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WHOLE NO. 452

Everlasting Oxidization

By Charles H. Spurgeon

“... a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.” — Acts 24:15.

[The question often arises as to whether the great English Baptist preacher, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, ever preached on the subject of “hell” — well, here is one message on the subject he preached.]

You who are sensual and devilish do not care about your souls being punished, because you never think about your souls; but if I tell you of bodily punishment you will think of it far more. Christ may have said that the soul should be punished; but He far more frequently described the body in misery in order to impress His hearers; for

He knew that they were sensual and devilish, and that nothing that did not affect the body would touch them in the least. “We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive the things done in the body, according to what we have done, whether it be good or evil.”

This is not the only text to prove the doctrine; I will

give you a better one. “If thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out and cast it from thee; for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell” (Mt. 5:29), not “thy whole soul,” but “thy whole body.” Man, this does not say

(See **HELL** on page 22)

Jesus In the Bible

In Genesis He is the Creator God. In Exodus He is the Redeemer. In Leviticus He is your sanctification. In Numbers He is your guide. In Deuteronomy He is your teacher.

In Joshua He is the mighty conqueror. In Judges He gives victory over enemies. In Ruth He is your kinsman, your lover, your redeemer.

In 1 Samuel He is the root of Jesse. In 2 Samuel He is the Son of David.

(See **JESUS** on page 20)

The Heritage of Freedom

A precious heritage of Baptists for centuries, based on scriptural facts of the early church is that of complete independence and autonomy of the local churches. Often greedy political systems have sought to intervene be-

tween the church and God, to regulate, control, and to make the churches serve mammon instead of God. These political systems sometimes are outside, sometimes inside denomina-

(See **FREE** on page 24)

Needed: Pagemaker 5.0

We use Pagemaker 5.0 to put together **The Baptist Challenge**, but we are unable to find the CD which we originally bought. If anyone can help us in securing a CD of Pagemaker 5.0 it would certainly be appreciated. Please contact us at www.mlmoser1@juno.com.

—The Editor.

One At A Time

Ever wonder why they don't couple railroad freight cars tightly together?

You've seen and heard a long freight train starting up. The engines throb and grind, moving slowly forward. Then there is a succession of staccato clanking noises as the loose couplings between each of the cars are brought up tight. To the non-railroader, it's fascinating to hear the sound going all the way down the line.

Why aren't the cars

See **ONE** on page 21)

Quiz The Pastor -- #10**Doctrine of the Trinity Explained**

By the late Nick Michalinos

Question: Would you explain to me the doctrine of the Trinity?

Answer: While the word "trinity" is not found in the Bible, the doctrine concerning the three distinct persons in the Godhead certainly is. We might also mention that neither is the word "oneness" as pertaining to the Godhead found in the Bible. Please bear in mind that the truth concerning the doctrine of the Trinity cannot be comprehended by rationalization. This blessed truth must be accepted by faith in the authority of the Word of God.

Those who are unitarian in their theology deny the teaching concerning the Trinity, and thus believe that God is a single being. They teach that one spirit personality is playing three different persons, even at the same time. This is an error as we shall seek to prove in this brief article.

In Deuteronomy 6:4, Moses told Israel, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord (Jehovah) thy God (Elohim) is one Lord (Jehovah)." This does not state that God is "one" in number, a single personality, any more than to say that a man and a woman, being united in marriage and becoming "one flesh" (Gen. 2:24; Eph. 5:31), actually are "one" in number, a single being. No, though said to be "one flesh" as husband and wife, they are two distinct persons.

No one has any difficulty with two persons said to be "one flesh" if the Bible so teaches. When Christ prayed that His disciples "may be *one as we* [Father and Son] (Jn. 17:11, 21), He was requesting that the many disciples become "one" in unity of purpose and aims, and not "one" in number. Notice "*one as we*" (Father and Son), thus Father and Son are "one"

in purpose, plan, power, etc., but not "one" in number as some would have us to believe.

