. Moser, Editor**

**Pastor Emeritus
CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
15601 Taylor Loop Rd.
Little Rock, Arkansas 72223
Email: mlmoser1@juno.com**

Articles carrying the author's byline do not necessarily reflect the Editorial policy of the paper.

World View

Religion Is the Problem!

By James R. Love

The People for the American Way (PFAW) is one of the largest and most outspoken organized groups against conservative (biblical) Christianity in America today. They claim they are against "Right-wing radicalism."

Consider the words of Rev. Irene Monroe: "Religion has played a salient role in discrimination against all people at different times in this country. Religious intolerance and fundamentalism not only shatter the goal of American democracy, they also foster a climate of spiritual abuse that leaves many people in spiritual exile for the rest of their lives."

If PFAW thinks religion is so awful, then it would seem consistent that they would desire reform exclusive of religious overtones.


Go with me to New Birth Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. A crowd is chanting "We're fired up! We're fired up! Can't take it no more! Can't take it no more!" The pastor, Rev. Timothy McDonald makes this statement, "We must talk together, struggle together, pray and plan together. We must even be willing to go to *jail* together, because we are on a mission . . ." What can have these people and this pastor

so worked up? Is it because that souls are lost and are going to hell?

Pastor McDonald has been the leader of the African American Ministers Leadership Council (AAMLC) since 1997. The AAMLC includes 50 pastor who meet regularly to inform, energize and mobilize the African American community. Last year they trained more than 1,000 African American clergy for their cause.

What is their cause? For a Baptist church you should be able to assume that it is the Great Commission, given in the Bible. That is indeed a cause that is worth going to *jail* over! The complete sentence from Rev. McDonald goes like this, "We must even be willing to go to *jail* together, because we are on a mission to save our children, to *save public education*."

Yes, the chanting, the training, the informing, the energizing and the mobilizing is to support public education from the religious right-wing radicals! Yes, it's about schools, not souls.

Somebody ought to inform some of these "pastors" and "reverends" that on judgment day God won't be checking for school jackets, but for white robes of righteousness. 


God's Mercy Still Evident

By David Cloud

In his sermon at the memorial service at the National Cathedral in Washington, Billy Graham said today that he does not know why God allows evil in this world. The answer to that age-old question is not simple, but there are things we do know from the Scriptures. We know that God did not create evil, and that evil is not God's will. Evil began in the heart of Satan, who fell from his exalted position in Heaven near the very throne of God, and evil then entered into this world through the rebellion of Adam, the head of the human race.

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Rom. 5:12). God created man in His own image, and He gave to man the fearful responsibility of having a will that can be exercised against God. Even though it is man's perverse will that has brought such turmoil to this fallen world, God often gets the blame. Through it all, though, God's grace and mercy has been extended. This world, though cursed by sin, is yet filled with blessings from God's hand.

It is an ordinary thing for sinful men, even in the midst of the trouble and sufferings which are the common lot of fallen mankind, to enjoy life, health, food, shelter, families, friends, countless pleasures

small and great. Even in a disaster like which occurred on September 11, God's hand of mercy is evident. The death toll, horrible as it is, could easily have been ten times worse. The president is safe. The White House is standing. At least one intended terrorist attack was thwarted. The nation has been united. And those are just a few of the mercies of God in this present situation. The trouble and evil in this world is our own creation. The blessings are God's. And the greatest blessing is the salvation that the Lord Jesus Christ purchased on the cross of Calvary and that God offers to each person who will receive it on repentance and faith. 

What God Can Do, And Does

Longfellow could take a worthless sheet of paper, write a poem on it, and make it worth \$6,000 — that is genius.

Rockefeller could sign his name to a piece of paper and make it worth millions — that is capital.

Uncle Sam can take gold, stamp an eagle on it, and make it worth \$20 — that is money.

A mechanic can take material worth \$5 and make an article worth \$50 — that is skill.

An artist can take a five-dollar piece of canvas, paint a picture on it, and make it worth \$1,000 — that is art.

God can take a worthless, sinful life, wash it in the blood of Christ, put His Spirit in it, and make it a blessing to humanity — that is salvation.

Beware of the False God of Islam

By David W. Cloud


Interfaith activities, such as those conducted today at the National Cathedral (a modernistic Episcopalian church) in memorial of the victims of the recent terrorist acts, pretend that all religions worship the same god. The opening prayer by Nathan Baxter, dean of the Cathedral, was addressed to “the god of Abraham, Mohammed, and the Father of our Lord Jesus

Christ.”

This is blasphemy, and Billy Graham should have exposed it as such when he spoke at the same event. The god of Mohammed is not the God of Abraham and is not the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ. The god of Mohammed has no Son and did not make atonement for the sins of his people. The god of Mohammed requires works

for salvation. The Muslim religion denies that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God and denies His blood atonement on the cross. Muslims, when they can control the government, do not allow freedom of religion. Christianity is restricted in most Muslim states, and Christians are actually being slaughtered in Indonesia and the Sudan and in other countries.

The Pakistani government, which publicly stated its support for America following the recent terrorist attacks, has sentenced

a Christian to death and is in the final stages of carrying out that sentence, the supreme court having ruled against a reprieve. Many Muslims are trying to distance themselves from the terrorist attacks; but Mohammed was a warrior who destroyed and tormented those who disagreed with him, and the Koran has these plain commands: “Strike terror [into the hearts of] the enemies of God and your enemies” (Surah 8:60) and “Fight and slay the pagans wherever you find them” (Surah 9:5). 

It's Time To Split From UN

By E. Ralph Hostetter

Some 55 years ago, the winning Allies of World War II devised a plan to form an organization of nation members to utilize their combined strengths to prevent wars and to ensure protection of human rights to the people of the world.

We know the organization today as the United Nations.

The United Nations has yet to prevent a war. It has yet to solve human rights issues in many of its member nations.

Shockingly, the United States the grand champion and best example of human rights protection in the world, has just been booted out of the United Nations human rights arena; kicked off the UN Commission on Human Rights itself. Of note is the fact that some 14 nations the

U.S. considered as friendly and that had agreed to support America in its bid to be re-elected to the human rights commission all backed out at the last minute.

Adding insult to such an outrage, Sudan, one of the worst violators of human rights in the entire world, has been appointed to replace the United States.

Five of the leading nations on the newly appointed UN Human Rights Commission are the People's Republic of China, Cuba, Sudan, Libya and Syria. Need we point out the obvious — the fox has been placed in charge of the hen house.

This action should come as no surprise, even to the liberals of this country, that the United States, the biggest single cash contributor (many billions per year) to the UN,

has but one vote among approximately 165 member nations.

Even more to the point is the danger the United States faces in its membership in an organization that can involve America in treaties that could damage or destroy its economy. Two cases in point are the Kyoto Treaty of 1997 and the Montreal Protocol adopted in 1996.


The Montreal Protocol, previously the Montreal Treaty, is now firmly embedded in United Nations law. It was supposed to ban the use of chlorofluorocarbons (Freon) from use in the world. It does no such thing.

The Montreal Protocol in practice bans the manufacture of Freon in the United States, the very nation that invented it and built it into a multi-billion dollar world-

wide business. The manufacture of Freon has been relocated to European companies and is now exported back to the U.S. via the black market.

The Kyoto Protocol vetoed by President George W. Bush would have given the UN control of our energy sources and resources, thereby crippling the U.S. economy.

Control of the UN is obviously slipping into the hands of the rogue nations of the world, the principal promoters of terrorism. It has become little more than a third world organization with the hands of 164 nations outstretched, seeking the wealth of the United States.

It is high time to say good-bye and, indeed, good riddance. — Maranatha Baptist Watchman. 