Christ said, "I and my Father are one" (Jn. 10:30), and again the idea is that these two members of the Godhead (three including the Holy Spirit) are "one" in purpose, power, essence, holiness, etc. If we can accept two persons as "one," why do some have a problem with three persons (Trinity) as "one"? Each member of the Godhead-Trinity is absolutely equal to one another. Each possesses identical attributes of Deity. One is not "more God" than the others.

The population of people at the tower of Babel are called "one," but by no stretch of the imagination can the people in the city be referred to as "one" in number, but they were "one" in purpose, plan, goal, etc. (Gen. 11:5-6).

In Genesis 1:1 we are told "God created the heaven and the earth." The word God here is the Hebrew plural form of "El." It is *Elohim*, which speaks of a plurality of beings, thus "God" (*Elohim*) is more in number than only one. See Genesis 1:26; 3:22; 11:7; Isaiah 6:8 where God (*Elohim*) is referred to as "us" in the plural, more than one. The word *Elohim* is used about 2,500 times in the Old Testament.

There is no unitarian thought suggested in the word "Elohim," but to the contrary a plurality of be-

ings is taught in "*Elohim*."

There is no unitarian thought suggested in the word "*Elohim*," but contrariwise a plurality of beings is taught in "*Elohim*." In John 1:1 we read, "In the beginning (before creation) was the Word, and the Word was *with God*, and the Word was God." The word "*with*" in the inspired Greek text means "face-to-face" thus, the "Word" (one personality) was "face-to-face" ("*with*") to "God" (another personality) "in the beginning."

This is at least a duality of beings, and does away with the idea of one single being playing two or three different parts. Both beings are said to be co-equally God. In John 17:5, Christ refers to "the glory which I had with thee (Father) before the world was."

Here we have two personalities (Father and Son) enjoying "the glory ... before the world" was created. In the "fulness of time, God sent forth (from heaven) His Son (Jesus)

(See **NICK** on page 20)**Amphibious Assault**

I had been teaching my seventh-graders about World War II, and a test question was, "What was the largest amphibious assault of all time?"

Expecting to see "the D-Day invasion" as the answer, I found instead on one paper, "Moses and the plague of frogs."

— Reader's Digest

THE BAPTIST CHALLENGE

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Message #3

Five Bible Warnings

By Chester E. Tulga

Jesus and the apostles had no illusions about human nature or religious human nature. They knew the menace of false religion, the attractiveness of false prophets, and the susceptibility of the unthinking multitudes of false teachers and false doctrines. Looking into the future they warned the infant church of the same things which had marked the religious history of Israel.

1. *The warning against false professors.* “Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord shall enter into the kingdom of heaven” (Mt. 7:22-23). False professors appeared in the earliest days of the church and have persisted through the centuries. In spite of these stern warnings, we are living in a day when one may be called Christian regardless of beliefs, conduct or religious experience. False professors are even more acceptable in the modern church than true professors. But Jesus says, “Depart from me, ye that work iniquity; I never knew you.”

2. *The warning against false prophets.* “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravaging wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits” (Mt.

7:15-16). The church of our day, having abandoned the authority of the Scriptures, and having no concern for the purity of the church, has lost its ability to identify false prophets, so it has come to pass (as in ancient times) that false prophets are more popular than true prophets and more widely accepted. Jesus said they would deceive many (Mt. 24:11) and this has come to pass. The broad way leading to hell is thronged, with the false prophets and false teachers leading the procession.

3. *The warning against false doctrines.* “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith” (1 Tim. 4:1). “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine” (2 Tim. 4:3-4). Our present age is a vivid fulfillment of these warnings. Our great denominations are filled with men who have departed from the faith and have risen to high places in religious circles. Our seminaries are filled with men who deny the faith of the Scriptures and create a type of ministry who will follow in their footsteps and infect the churches with their apostasies. Our pulpits are filled with men who are more interested in scratch-

ing itching ears than bearing the message of God to a sinful world. Our great denominations are not only filled with men who deny sound doctrine, but *who cannot endure sound doctrine in others.*


The New Testament insists upon purity of doctrine, on the form of sound words, on fidelity to the great doctrines of the faith. It condemns in unmeasured words the “damnable heresies” which have destroyed the testimony and effectiveness of the churches. We have been warned against false doctrines, but the churches of our day, forsaking the Word of God, no longer knows the difference between the false and the true.


4. *The warning against heresy.* “Damnable heresies” (2 Pet. 2:1). “A man that is an heretic after the first and second admonition reject” (Tit. 3:10). This does not mean that he is to be appointed to a leading denominational position, nor given a leading pastorate or appointed to a faculty position in a seminary, as many denominations do, but he is to be rejected and refused religious fellowship. The Christian attitude toward a heretic is a loving and prayerful concern, but he is not to approve, support or fellowship with him in heresy.

This is a day when there is no distinction between heresy and orthodoxy in the great denominations, and even many fundamental people, in the

name of love, will enter into full fellowship with heresy. This is contrary to the plain statements of the Word of God (2 Jn. 9-10).

5. *The warning against apostasy.* “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, *giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils*” (1 Tim. 4:1). The Scriptures do not connect apostasy with intellectual doubt or the inability to believe, but finds the source of apostasy in Satan, and attributes apostasy to the seduction of evil spirits. Apostasy in our day hides behind an intellectual front to conceal its Satanic character.

We have lived to see the day when ministers, professors and preachers deny the authority of the Scriptures, the virgin birth of Christ, the deity of Christ, His atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His personal return. They deny the very fundamentals of the Christian faith and yet they occupy high positions in religious circles. This is the apostasy against which Paul warned. Apostasy occupies the high places in religion, while orthodoxy is on the side street. The apostasy is here! 

History Repeats Itself. Augustine says that in the early days of the faith every man who happened to get his hands on a Greek manuscript, and who thought he had a little knowledge of the two languages, ventured upon a translation. 

Bush Must “Unsign” the ICC Treaty Now

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

President Bush is doing a good job and most people say so. Two things, however, are wrong and most people, when they have the facts, know they are wrong. And people need to speak up now — loud and clear.

One is the blanket amnesty for a half-million illegal Mexican immigrants, an obvious do-good favor for Bush buddy Vincente Fox, President of Mexico. This shocking move in the wake of the Sept. 11th assaults exacerbates the problem of illegals, some probably terrorists, and jumps these law-breakers ahead of millions legally in line and waiting for years. This is dangerous; and it is not fair.

The second wrong is the creeping authority of the World Court — the United Nations-sponsored International Criminal Court that, unless checked, will some day have American sailors, soldiers and Marines in the dock, stripped of their constitutional rights and at the mercy of foreign judges, some of whom flat-out hate America.

ICC Soon In Force. On April 11th in Rome, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan happily announced that ten more nations had just ratified the ICC Treaty and that the Court would be in full force in the Spring. A total of 66 nations had approved — six more than

the required 60. Oh happy day for the Globalists!

The United States has not ratified this Treaty, nor did China or Russia. President Clinton made a grandstand play at the deadline hour, midnight December 31, 2000, by sending Assistant Secretary of State David Scheffer to the 32nd floor of the New York UN Headquarters Building to

“The world has now moved into a system of international relations in which human rights ... are much more important than sovereignty” – Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations.

sign the document.

Court Claims Jurisdiction. This UN International Criminal Court now claims jurisdiction over U.S. citizens, including our military — and recognizes no U.S. constitutional rights, jury trial, bail or appeal. This is preposterous, to say the least — also arrogant by these UN internationalist lawyers who know and scoff at the procedure in the United States: The President ratifies treaties with the “Advice and Consent” of the Senate, provided two-thirds concur (Art. II, Sec. 2, U.S. Constitution). In a “test vote,” the ICC Treaty was rejected 99-0.