UNASHAMEDLY CONSERVATIVE

Thoughts from Lakenheath, England**By Bill Servati**

[An unaffiliated Independent Baptist preacher sent out by Temple Baptist Church, Santa Fe, New Mexico Harold P Chiolero, Pastor]

There has been this unexplainable dullness or numbness or ... I just don't know how to explain it — you know what I mean because you are feeling "it" also, ever since September 11, 01.

America's Roots Are In England

In his new book **In Search Of Freedom — The Pilgrim Fathers and New England** (Gospel Standard Trust Publications - England) J.R. Broome traces persecuted Englishmen fleeing first to Holland then to the New World. "In their search for freedom they suffered tragedy and hardship and became exiles for conscience sake."

I understand you know this fact but is this truth being taught today? America, because of our Christian heritage has as a nation opened our arms to all to come and practice their faith or exercise none (this is not true where the Islamic religion is in power). What is the difference between Christian and Islam religions? Examine their beginnings and you will see the difference!

As Christians we believe

our tool of evangelism is the preaching of the Word of God to conquer the hearts of men through grace, mercy and love of Christ.

Islam believes in conquering the world by the sword. Islam was spread by Mohammed and his successors through "holy wars" (jihad). Mohammed himself planned over 60 campaigns and personally led 27 involving treachery and murder even of women and children. Muslims made "converts" by the millions by wielding the sword. At one point in past history Islam had conquered all of North Africa and almost took over all of Europe.

The News Media and Our Leaders

I am not trying to add gasoline to a fire already burning but I feel I must speak out about mis-information coming from the media and a major misconception held by many people because of the media's unwillingness to speak the truth. Some statements I have recently heard are:

Media — calls the terrorists "Radical Islamic Fundamentals" when in reality they are just being true to the teachings of Islam and the so called "peaceful" Muslims are not being faithful to the teachings of Islam, the Koran or the Hadith.

George Bush — "Islam is a peaceful religion!"

Tony Blair — reads from the same script as Mr. Bush and declares most Islamic people peaceful. One news service reported Mr. Blair said he reads the Koran daily.

On Monday September 10th at a Christian Voice meeting I heard that Prince Charles no longer sees his role as the "Defender of the Faith" as all other English monarchs had in the past. He sees himself as "Defender of the Faiths"

Is Islam A Peaceful Religion?

Both world leaders Bush and Blair echo the media's constant drum beat of the peaceful Muslim immigrants living in America and England, [I wonder out loud if the Muslims living here would be peaceful if they were in the majority instead of the minority?] Would they require all women to cover all their body except their eyes. Would they grant divorce on the mere statement of the husbands desire. Would they allow women to drive? One author states that "Islam is ... more antagonistic to the Christian faith than Communism ever was. ... In Communist China today, Christianity still thrives. But confession of Christ by a national in an Islamic country is regarded as high treason. ... not even an official Church that a Communist government could allow is permitted ... in an Islamic country. (G.J.O. Moshay, **Who Is This Allah?** Dorchester, 1994, p. 111)

I need only to remind

you that in England and the USA Muslims have freedom to build mosques and worship. BUT while our troops were in Kuwait (our troops were in their country to protect them from Iraq (an Islamic controlled country), our soldiers were instructed not to wear any Christian symbols or carry Bibles, New Testaments or tracts. Chaplains were made to cover the cross on their uniform. The cross was stitched into the uniform and could not be removed.

The Islamic controlled governments do not share our religious tolerances; they deny such freedoms to Christians, instead they persecute. During the Gulf war the media covered these facts up, instead of reporting on it. This is hypocrisy practiced by our news media.

Did you know if a Muslim converts to Christianity that he or she would be under penalty of death in an Islamic controlled country? Do you know what "ISLAM" means according to their own holy book the Koran, and their written tradition called the Hadith? To bring all mankind into submission that's what "Islam" means! Muslims are instructed in their holy teachings in order to bring all mankind into submission to kill or enslave all infidels and pagans - unbelievers in Allah and Mohammed his prophet — Surah 2:190-192; 4:76; 5:33; 9:5, 9, 41; 47:4, etc.). Guess who the Infidels and pagans are? Christian's and Jews.

CHEERIO CHAPS

As we follow in Scripture the successive steps in the destiny of the saints, we find that after the righteous dead are resurrected, and the living saints are translated to meet Christ in the air, the next thing is that they stand before the judgment seat of Christ, and each one gives an account of himself according to the deeds done in the body, and they are judged for their rewards, and receive their crowns, and their positions and rank in the kingdom of God.

It is difficult to get Christian people to understand the teaching of Scripture about the second coming of Christ and the judgment day, because for hundreds of years the theology of the Church on these subjects has been taken from the poets, such as Dante and Milton, instead of from the Scriptures.

The Bible sets forth a regular series of successive events in the judgment day just as orderly and precise as were the steps in the six days of creation at the beginning of the world. God works with a distinct method, and not in confusion, and the world will have its winding up just as orderly as it had its beginning.

Judgment Begins At The Sanctuary

All the Scriptures on the judgment day reveal the fact that the saints are judged first, then the apostate church is judged next; and then the wicked world, or the nations living in the flesh, are judged

Every Man's Work Shall Be Revealed By Fire

1 Corinthians 3:11-15

What a vast conflagration will take place at Christ's Judgment Seat! Many a fine sermon, many an eloquent prayer, and millions of money that have been given for selfish motives and sectarian pride, and a great amount of carnal, religious work will be burned up and receive no reward because they will be as hay, wood, stubble, and not able to stand God's fire test.

The Apostle John urges believers to so work that they will not be ashamed to meet the Lord at His coming -- implying that some will meet Him and be ashamed.

By George D. Watson

next, and then Satan and the wicked dead are judged last. Peter tells us that judgment must begin at the house of God. In all the parables on the judgment, Jesus teaches us that the best saints will be judged first; for instance, the man who had ten pounds was judged first, and then the man with five pounds, and then the man with one, and the wicked nations that would not accept of Him were judged last.

Judgment by Fire

We now want to study especially the judgment of the saints, and the apostle tells us that the saints are not to be judged with the world, and hence it forms a distinct chapter in the winding up of human history. The Scripture that especially presents that subject to us is found in 1 Cor. 3:11-15. "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood,

hay, stubble: every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide" (or pass through the fire test) "which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire."

The Foundation

"Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." This foundation is the basis of all saving faith, and also the basis of all good works that are wrought in Christ by the Spirit.

Let us notice the different materials that Christian people build upon the foundation. All who trust in Christ alone to save them are standing on the true foundation. But there is a great difference in the lives of Christian people, and in the kinds of

material that they build with, and in the character of their works and of their rewards. The apostle mentions six things which represent the different building materials, viz.: gold, silver, precious stones — which are non-combustible; and then wood, hay and stubble, which are combustible.

Every Man's Work

When the believer stands before the judgment seat of Christ, there will then take place the sifting of the true from the false, and of self from Christ, and a complete separation of those elements which partake of gold, silver and precious stones, and those other elements which partake of wood, hay and stubble.

Let us examine the statement in the passage, that "every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work, of what sort it is."

It would seem from these words that the life-work of every servant of God will not be clearly and openly manifested until this judgment of the saints comes to pass. Although countless millions of believers have died, and their spirits are now resting in paradise, yet their life-work has not yet been judged, and the various principles in their character and work have not yet been manifested, either to themselves or to the heavenly world.

(See **FIRE** on page 7)

FIRE . . .

(Continued from page 6)

Weighed

When Hannah, the mother of Samuel, visited Shiloh the second time, and presented Samuel to the Lord, she received the anointing of the Holy Spirit, and under that baptism uttered a wonderful prophecy in which she said that Jehovah was a God of knowledge, and that by Him actions were weighed. That is a wonderful expression — that God should weigh our actions and our words and our thoughts and be able to manifest to others the exact specific gravity of all actions and of all conduct.