U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for war crimes issues Pierre Prosper empha-

sized, “The United States is not and will not be part of the ICC.” That’s tough talk that must be backed up by immediate action by President Bush in “unsigning” the ICC Treaty. Just how to “unsign” is not clear — but an official U.S. document to the United Nations to remove the signature of the U.S. representative from

taxpayers. U.S. political leaders are too smart to alienate voters on such fundamental U.S. constitutional rights.

Nonetheless, the Globalists are stepping out, now that they have their 60-required votes. Says Kofi Annan, “The world has now moved into a system of international relations in which human rights ... are much more important than sovereignty.” An astonishing statement, and one that illuminates the thinking of Annan for a despotic world government.

Just as shocking is the statement by a man who suffered under tyrannical communism, former Czech President Vaclav Havel who calls the invasion of Yugoslavia “an important precedent in which state sovereignty must inevitably dissolve.”

The ICC could have Henry Kissinger in the dock for his interventions in Chile, France and Argentina when he was Secretary of State in the 1970s — also Bill Clinton for bombing civilians in Yugoslavia — also George W. Bush for bombing Afghanistan in an undeclared war — also American service members for “collateral damage” inflicted when fighting to save us from

(See ICC on page 19)

Was Abraham “Justified” by Faith Alone?

The Apparent Conflict Between the Apostles Paul and James On Abraham’s Justification Resolved

By Richard Jonas

The Apostles Paul and James seem to make conflicting statements regarding the justification of the patriarch Abraham.

Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, wrote, “For if Abraham were *justified by works*, he hath whereof to glory; but *not before God*” (Rom. 4:2).

James, moved by the same Spirit, stated, “*Was not Abraham our father justified by works*, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar” (Jas. 2:21).

Paul concludes, “But to him that *worketh not, but believeth* on him that justifieth the ungodly, *his faith is counted for righteousness*” (Rom. 4:5).

James seems to make an opposing conclusion: “Ye see then how that *by works* a man is *justified*, and *not by faith only*” (Jas. 2:24).

Interestingly, both refer to the same Old Testament reference of Abraham’s justification: “And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness” (Gen. 15:6; see Rom. 4:3; Jas. 2:23).

Are Paul and James contradicting each other, or is each dealing with a different perspective of Abraham’s justification?

There are various similarities in the contexts of Paul’s and James’s arguments. Both are dealing with saving faith (Rom. 3:22-26; see Jas. 2:14), but also each deals with maturing in faith (Rom. 5:1-5; see Jas. 1:2-8, 12). Both focus on the works of the Law (Rom. 3:19, 20; 4:15; see Jas. 2:8-11), as well as on works or acts of faith (Rom. 4:18-22; see Jas. 3:15-18, 21-23).

Paul dogmatically argues that salvation by works is impossible: “Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become *guilty before God*. Therefore *by the deeds of the law* there shall *no flesh be justified* in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin” (Rom. 3:19, 20; see 3:28).

James also makes clear one cannot be saved by works: “For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet *offend in one point*, he is *guilty of all*” (Jas. 2:10).

Both teach the believer stands under God’s grace: Paul refers to it as “being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Rom. 3:24), and James refers to

it as “the perfect law of liberty” (Jas. 1:25).

On the other hand, there are some clear distinctions in the mediate and immediate contexts of Paul’s and James’s arguments.

First, the two writers illustrate their arguments from two distinct periods in Abraham’s life.

Paul mainly focuses on Abraham’s initial encounters with God when he was first declared justified in believing God’s unconditional covenant promises (Rom. 4:3, 11,17,18; see Gen. 15:5,6; 17:5, 10).

James’s main focus is on Abraham’s *over forty years* after his initial justification, “when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar” (Jas. 2:21; see Gen. 22:9-12).

Second, the term *justified* (*dikaioo*) has at least two distinct senses: (1) to be *made righteous* (positional righteousness) or (2) to be *proved righteous* (conditional righteousness). The second usage is obvious when used of God, who can prove Himself to be righteous but cannot be made righteous because He is eternally righteous: “God forbid: yea, *let God be true*, but every man a liar; as it is written, That *thou mightest be justified* [proven right] in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged” (Rom. 3:4; see 1 Tim. 3:16).

That Paul and James use these distinct meanings for justification is further proven by the secondary Old Testament examples

which they use to illustrate their points.

Paul referred to the blessedness of David, “unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works” (Rom. 4:6-8; see Ps. 32:1,2). The context of David’s justification is totally excluded from any good works on his behalf; to the contrary, it reflects on God’s forgiveness of David’s wicked works of adultery and murder (2 Sam. 11-12), for which the Mosaic Law offered no sacrifice, but only death of the guilty party.

On the other hand, James uses the harlot Rahab, who was “*justified by works*, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way” (Jas. 2:25; see Josh. 2).

James does not even mention Rahab’s faith here. He is not saying that Rahab was positionally made righteous before God by her works, but that she conditionally was proven before men to be right with God. Rahab was already positionally justified before her actions because she had already put her faith in the Lord God of Heaven and earth (Josh. 2:8-11).

From the contexts and from the dual meaning of justification, it becomes clear that Paul and James are not contradicting each other, but rather, each is dealing with a different perspective of Abraham’s justification.

Paul deals with Abraham (See **FAITH** on page 20)

“I Commend You To The Word”

By R. Nelson Colyar

“And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified” (Acts 20:32).

When Paul had called for the elders of the church at Ephesus to meet him at Miletus, he delivered to them a solemn charge. And he said something about his ministry which I’m afraid not many ministers of the word of God can say of theirs: “Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men.” Paul had a charge from the Lord; and he conscientiously fulfilled his duty under it to the full extent of his ability, so that no man could say of him that he had failed him. “For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God,” he boldly asserts. To me, that is success in the ministry. There are some who seem to think that great crowds, much personal publicity, and a great name spell S-U-C-C-E-S-S in the ministry. These may indeed mark a successful ministry, who will gain say? But not necessarily so.

Paul enjoyed great crowds at times; much publicity, often intended to disparage rather than to commend him; and a great name, too. But his success

was in this: “I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God,” and “that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.” And at the last he said: “I am ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.”

Paul Charges His Brethren

1. Paul’s first charge to his brethren is: “Take heed to yourselves.” This he had done. And because he had taken heed to fulfill his charge faithfully, he could with all good grace admonish his brethren to do likewise with reference to the charge committed to them.

A minister of the word must first take heed to the word himself. He must know the word of truth. He must love the Lord who gave it, supremely. He must abide in it. He must apply it to his own life. Then, and only then, is he qualified to teach it to others and to admonish others to live by it.

2. The second charge to these Ephesian elders of the church is “to take heed to all the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseer.” The pastor who is not appointed of the Holy Spirit over a church is not likely to pay

too much heed to the responsibility of such a charge. To exercise a mere professional charge over the church is not enough. There must be a deep and abiding conviction of a solemn responsibility to God for the care of His sheep. A supreme love toward God begets a sincere love for His people. There are some young men and women whom we love because we knew, loved, and respected their fathers and mothers. A god-called minister of the word, appointed of the Holy Spirit will take heed to the flock committed to his care.

3. The charge concerning the care of the flock is, “to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” A thing purchased at so great a price as the blood of Jesus Christ is very precious in the sight of God. He will guard it with jealous care; and no wonder He said by the Apostle Paul: “If any man defile (destroy) the temple of God (the church), him will God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are” (1 Cor. 3:17).

4. The flock must be carefully and constantly cared for, because “grievous wolves shall enter in, not sparing the flock.” The wolves are false teachers, clothed in sheep’s clothing. Woe to false teachers, who care not for the souls of men. No man who willfully compromises the word of God is fit to care for the church of the living God. They are legion. They seek

to enter in and to rend the flock for selfish gains. The true minister of the word must be on the constant watch for them. “Shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some” (2 Tim. 2:16, 18). Therefore, pastors should beware.