Let us look at the subject of loss and rewards that will come to the Lord's people as a result of this final judgment. "If any man's work abide (the fire test) which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward (but) if any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." This passage proves positively that great multitudes will be saved who will yet suffer loss because their works have not been wrought in the love of God, and will be burned.

Salvation Vs. Rewards

We must remember that salvation is one thing and rewards is another. What a vast conflagration will take place at that judgment seat when such an

enormous amount of erroneous sermons and false books and selfish prayers and selfish giving of money and carnal religious work will be burned up because they partake of the nature of wood, hay and stubble!

Many a fine sermon, many a beautiful song, many an eloquent prayer, millions of money that have been given for selfish motives and sectarian pride, and so much busy service wrought in the flesh, will be utterly destroyed and get no reward because it will not be able to stand the X-ray test of the judgment.

The Apostle John urges believers to so work that they will not be ashamed to meet the Lord, implying that some will meet Him and be ashamed (1 Jn. 2:23; 4:17).

**Pitching Our Tent
Toward Sodom**

The Bible supplies us with examples of everything in the world, and in the cases of Abraham and Lot we have specimens of the two kinds of religious work. Abraham walked before God and was perfect, and his work will stand the fire test. But, on the other hand, Lot, although he is called a righteous man — that is a justified man — yet pitched his tent towards Sodom, and every bit of his property was burned in the fire, and the angel had to pull him out of the fire to save his life, which agrees exactly with the apostle's words, that their works were burned up, yet they were saved, so as by fire.

The life-work of Lot was of wood, hay and stubble and was burned; but the life-work of Abraham was of gold, silver and precious stones, which are non-combustible and which endured the final test.

There will be no reward given for the life-work of any believer except for those things that shall escape the fire, for the apostle says, "If any man's work abide" — that is, pass the fire test — "he shall receive a reward."

There is a vast world of truth opened to our study in connection with the reward which the saved ones will receive for their good works. In the first place, the reward will correspond exactly to the quality of the action, and also to the magnitude or the weight of the action, and also the amount of Divine love or of sacrifice or of faith or of perseverance that has been put into action, so that the reward will fit the set as perfectly as the skin fits the flesh.


These rewards will extend down to the littlest things in our life as well as to the greatest, for the prophet Malachi tells us that God will reward His people for even thinking upon His name, and Jesus tells us that there will be a reward given to those who give a cup of cold water to another in the name of the Lord Jesus; from which we learn that the system of Divine rewards will correspond to the system of nature, which is just as perfect in the formation of the eye or the wing

of a house-fly as it is in the formation of the vast system of suns and stars.

Inspired to Devotion


The consideration of these things should inspire us to the utmost devotion and the putting into our life-work of as much of Christ and His truth as we possibly can.

Nothing will pass the judgment seat of Christ, except that which is perfect truth and perfect love and such things as are fit to endure throughout everlasting ages — the light and truth of God.

"If we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world" (1 Cor. 11:31-32). 

LOVE . . .

(Continued from page 2)

This dear old saint, by the Spirit, had learned what the Psalmist learned, when he cried, "O, how love I thy law, it is my meditation all the day." 

My Choice

It is no use to grumble
and complain;
It's just as cheap and
easy to rejoice;
When God sorts out the
weather
and sends rain;
Why, rain's my choice!

World News Roundup

“God Bless America” Unconstitutional? The Breen Elementary School of Rocklin, Calif. has been threatened by a lawsuit for placing the three words “God Bless America” on the school’s sign out front of the school. Terry Thornton, Principal stated that only one parent made a complaint stating that it was unconstitutional because it promoted religion and was a violation of the separation of Church and State. These words were placed there two days after the catastrophe in New York City, and three weeks later the school received a letter from the ACLU threatening court action. When the principal refused to remove the words, the parent appealed to the Superintendent of Schools and the school board, and each time the Principal was upheld. The parent has since withheld her child from attending school and the school is awaiting further action by the ACLU if they choose to take it to court.

Court Throws Out Prayer Day Ruling. — The Supreme Court on October 9 ordered a federal appeals court to take another look at a case that asked whether taxpayers must cover \$340 in expenses from a prayer rally in a city

park. The high court said the case should be reconsidered in light of the Supreme Court’s ruling earlier this year that a Bible club cannot be excluded from meeting at a public school so long as other groups with a moral viewpoint are allowed to gather there. Organizers of a National Day of Prayer event said Tucson should have covered costs for park equipment and services, like it does for some other groups. The Supreme Court erased a 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling that favored the Arizona city. Tucson had charged the Christian group \$340 for rental fees in 1997. The city has a fund to help pay for events in the public parks, but requests for the money are screened. Events that promote religion are ineligible. ... Organizers of the prayer rally said other events that won city support include a gay pride picnic, Hispanic arts event and Earth Day festival. Some rejected events included a greased pig contest and car show. — *New York Times*

Senator Clinton Says Gay Survivors Deserve Benefits. — The surviving partners of gay and lesbian victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks should get the same assistance and benefits that the families of

other victims get, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-NY said. Mrs. Clinton, addressing an audience of gay and lesbian activists, said that in the aftermath of the attacks, “we have to make clear that what we’re fighting for is our values.”

Supreme Court Dismisses Effort To Abolish Christmas Holiday. — A Cincinnati city attorney [Rick Ganulin] said ... that he was not dismayed by the U.S. courts’ rejection of his lawsuit to abolish December 25 as a legal holiday. ... The U.S. Supreme Court ... dismissed Ganulin’s appeal, ending his more than two years of arguing that the holiday was a violation of the constitutional separation of church and state by favoring Christianity as a religion. — *Religion Today*

Colorado Governor Signs Faith Healing Bill. — Colorado Governor Bill Owens ... signed into law a bill which would make faith healing a crime, under the state’s child abuse law, when used in place of medicine for a child in danger of dying, according to the *Denver Post*. The law was prompted by the illness of Amanda Bates, 13, who died February 5 of compli-

cations stemming from untreated diabetes. Her parents, members of General Assembly Church of the Firstborn, did not believe in medical treatment for their daughter. Since 1974, 13 children of parents who belong to religious sects have died in Colorado from lack of medical care. The bill was strongly opposed by [some] on the grounds that it violated the First Amendment’s right to freedom of religion. — *Religion Today*

Court Ruling Favors Baptist School’s Firings. — A Maryland appeals court has ruled that a Baptist school in the state was protected by the Constitution when it fired four of its employees because they were not of the same religious faith. According to *The Washington Times*, a seven-judge panel unanimously agreed that Montrose Christian School in Rockville should not pay ... damages to the former workers because a county law that hinders a church school’s faith-based hiring practices violates the religious freedom protections of the First Amendment. ... “This court decision vindicates the vision of the Founding Fathers, who ex-

(See **WNR** on page 9)

WNR . . .

(Continued from page 8)

pressed a passionate commitment to religious freedom," said the church school's attorney, Craig Parshall. "It also sends a clear message that under the First Amendment, religious schools, houses of worship and ministries must be able to make faith-based decisions without fear of being assessed huge fines and damage awards for 'religious discrimination.'" The case started in June 1996 when the four women were fired after the new pastor of Montrose Baptist church changed several administrative policies, including hiring only church members to work at the school and church, *The Times* reported. The four then sued the school with the help of the American Civil Liberties Union.

* * *

City Apologizes Publicly To Street Preachers.

— A Wisconsin town has agreed to publicly apologize to four Christians who filed a federal lawsuit against the city, claiming police harassed them when they were preaching to passersby in a public park. In addition, the city of Portage agreed to pay \$2,500 to preacher and former city resident Greg Breneman. Portage will purge its records of Breneman's arrest last fall when a police officer accused him of obstructing police and took him to jail, *The Wisconsin State Journal* reported. Portage will also pay \$14,500 in le-

gal fees to the preachers' lawyers. ... Breneman and his fellow preachers filed the suit through Liberty Counsel last fall, arguing police kept them from exercising their Christian faith. "Police officers cannot intimidate citizens into silence," [Attorney] Mel Staver said. "The Constitution limits the power of government when officials try to muzzle its citizens." ... The city agree to revise its disorderly conduct law. — CNS

* * *

Kentucky School Chapel Controversy.

— The Harlan County school system, already mired in a federal lawsuit for posting the Ten Commandments, is at the center of another religious controversy — a chapel at Cumberland High School. A room that once served as a storage area and teachers' lounge was converted to its new use ... after a local couple enlisted community support to provide their granddaughter and her fellow students a place for quiet meditation. But the project has drawn the attention of the American Civil Liberties Union in Kentucky, whose general counsel ... called the room blatantly unlawful. "Public schools can't have chapels," said ... the state ACLU official. And ... an attorney for the Harlan County school board recommended that the chapel be shut down until rules are adopted to govern its use. ... Edward Clem, principal at the 330-student

school, said the room does not promote religion. ... The room is interchangeably referred to as "a quiet room, a chapel, or Room 38," he said. "We're not pushing any issue," Clem said. "It's not mandatory to go in there. One person's chapel might be someone else's meeting room." — *The Courier-Journal*.

* * *

VMI and the ACLU.

— *World* magazine reminds us that "there are no atheists in foxholes" but that the ACLU is working on that! It seems the Virginia Military Institute (VMI), as part of its training for future foxhole dwellers, holds a pre-dinner prayer six nights a week. One such prayer offers thanks that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psa. 139:14). Other prayers quote from the Bible without mentioning Jesus Christ by name. Now the ACLU is suing on behalf of two cadets who say VMI violates their constitutional rights by having prayers since it makes them feel like "outsiders"! People who don't pray are, indeed, outsiders!

* * *

Kansas Library Drops Harry Potter Program.

— A Kansas library canceled a reading program on the widely popular Harry Potter series after some parents in the community complained it would teach children about witchcraft. ... The Oskaloosa library

dropped the program planned for last week after complaints prompted by an ad in the *Oskaloosa Independent* that billed the readings as "muggle Studies" for "aspiring young witches and wizards." Although "Muggle" is the term wizards use to describe ordinary humans in the best-selling books by British author J. K. Rowling, librarian Paula Ware said a small group of residents didn't view the program as harmless. ... Since the first book was released, a few schools have prohibited the books, the AP reported. Last year, there were more than 25 challenges in 17 states to having Harry Potter on the shelves of school libraries, according to the American Library Association. — CNS

* * *

Public School Students Hear Buddhist Dalai Lama.

— School officials in Oregon and Washington arranged for thousands of public school students to hear a speech delivered by the Dalai Lama, a ... Buddhist religious figure. Conservative state lawmakers charged that there appeared to be a double standard when it came to how the school system dealt with religion ... For years schools have been using the separation of church and state argument to prohibit students from reading Bibles at schools, praying at graduation ceremonies and sport-

(See WNR on page 10)

WNR...

(Continued from page 9)

ing events, or even holding Bible studies. So why ... were school districts in the area willing to allow 9,000 students to have a day off from school — and in some cases, use school buses to transport them to hear a Buddhist monk? ... Coordinators of the event claimed the youth summit “is not a religious event” but “an opportunity for high school students to hear directly from a Nobel Peace Prize laureate how to resolve conflict through nonviolent means.” After Billy Graham and the pope, the Dalai Lama is probably the world’s most recognized religious figure. He is called the “god-king” of Tibet and is Buddhism’s guru. Buddhism says there is no God or Supreme Creator. Tibetans emphasize contact with spirit mediums. The Dalai Lama regularly consults with the Nechung Oracle, said to be a spirit deity who takes over the body of a chosen Tibetan Buddhist.

* * *

Is Holland Where We’re Headed? — Full nudity is common on Dutch television after 9 p.m. Pornographic movies are found on television during weekends. Hard drugs are consumed openly in so-called “coffee houses.” Homosexual marriage is legal in Holland. Euthanasia was recently made legal. Abortion is yawning at. Divorce

is accepted as normal by 60% of Dutch. Supermarket racks feature magazine covers with photos of nude women — in open view. Shocking also is the high incidence of incest. At the root of all this moral decay is a declining belief in God. — CC

* * *

Nuns Forced to Have Sex With Priests. — The Vatican admitted on March 20 that some priests are forcing nuns to have sex, and in case of pregnancy, some are being forced to have abortions. Cases were cited in 23 countries, including the United States, Brazil, the Philippines, India, Ireland, and Italy, but most are occurring in Africa. In one case, a nun died after a priest forced her to have an abortion. He then performed her requiem Mass. The report says that in Africa some priests turned to nuns “for fear of contracting AIDS with prostitutes.” So much for their vows of celibacy. There have been 29 cases of pregnancy among nuns in one diocese alone. When the mother superior tried to bring the matter to the attention of the local bishop, she was ignored and eventually relieved of duty. There has been a long-standing cover-up of the matter. The charges were brought to the attention of church authorities throughout the 1990s but were ignored. — Church News Notes, (David W.Cloud, fundamental Bap-

tist Information Service, Port Huron, MI 48061 fbns@wayoflife.org).

* * *

Potter Popularity Soars. — The marketing of J. K. Rowling’s Harry Potter will be seen this fall in books, a feature film, toys, and perhaps in schools. SBC’s *Light*, in a two-page article, quotes an occult expert who says: “Whether Rowling realizes it or not, she is promoting witchcraft/occultism/Wicca in the form of ethical and moral subjectivism.” A big problem is that Potter, the hero, is a morally inconsistent character and the story’s “ethics are muddled.” He adds: “In short, Rowling’s moral universe is a topsy-turvy world with no firm rules of right and wrong. The Harry Potter books unquestionably present and glamorize real world occult practices and techniques.” The books glorify behavior that is inconsistent with biblical morality and ethics, and contain child inappropriate humor, gratuitous violence and a few harmful stereotypes.” Rowling is said to present a few good messages, but presents others like lying, disobeying, revenge, casting spells and using astrology and numerology. — CC

* * *

“Catholic Christian” An Oxymoron. — Is a Roman Catholic truly a Christian or should the combination of the words “Roman Catholic Christian” be

considered an oxymoron? Webster defines an oxymoron as “a combination of contradictory words.” So if we define “Christian” as one who believes the gospel and a “Roman Catholic” as one who believes the official teachings and traditions of Roman Catholicism, we must conclude that a “Roman Catholic Christian” is indeed an oxymoron. It is utterly impossible to believe two opposing views simultaneously. — CC

* * *

The Audacity of Mexico’s Fox. — Mexican President Vicente Fox spoke in Milwaukee July 17 to 2,300 people sponsored by a Hispanic-U.S. group. Attacking “current immigration policies,” he demanded “an integrated Mexican-U.S. labor market.” Fox demanded that U.S. laws be rewritten [for] open borders between the U.S. and Mexico, that we give illegal aliens U.S. driver’s licenses (even though they can’t read road signs and don’t have insurance), and that we give Mexican illegals university education and other taxpayer-paid benefits. He demanded that we exempt Mexico from limits on immigration. He called for full legalization of illegal aliens. Fox also demanded that the U.S. increase foreign aid to Mexico. He didn’t offer us anything in return except poor, uneducated, unemployed workers who can’t find jobs in Mexico’s cor-

(See WNR on page 11)

WNR...

(Continued from page 10)

rupt socialist economy. —
CC

* * *

ABC To Do Puff Series On Homosexuals?