5. Also the flock must be diligently cared for, because ambitious, self esteeming fellows on the inside will rise up among the people and speak perverse things, to draw away a following after themselves. There is scarcely a church but that has had an experience like this. It is a trying thing on a pastor when some ambitious, carnally-pious super-spiritual somebody rises up in the church to attract a following for himself and against others. They are usually very clever. They will use kinfolk, friendships, business associates, fraternity fellows, and anybody else, good or bad, to further their nefarious ends. They get very sanctimonious on occasion. And if you could hear them talk, wisdom is concentrated in them. When they rise up they have to be set down soon or the house will come to disorder. “Therefore watch,” Paul admonishes

(See **WORD** on page 7)

WORD . . .

(Continued from page 6)

the elders.

6. What is the greatest safeguard against these evils and the greatest builder of the church? Paul tells us. "I commend you to God," he says, first. He does not commend them to some human institution. He does not commend them, in their charge to care for the flock, to any dignitary, to any organization, to any denominational headquarters to keep them straight in the doctrine; but to God for all they need. That is absolutely primary. If the ministers of the word and shepherds of the flocks do not keep alongside the Lord, all else will prove futile.

Second, he says: "I commend (place ye along side of) the word of grace." We read nothing here of the counsel of the "wiser brethren." If a man cannot point you to the word of God for counsel you had better leave off counsel with him. Some brethren insist upon getting together as messengers and passing judgment upon the action of the churches. Some declare, without consulting the word, that they are "going with the brethren." It is with them the worst sort of disloyalty to break step with the "brethren." This is subterfuge of pretense to cover their moral cowardice. They are building followers of them who would "draw away disciples after them.

7. This "word of grace"

is "able to build you up." It is like the manna in the wilderness. It has all necessary ingredients to supply every spiritual need. But legion are they today who, like Israel of old, are "dried away" on the "word of grace," in the iron kettles of their own inventions. Beware of the man who quickly tires of the word of God. He will head you toward the flesh-pots of Egypt, if you don't take heed.

8. This "word of grace" is also able to give you a great spiritual inheritance. This is true for now and the hereafter too. Think of the great spiritual heritage Israel had. And think, too, how the false teachers led the nation to spiritual prodigality.

Now think of the great spiritual heritage we in America have received from our Christian forebears and men of Godly statesmanship. And ponder how we, as Israel did, are being led by false teachers into national prodigality, if not to national suicide! The false religious leaders of our country are first to blame for it.

Wolves in sheep's clothing are rending God's sheep. Modernism is a humanized form of so-called Christianity. It is alien to the word of God. It is deceptive, offering material benefits for spiritual substance. It is treacherous, feeding on the flocks and provoking to worldly lusts. It is positively degrading, denying every fundamental tenet of the Christian faith. It is profane,

selling Christianity's spiritual birthright for a mess of humanized religious potage.

The word of grace only is able to give you a spiritual heritage which cannot be valued in terms of money. Only last Monday I preached the funeral of an old Baptist preacher and personal friend of many years. He was never highly educated. He died quite poor but left five children, 20 grandchildren, and 20 great-grandchildren. All the children are saved. All the grandchildren are active Christian workers in the churches. He was always first concerned about their salvation, and that of others as well. He left them no lands, buildings, bonds, stocks, or bank accounts. But in his life, as a minister of the word of grace, they have a spiritual heritage none of these can buy. And besides this, there is a heavenly inheritance, "an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."


Thus Paul, in his faithfulness to declare the whole counsel of God, cleared his skirts of the blood of all men. It is a timely admonition to the ministry of all ages. Let every man, and especially they who are called to minister the word of truth, take heed to the word of grace. It is the

Can A Minister Afford Popularity?