— Disney-owned ABC will run a full week of Nightline programs this fall focusing on homosexuals. *USA Today* reports Ted Koppel will start the series with a profile of the nation's only homosexual retirement community in Florida. The series will apparently try to portray homosexuals as living normal lives, attending church, bowling, and facing stress at work. This is part of the ongoing effort to cast sinful homosexuality in a favorable light. — CC

* * *

Marriage Benefits to Homosexuals and Unmarried Couples?

— Most married workers receive health insurance that also covers wife and kids. The homosexual lobby said that's not fair to same-sex couples, so now homosexuals claim these and other family benefits. But it still isn't "fair." A new group says: "If homosexual couples can get benefits, why not us heterosexual couples who aren't married but are living together?" Milwaukee has joined other city governments in granting family benefits, at taxpayer expense, to couples

living together, no matter their gender. What next? —
CC

* * *

Do You Control TV Or Does It Control You?

— Your TV machine doesn't operate automatically. Its programs don't enter your home uninvited. To say that hours of daily television viewing "just happen" is like Aaron's excuse to Moses about the golden calf: "They gave me the gold, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf" (Ex. 32:34). *You* invite this guest into your home. *You* give it access to your and your family's minds 365 days a year. *You* make choices each day between TV and family time, quiet time, productive time, etc. Unless you control this intruder, you will condition yourself to allowing this time-thief to bring profanity, pornography, and harmful philosophies into your home that you would not otherwise allow from an outsider. Remember: You must control TV, or it will control you! — CC

* * *

King Unworthy of Christian Honor.

— Martin Luther King is still being mythologized as a "committed Christian" and a "martyr for the faith." Even *World* magazine featured his picture on its 8/25/01 cover, and a writer called him "that great American patriot." But *Christian News* has had articles for over 35 years warning of

his anti-Christian theology and lifestyle, and his association with prominent communists. The 1/24/00 CNN said: "King rejected historic Christianity. ... He was a Marxist, plagiarizer, and unrepentant adulterer. ..."

Ralph Abernathy, called by King his "dearest friend in the world," in his 1989 book said King spent parts of the night before he was killed with two women; then lost his temper and fought physically with a third woman, using God's name in cursing in the process. As with Presidents Kennedy and Clinton, he is hardly deserving of Christian honor. Patriotic blacks have said that the U.S. should have a Booker T. Washington Day rather than an MLK Day. — CC

* * *

Fundamentalist Leadership.

— Dr. Rolland McCune (Detroit Baptist Seminary) writes: "With the passing of some of Fundamentalism's acknowledge leaders in the recent decade or two, by retirement or the grave, has come a general decline of comparable leadership to take their places. The more recent generation of Fundamentalists has experienced a sort of vacuum in this regard. Put another way, the later heirs of Fundamentalist leadership have tended to be less forceful and decisive, less militant, and less inclined to get very close to controversy. Some have begun to court the New Evangelicalism. Many are anxious to put some distance between

themselves and their Fundamentalist predecessors. Others more quietly go off in another direction ... still proclaiming that 'things haven't changed.'" — CC

* * *

Judge Upholds Ban On Adoption By Homosexuals.

— A federal judge ruled Aug. 30 in favor of a Florida law prohibiting adoption by homosexuals. The ruling by James L. King, a federal judge in Miami, Florida is a noteworthy development in the ongoing battle over the campaign by homosexuals to gain legal rights in numerous areas. It likely will be appealed, however. Adoptions by homosexuals have not been allowed in many states, but Florida is the only state in which the legislature has barred adoption by homosexual individuals and couples. The law was adopted in 1977. The legislatures of Mississippi and Utah have passed laws prohibiting adoption by same-sex couples, although it is improbable individual homosexuals would be able to adopt in those states either. In his ruling, King said "categorically barring homosexuals from adoption in the best interest of Florida's children is, on its face, a legitimate purpose." The *Washington Times* reported. "At the least, it is arguable that placing children in married homes is in the best interest of Florida's children." The judge, how-

(See WNR on page 13)

God Took Center Stage On Sept. 11th

By G. Russell Evans
Captain U.S. Coast Guard (Ret)

Two extremely reassuring things came out of the tragic and cowardly terrorist attacks of September 11th. One was the instant uniting of the people behind our president for security and retribution. The other was the spontaneous and natural turning to God, to religious faith, for comfort and the way out — our nation's foundation.

Center Stage. God took over center stage that day — and is still there. It was a remarkable infusion of religion into public life. We heard not a peep from heretofore vitriolic critics like the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), nor People For the American Way (PFAW) — not even from Walter Cronkite who once reported, “God is dead!”

God is alive! And in these days of deep sorrow, people are comforted by their faith and by the prayer of Moses, “... even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God” (Psa. 90:2).

It Was Natural. People just turned to God. It was natural and all previous “Holier Than Thou’s” of Barry Lynn’s AUSCS, Norman Lear’s PFAW and Jesse Jackson’s Rainbow Coalition were like trash. The priority was God’s blessings on our country, the innocent victims, survivors and the grieving families. That’s the way our country is and the terrorists

proved it.

The most compelling presence on the world stage has been God, whereas a short time ago, heated debates opposed mixing religion with public life.

Columnist Gerald F. Seib of the *Wall Street Journal* wrote, “Americans have accepted virtually without question a very public turn to religion by our nation and its leaders in time of grief.”

Our Heritage. It was truly a normal and in-bred turn to our heritage. President Bush saw it that way and from the pulpit of the Washington National Cathedral on Sept. 14th, three days after the assault, he delivered a stirring address to the nation’s full political leadership at an ecumenical national prayer service.

His threat to the terror-

ists, therefore, came *not* in the halls of the Congress, but in a Christian church. Still not a peep from the agitators: Lynn, Jackson and Lear. But, they’ll be back!

Canadians Speak Up.

Some of our Canadian friends spoke up. Gordon Sinclair’s scathing TV editorial, denouncing the world’s hypocrites and free-loaders and praising America’s generosity and leadership, was all over the Internet.

Canada’s Professor Eugene Hill of the University of New Brunswick, in his letter to John Caslin of *The Washington Times*, noted Canada’s day of prayer (and National Day of Mourning in which there was “no public prayer.” A National Day of Mourning” — but no public praying?

In contrast, noted the pro-

fessor, “This past week, the courage of Americans and their return to spiritual roots, was remarkable and so appropriate and characteristic.” He then hit a shameful note:

“But there remains a great mystery — how people and a country could for 40 years, through their attitudes and courts, do everything they could to get every reminder of God ... out of the public domain and out of public sight and then suddenly, in a very public and government-involved way, seek God.”

40 Years of Abuse. Indeed, for the past 40 years the assault on Christians and Christianity has been relentless by our courts, in our schools, at every level of government and throughout our culture.

The famous 1892 Supreme Court ruling, proclaiming our Christian heritage, has long been ignored in favor of the New World Age of materialism. The Supreme Court found in 1892:

“Our laws and our institutions must necessarily be based upon the teachings of the Redeemer of Mankind ... our civilization and our institutions are emphatically Christian.”

Anti-Christian bigotry is the only form of bigotry acceptable today in America and Barry Lynn’s AUSCS

See EVANS on page 13)

A Good Question

Now that the President has called us to pray;
Now that the Senate has called us to pray;
Now that the Congress has called us to pray;
Now that our Governor has called us to pray;
Now that the City Mayor has called us to pray;
Now that the liberal media and most other branches
of our American society have called us to pray;
And now that our churches are assembling in special
prayer;

“UMMM”

Honorable Justices of the Supreme Court, I have only one question: Would it be okay to pray in our schools now?

EVANS . . .

(Continued from page 12)

is leading the way. Racism and anti-Semitism, on the other hand, is strictly taboo — but *not* anti-Christian bigotry.

AUSCS Goals. Before Sept. 11th, let us emphasize, Lynn & Co. were vigorously pursuing their brand of anti-Christian bigotry, as follows:

Deny tax-exempt status of churches and donations by church members

Remove Bibles from school libraries.

Remove our national motto "In God We Trust" from our money.

Ban Christmas as a national holiday.

Ban Congress from opening each day with prayer and fire their chaplains.

Ban and remove crosses and all religious symbols from military cemeteries.

Remove chaplains from our armed forces.

Liberal judges are on the ACLU bandwagon and already have ruled that the Ten Commandments cannot be posted in public schools and that the state of Ohio must remove from license plates "With God, all things are possible." We can be thankful that they had no chance to ban the president's speech in the National Cathedral after the massacres.


How far will our Congress allow the liberals to go in destroying our heritage? Even now, some school administrators are prohibiting our children from saying grace

before lunch and from carrying Bibles. Our president prays in public. Our congressional leaders pray in public. Everyone can pray in public — except our children. How silly can we get?

Wakeup Call. The Sept. 11th tragedy can be a wakeup call back to America's Christian foundation. Reactions throughout the country prove that the foundation is still very strong — and that the "do-gooders" of the ACLU, the Barry Lynns, the Norman Lears, the Jesse Jacksons and their misguided supporters are on sinking sand.

Almost one-half of America's people are church-going Christians. If awakened to these shameful challenges to our foundation, they can be an irresistible force. We must not forget their power.

Our Bible teaches that God is merciful, forgiving and healing. The tragedy of Sept. 11th will make us a better people and a stronger nation. At a time of great pestilence in Israel, the Lord told King Solomon, "If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chr. 7:14).

Of course, this a very familiar passage of Scripture — always appropriate in times of trouble and deep sorrow — and, for that matter, in the words of Moses, appropriate "from everlasting to everlasting." Indeed, we need to " ... think on these things" (Phil. 4:8). 

WNR . . .

(Continued from page 11)

ever, rejected the state's argument morality was a basis for the policy. — BP

* * *

Homosexuality Attracts Big Money. Sydney, Australia is scheduled to host the Gay Games in 2002. The event will attract an estimated A\$100 million, which is more money than the Olympic Games. In addition to immorality, the three characteristics of Sodom were "pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness" (Ezk. 16:49). — DC

* * *

Mormons Try To Appear Christian. — Mormons are increasingly emphasizing Jesus and de-emphasizing their founder Joseph Smith. Their rhetoric is becoming more overtly evangelical. But their God is married, is a finite being, and their Heavenly Mother produces spirit children in a "pre-existence." Thus they teach that Jesus and Lucifer were spirit brothers. This deceptive false cult teaches a "works" salvation. They teach a different Jesus, and a different gospel. We and they have the same vocabulary but use different dictionaries. We must speak the truth in love and try to win them to the true Christ, but must not compromise the true Gospel in the process — CC

A Liberal Admits Helms Was Right About Closing NEA — L.A.

Times writer Crispin says Sen. Jesse Helms was almost always wrong but that he was right about wanting to close down the National Endowment for the Arts (9/5 HT). Of smut artists who complain and cry "censorship," Sartwell says: "I may have an obligation not to shut you up when you say things that disturb me, but I don't have an obligation to pay you to do it." Taxpayers have the right not to fund filth. — CC

* * *

CBF A Menagerie of Disgruntled Baptists? —

That is how the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship seems to see itself today, according to a 9/01 *Baptist Banner* writer. He writes, of the recent CBF Atlanta General Assembly: "In one room, you'll find radical feminists worshiping 'Mother God' and talking about how hard it is to call God 'Father' or 'Lord.' In another room, the dean of a CBF partner school joins with a Jewish rabbi to argue that Jews don't need faith in Christ to be saved. Walk to the next room and you'll find the head of another CBF partner school arguing that Baptists shouldn't try to 'convert' Jews, Muslims and Hindus since non-Christians can 'experience the divine' without Jesus. And, don't pray in 'Jesus name' in mixed

(See **WNR** on page 14)

APPE . . .

(Continued from page 1)

dent forces.

Theistic Evolution

Modernistic preachers have tried to reconcile the Bible and religion with evolution by saying that evolution is just the way that "God works." The truth is, the Bible and Christianity cannot be reconciled to evolution. Genesis teaches beyond question that man was made as *a special creation* — not by age long process (Gen. 1:26-27). It teaches that various species were made "after their kind" (Gen. 1:24-25). Had man come into existence through evolutionary process he would have had a mate. But the first man had no mate, and one was *made outright* for him (Gen. 2:21-22). Evolution and special creation can't be reconciled. If evolution is so — the Bible is not so. If the Bible is so, then evolution is a big lie!

Why Did Men Start The Evolution Theory?

Back behind it was deep-seated antagonism toward God and His Word. The unregenerate heart hates God and wants nothing to do with him. Unregenerate men will do anything to try to rule God out. Thinking men must find some sort of explanation for the existence of things. The philosophic explanations of the past are absurdities, and men did not want to accept the Bible explanation, so what sort of an explanation could

they devise? Evolution is the answer, "Evolution is man's best *guess* without God."

Evolution Is Guesswork — Not Fact, Nor Science


Science is that which is *known*. It is substantiated fact. Evolution is in the nature of hypothesis. It has not been proven. Modern scholars are *bullied* in being evolutionists. To go against the theory is to go against the popular and accepted thing, and many dare not be so unorthodox as to do this. Nevertheless some of the greatest scientists have denounced evolution. Typical of these (and a number can be named) is Sir W. J. Dawson, the English scientist, who said "It (evolution) is utterly destitute of proof."

Evolutionists Have Lied In Seeking To Prove

Go into our great museums (like Field Museum, Chicago) and you will see a series of figures molded and carved to show man's ascent from the brute. School children by the thousands are impressed that evolution is true by viewing this "chain." But the whole "chain" is a chain of lies. The whole thing has been concocted out of imagination! One of the "links" in the evolutionary chain is the famous "Piltdown Man," reconstructed from some bones found in a gravel pit at Sussex, England. This link was recently denounced by scientists themselves as a fake and a fraud. We quote

the following from the United Press, November 21, 1953, "Three sleuthing British scientists declared today that the skull of the fabulous 'Piltdown Man' accepted for 40 years ... as a relic of man's earliest history is a phony." The article goes on to show how some of the bones were colored by chemicals to give the appearance of age. This is but a sample of what men have resorted to in order to try to prove their hypothesis.

The Mule Stands In The Way

The evolutionary theory requires the belief that one species evolves into another higher up. This is contrary to observation and experience. Creatures of one species *do not* cross the boundary line into another. When attempt is made to cross species the result is *a hybrid*. The common *mule* is a sample. A common old stubborn Missouri mule stands between the evolutionist and the proof of his theory. Long live the mule! 


WNR . . .

(Continued from page 13)

company." The CBF is a breakaway, denomination-like group, the former SBC "moderates," but are increasingly being seen as liberals. — CC

* * *

Texas Convention Rejects Inerrancy. — When Dwight McKissic asked the Baptist General Convention of Texas execu-

tive board to take a stand on the inerrancy of Scripture, he was surprised that numerous board members responded by shouting, "No!" McKissic, pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Arlington, Texas had hoped the board would give messengers to the October 29, 30 BGCT annual meeting in Dallas an opportunity to clarify their position on scriptural authority. At the close of the Sept. 25 meeting, McKissic, a black first-year BGCT board member, asked the board to affirm a statement which reads: "We believe in the divine inspiration of the whole Bible and the inerrancy of the original manuscripts." He urged adoption of the statement as a means of unifying Texas Baptists and reconciling with the Southern Baptist Convention. "Every time you pick up a newspaper or magazine [from BGCT] or go to the mailbox, they're mailing you something trying to convince you about their position on Scripture," McKissic said. "But when they reject such a simple statement" that affirms the inerrancy and infallibility of Scripture "and mail you letters saying the Bible is true and trustworthy that sounds Clintonesque," McKissic said. The board ultimately tabled McKissic's motion. After his attempt to clarify BGCT's position failed, McKissic resigned from the board and his church withdrew from BGCT membership, affiliating uniquely with SBTC. 