"Some months ago an anniversary dinner was held in New York City to celebrate the long ministry of one of America's widely recognized preachers. At the commemoration a retired older colleague paid him tribute and explained his phenomenal popularity: One of the best-known preaching voices in America, his peculiar genius it has been to gather up the longings, the wishes, the unexpressed hopes, of large masses of people and give them back in literary form.

No more damning thing could be said of one who at his ordination promised to maintain the form of sound doctrine, whose privileged calling it has been to preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified. The true preacher does not produce peace of mind for those who 'sleep on beds of ivory': he is much more apt to be denounced — at least once in a while — as a troubler in Israel."

— Frank H. Littell,
The Free Church, pg. 71.

"unlearned and unstable" who "wrest" the scriptures "unto their own destruction." But "every scribe instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an house-holder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old." 



America's Leaders Worshipping Idols. — Some of America's highest officials are worshipping idols on their overseas travels. This has occurred at least twice this year. In February, President George Bush, who professes faith in Jesus Christ and attends church, performed an act of worship at a Shinto temple that houses the remains of Emperor Meiji. Bush, attended by his wife, entered the temple, clapped and bowed deeply. Koyomasa Akashi of Logos Ministries in Tokyo, rightly observed, "It was an act of idolatry" (Assist News Service, April 1, 2002). Christian leaders and missionaries in Japan sent letters of warning to the White House, but they went unheeded. They tried to explain that many Christians have been terribly persecuted because they refused to participate in Shinto rituals and emperor worship. Some were killed and others had their hands chopped off. In January, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell visited Nepal, and the newspapers have printed a photo of him worshipping at the prominent Buddhist temple, Buddha Nath Stupa. Powell wore a Buddhist prayer cloth around his shoulders and lit

World News Roundup

a butter lamp. Any Buddhist would recognize these as acts of worship. Christians in Nepal have suffered greatly by refusing to participate in precisely the type of worship that Powell performed. When Buddhist, Hindu, Islamic, and Shinto leaders visit America, they are not expected to enter a church and worship Jesus Christ. Why, then, are America's leaders, most of who profess to be Christians, so foolishly eager to worship pagan deities? These are not matters that can be taken lightly. God's curse is upon idolatry. — FBIS

High Court Allows Graduation Prayers. — The Supreme Court refused (December 10) to review a lower court ruling that permits student-led prayers at graduation in Jacksonville, Florida, further fueling the nationwide confusion over religion in public schools. The High Court's action emboldened advocates of school prayer but drew criticism from opponents, who said the justices should offer more guidance as to when schools can allow prayer without violating the constitutional separation between church and state. ...The Supreme Court's refusal to intervene sets no national precedent. But it does raise more questions

about prayer at school events. — USA Today.

Pledge of Allegiance Under Attack Again. — A Virginia man is trying to censor recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in schools because, he claims, the words exclude foreigners and "offend" some people. Edward Myers, a software engineer from Sterling, has filed a "civil rights" petition with the U.S. Justice Department to dump the pledge in favor of patriotic songs and sayings that are neutral to religion and citizenship and thus more "inclusive" the *Washington Times* reported.

Religious Profiling. — Veteran journalist Jack Germond tells *Inside Washington's* national TV audience that Attorney General John Ashcroft's [Christian] beliefs make him "suspect." Mr. Germond opined that he'd like to see chaplains thrown out of Congress and the motto "In God We Trust" scrapped. *Newsweek* is pursuing the same line. "Holy Warrior in the Hot Seat" is how the news weekly caricatured the attorney general. "A devout [Christian], Ashcroft is embracing his new role with quasi-religious zeal,"



Newsweek writes. "He is fired by a messianic sense of mission," and (oh, the horror!) "he is the son and grandson of fundamentalist preachers." David Limbaugh calls this kind of "reporting" a smear — and he's right. The vast majority of Americans fully support the commonsense way Attorney General Ashcroft is dealing with suspected terrorists. But watch out for those Americans: a lot of them are Christians too. — Washington Update.