Are These Sayings From the Scripture? Yes Or No!

1. "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you." _____
2. "The way of transgressors is hard." _____
3. "Expect great things from God and attempt great things for God." _____
4. "How great a matter a little fire kindleth!" _____
5. "Honesty is the best policy." _____
6. "Those who dance must pay the piper." _____
7. "Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools." _____
8. "Cleanliness is next to godliness." _____
9. "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes." _____
10. "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." _____
11. "Any man may make a mistake, but only a fool will continue in it." _____
12. "Earth hath no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal." _____
13. "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly." _____
14. "Where there is no vision, the people perish." _____
15. "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle." _____
16. "A lie that is half truth is ever the blackest of lies." _____
17. "Godliness with contentment is great gain." _____
18. "Truth at last shall reign." _____
19. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." _____
20. "I place no value on what I have or may possess, save in relation to the kingdom of God." _____
21. "Prove all things: hold fast that which is good." _____
22. "Little sins are pioneers of Hell." _____
23. "The sleep of a labouring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much." _____
24. "God is not dumb, that He should speak no more." _____
25. "The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way." _____
26. "He that diggeth a pit shall fall into it." _____
27. "I went down into the garden of nuts." _____
28. "Is there any taste in the white of an egg?" _____
29. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." _____
30. "They think too little who talk too much." _____
31. "God is no respecter of persons." _____
32. "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." _____
33. "True religion affords government its surest support." _____
34. "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord." _____
35. "Hell is paved with good intentions." _____
36. "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead." _____
37. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." _____
38. "As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion." _____
39. "Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth." _____
40. "How far that little candle throws its beam." _____
41. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." _____
42. "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." _____
43. "While you live tell truth and shame the devil." _____
44. "Nothing is or can be accidental with God." _____
45. "Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good." _____
46. "Mercy, an attribute of God." _____
47. "I am in the Slough of Despond." _____
48. "He prayeth best who loveth best." _____
49. "It is better to be alone than in bad company." _____
50. "A beautiful and chaste woman is the perfect workmanship of God." _____
51. "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer." _____
52. "Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile." _____
53. "The tongue of a fool is the key of his counsel." _____
54. "As he thinketh in his heart, so is he." _____
55. "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." _____
56. "I am a part of all that I have met." _____
57. "A whisperer separateth chief friends." _____
58. "He that winketh with the eye causeth sorrows." _____
59. "An honest man is the noblest work of God." _____
60. "I am escaped with the skin of my teeth." _____
61. "The way of the ungodly shall perish." _____

(Answers on Pg. 24)

Pass It On!

We would appreciate it if our readers would pass the information on to others that **The Baptist Challenge** is now available on the Internet. A mention in your church bulletin or paper giving the Internet address would be appreciated and if you can send out Emails, please notify those on your mailing list about TBC being available. Thanks.

—The Editor

PETER . . .

(Continued from page 1)

and sick of a fever. And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them. When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses" (Mt. 8:14-17).

Named First of the Twelve

"And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

"And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;

"Simon, (whom he also named Peter,) and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew,

"Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes,

"And Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor" (Lk. 6:12-16).

"Lord, Save Me"

"And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the mul-

titudes away. And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

"But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

"And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

"And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

"But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

"And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

"And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

"But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

"And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

"And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God" (Mt. 14:22-33).

On The Lord's Side

"From that time many of his disciples went back,

and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God" (Jn. 6:66-69).

Peter's Great Confession

"When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

"And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

"He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

"And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

"And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

"Then charged he his disciples that they should tell

no man that he was Jesus the Christ" (Mt. 16:13-20).

The Rebuker Rebuked

"From that time forth began Jesus to show unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

"Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.

"But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mt. 16:21-26).

At The Transfiguration

"And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. And as he prayed, the

(See **PETER** on page 17)

PETER . . .

(Continued from page 16)

fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening. And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias: Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decrease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem

“But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.

“And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: not knowing what he said.

“While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud.

“And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it close, and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen” (Lk. 9:28-36).

They Came To Peter

“And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute?

“He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou,

Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers? Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free. Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee” (Mt. 17:24-27).

**Question
On Forgiveness**

“Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?

“Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven” (Mt. 18:21-22).

**He Sent Peter And
John**

“Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany” (Jn. 12:1).

“Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the passover must be killed.

“And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover, that we may eat.

“And they said unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare?

“And he said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; fol-

low him into the house where he entereth in. And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?

“And he shall show you a large upper room furnished: there make ready.”

“And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover” (Lk. 22:7-13).

**Thou Shalt Deny Me
Thrice**

“When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake. Now there was leaning on Jesus’ bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.

“Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake.

“He then lying on Jesus’ breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it?

“Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon” (Jn. 13:21-26).

“Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad. But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee.

“Peter answered and said unto him, Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended.

“Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

“Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples” (Mt. 26:31-35).

**“Could Ye Not Watch
With Me?”**

“Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.

“And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

“And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

“And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

(See **PETER** on page 18)

PETER . . .

(Continued from page 17)

“He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.

“And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy.

And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

“Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me. (Mt. 26:36-46).

Draws a Sword

“When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where was a garden, into the which he entered, and his disciples. And Judas also, which betrayed him, knew the place: for Jesus oftentimes resorted thither with his disciples. Judas then, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, cometh thither with lanterns and torches and weapons. (Jn. 18:1-3)

“Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest’s ser-

vant, and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus.

“Then said Jesus unto Peter, Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?” (Jn. 18:10-11).

At Cock Crowing

“And they that had laid hold on Jesus led him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled” (Mt. 26:57).

“And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple: that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went in with Jesus into the palace of the high priest. But Peter stood at the door without. Then went out that other disciple, which was known unto the high priest, and spake unto her that kept the door, and brought in Peter.

“Then saith the damsel that kept the door unto Peter, Art not thou also one of this man’s disciples? He saith, I am not.

“And the servants and officers stood there, who had made a fire of coals; for it was cold: and they warmed themselves: and Peter stood with them, and warmed himself. (Jn. 18:15-18).

“And after a little while another saw him, and said, Thou art also of them. And Peter said, Man, I am not.

“And about the space of one hour after another confidently affirmed, saying, Of a truth this fellow also was with him: for he is a

Galilaeen.

“And Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew.

“And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And Peter went out, and wept bitterly” (Lk. 22:58-62).

At The Tomb

“The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre” (Jn. 20:1).

“And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you” (Mk. 16:5-7).

“Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.

“Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. So they ran both together:

and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in.

“Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead” (Jn. 20:2-9).

At The Sea of Galilee

“After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise showed he himself. There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.

“Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing.

“They say unto him, We also go with thee.

“They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing. But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.

“Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him,

(See **PETER** on page 19)

PETER . . .

(Continued from page 18)

No.

“And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.

“Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord.

“Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher’s coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea. And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes. And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes. As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.

“Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.

“Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.

“Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord.

“Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise. This is now the third time that Jesus showed himself to his

disciples, after that he was risen from the dead. (Jn. 21:1-14).

“Lovest Thou Me?”

“So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?

“He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.

“He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.

“He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?

“He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.

“He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

“He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?

“Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee.

“Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not.

“This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God” (Jn. 21:15-19).

“Follow Thou Me”

“And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him,

Follow me

“Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, and what shall this man do?

“Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me” (Jn. 21:19-22).

After The Ascension

“And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

“And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen” (Lk. 24:50-53).

Peter, As Leader

“And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishopric let another take.

“Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the

Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection. And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

“And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, show whether of these two thou hast chosen, That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

“And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles” (Acts 1:15-26).

The Day Of Pentecost

“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” Acts 2:1-4).

“And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven . . . And they were all amazed and

(See **PETER** on page 20)

PETER . . .

(Continued from page 19)

marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue wherein we were born?" (Acts 2:5-8).

Peter As Spokesman

"But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words. For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

"And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

"And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

"The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

"And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

"Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:14-36).

Many Received His Word

"Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

"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. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that

are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

"And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:37-42).

At The Hour of Prayer

"Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

"And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

"And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

"Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

"And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up

stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

"And all the people saw him walking and praising God: And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him. And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering. (Acts 3:1-11).

Speaks With Boldness

"And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes, And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

"And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?"

"Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead,

(See **PETER** on page 21)

PETER . . .

(Continued from page 20)

even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:5-12).

Charged Not To Speak

"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

"But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it. But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name.

"And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

"But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto

you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. (Acts 4:20).

Praise To God

"And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.

"And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?

"The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ.

"For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.

"And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

"And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the

Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness" (Acts 4:23-31).

The Spirit of Christ

"And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

"And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

"Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

"And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need" (Acts 4:32-35).

Peter and the Liars

"But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it, at the apostles' feet.

"But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but

unto God.

"And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things. And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him.

"And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in.

"And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much.

"Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out.

"Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband. And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things" (Acts 5:1-11).

The Shadow of Peter

"And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round

(See **PETER** on page 22)

PETER . . .

(Continued from page 21)

about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one" (Acts 5:14-16).

God Rather Than Men

"Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison.

"But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life" (Acts 5:17-20).

"Then came one and told them, saying, Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.

"Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned. And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them,

"Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

"Then Peter and the

other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:25-29).

Beside The Mediterranean

"And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all quarters, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda. And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy.

"And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

"And all that dwelt at Lydda and Saron saw him, and turned to the Lord.

"Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did. And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber.

"And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring him that he would not delay to come to them.

"Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and showing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.

"But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

"And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive. And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord. And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon a tanner" (Acts 9:32-43).

Peter's Soul Enlarged

"There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

"He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

"And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.

"And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter:

"He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

"And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius

was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually; and when he had declared all these things unto them, he sent them to Joppa.

"On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour: And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance, And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

"And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.

"But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.

"And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

"This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

"Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate, And called, and asked whether Simon,

(See **PETER** on page 23)

PETER . . .

(Continued from page 22)

which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

“While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

“Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come?”

“And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee.

“Then called he them in, and lodged them. And on the morrow Peter went away with them, and certain brethren from Joppa accompanied him. And the morrow after they entered into Caesarea. And Cornelius waited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and near friends.

“And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.

“But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.

“And as he talked with him, he went in, and found many that were come together.

“And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an

unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath showed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

“Therefore came I unto you without gainsaying, as soon as I was sent for: I ask therefore for what intent ye have sent for me?”

“And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, And said, Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God. Send therefore to Joppa, and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter; he is lodged in the house of one Simon a tanner by the sea side: who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee.

“Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God.

“Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:) That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John

preached; How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

“And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: Him God raised up the third day, and showed him openly; not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead.

To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins” (Acts 10:1-43).

Effect of Peter's Experience

“While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

“For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.

“Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as

we?”

“And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days”

Tells The Story In Jerusalem

“And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with him, saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them.

“But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them” (Acts 11:1-4).

“When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life” (Acts 11:18).

Delivered From Death

“Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)

“And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to

(See **PETER** on page 24)

PETER . . .

(Continued from page 23)

four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.

“Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him. And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

“And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

“And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

“And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision. When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him.

“And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me

out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

“And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.


“And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda.

“And when she knew Peter’s voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate.

“And they said unto her, Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, It is his angel. But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.

“But he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go show these things unto James, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.

“Now as soon as it was day, there was no small stir among the soldiers, what was become of Peter. And when Herod had sought for him, and found him not, he examined the keepers, and commanded that they should be put to death. And he went down from Judaea to Caesarea, and there abode” (Acts 12:1-19)


“But the word of God grew and multiplied” (Acts 12:24. 

**The World Still
Stones Its Prophets**

The fate of the true prophet is not always pleasant. The Ahab’s of this world still want prophets who will not rebuke their sins; prophets who will confirm their prejudices, but will not challenge them with truth; prophets who will leave undisciplined their greeds; prophets who are willing to serve religious sinners instead of the eternal God.

Micaiah would not prophecy to please Ahab. What kept him on the right track? Why did he choose the hard way? Why was he willing to prophecy in obscurity when he could have basked in Ahab’s favor? It was his deep love for Jehovah. It was incorruptible love for truth. It was his innate integrity which made him pleasing to God and displeasing to Ahab. Micaiah knew God and there was no interest in other attractions.

Micaiah was right at the heart of things; he knew that the truth of God cannot be compromised to placate evil men.

Micaiah stands as an inspiration to lonely prophets everywhere; preferring the stones of persecution to the cushions of preferment; preferring the obscurity of godliness to the limelight of compromise; preferring Ahab’s hatred to his friendship at the cost of God. He loved the truth of God more than the praise of men. What a glorious epitaph! 

(Answers From Page 15)

1. Yes (Jas. 4:8).
2. Yes (Prov. 13:15).
3. No (William Carey).
4. Yes (Jas. 3:5).
5. No (honesty is a principle, not a policy).
6. No.
7. Yes (Eccl. 7:9).
8. No (John Wesley).
9. Yes (Prov. 12:15).
10. Yes (Prov. 14:34).
11. No (Cicero).
12. No (Thomas Moore).
13. Yes (2 Cor. 9:6).
14. Yes (Prov. 29:18).
15. Yes (Job 7:6).
16. No (Tennyson).
17. Yes (1 Tim. 6:6).
18. No (Whittier).
19. Yes (Josh. 24:15).
20. No (David Livingstone).
21. Yes (1 Thess. 5:21).
22. No (Howell).
23. Yes (Eccl. 5:12).
24. No.
25. Yes (Prov. 14:8).
26. Yes (Eccl. 10:8).
27. Yes (Song of Sol. 6:11).
28. Yes (Job 6:6).
29. Yes (Heb. 11:1).
30. No (Dryden).
31. Yes (Acts 10:34).
32. Yes (Mk. 10:9).
33. No (Washington).
34. Yes (Prov. 18:22).
35. No (S. Johnson).
36. Yes (Eph. 5:14).
37. Yes (2 Cor. 6:14).
38. Yes (Prov. 11:22).
39. Yes (Mt. 6:3).
40. No (Shakespeare).
41. Yes (Jn. 15:13).
42. Yes (Prov. 20:1).
43. No (Shakespeare).
44. No (Longfellow).
45. Yes (Rom. 12:9).
46. No (Shakespeare).
47. No (John Bunyan).
48. No (Coleridge).
49. No (George Washington).
50. No (author unknown).
51. Yes (Psa. 19:14).
52. Yes (Psa. 34:13).
53. No (Socrates).
54. Yes (Prov. 23:7).
55. Yes (Mt. 6:21).
56. No (Tennyson).
57. Yes (Prov. 16:28).
58. Yes (Prov. 10:10).
59. No (Pope).
60. Yes (Job 19:20).
61. Yes (Psa. 1:6).

**Let the Snake Drink
It First.** The best way to cure snake bite with whiskey is to let the snake drink the whiskey before it bites you.