Chaplain's Prayer Against Abortion Stirs Up Anger In Colorado. — A guest chaplain who offered a prayer in the Colorado State Senate is under attack for his pro-life prayer. Pastor David Meek of Glad Tidings Assembly of God church in Greeley offered the following prayer: "I pray, Lord, help this great state of Colorado to be a leader, to be a real leader, Lord Jesus, and Lord, even to reverse the Roe vs. Wade so we can stop the killing and murder of the innocent little babies." Four senators walked out of his prayer in protest.

(See WNR on page 11)

La Voz Del Desierto

Deberes De Los Miembros de la Iglesia

Por M. A. Curet

Todo individuo tiene deberes hacia la Iglesia local donde es miembro. Existen obligaciones espirituales que todo miembro tiene a la causa de Cristo, que la Iglesia representa. Veamos a continuación, algunos deberes específicos sacados de la Biblia.

1. El deber de lealtad y la consistencia (Hechos 4:19-20; 1ra Corintios 11:1; Gálatas 1:10). Habiéndose unido a la Iglesia de Cristo, el individuo debe ser fiel a Él. Ser miembro de la Iglesia es un asunto voluntario y por lo tanto implica una lealtad asumida por la misma persona. No hemos de “dejar de congregarnos”, ni permitir que la obra de la Iglesia sufra por la falta de obreros. No debemos escoger un camino indebido ni permitir que otros hagan el trabajo que nos corresponde. Hemos asumido una responsabilidad personal para participar en la obra de la Iglesia y profesar lealtad a nuestro Maestro, lo que viene a ser una tarea impuesta por nosotros mismos. No es cuestión de la relación con el pastor, ni de cómo somos tratados por los hermanos. Es cuestión

de lealtad al Señor.

2. El deber de la comunión cristiana (1ra Juan 1:7). Es nuestro deber hacer posible la comunión cristiana más plena. Mantenernos alejados y luego quejamos, es una triste equivocación. Si no nos manifestamos amigables, no podemos esperar obtener los beneficios de la comunión cordial. Tenemos tanto el deber de buscar amistad, como de recibirla. Tenemos tanto el deber de buscar al hermano, como de que el hermano nos busque. El miembro de la Iglesia, tiene el deber de mantener la comunión de la Iglesia y manifestar amor fraternal a los visitantes.

3. El deber de una vida consagrada (Romanos 6:1-2, 12). Cada miembro lleva consigo hasta cierto punto, el honor de la Iglesia. La Iglesia será juzgada por su vida. Es más, aun la vida espiritual de su Iglesia será afectada por la vida suya. Si no podemos hacer nada más por nuestra Iglesia, podemos hacer esto. No tendremos excusa por nuestra indiferencia, porque la vida más humilde tiene

(Vea **DEBERES** en la pág. 10)

Cómo Tratar Los Débiles en la Fe Según la Biblia

Recibid al débil en la fe, pero no para contender sobre opiniones. Porque uno cree que se ha de comer de todo; otro, que es débil, come legumbres. El que come, no menosprecie al que no come, y el que no come, no juzgue al que come; porque Dios le ha recibido. ¿Tú quién eres, que juzgas al criado ajeno? Para su propio Señor está en pie, o cae; pero estará firme, porque poderoso es el Señor para hacerle estar firme.

Porque ninguno de nosotros vive para sí, y ninguno muere para sí. Pues si vivimos, para el Señor vivimos; y si morimos, para el Señor morimos. Así pues, sea que vivamos, o que muramos, del Señor somos. Porque Cristo para esto murió y resucitó, y volvió a vivir, para ser Señor así de los muertos como de los que viven. Pero tú, ¿por qué juzgas a tu hermano? O tú también, ¿por qué menosprecias a tu hermano? Porque todos compareceremos ante el tribunal de Cristo.

De manera que cada uno de nosotros dará a Dios cuenta de sí. Así que, ya no nos juzguemos más los unos a los otros, sino más

bien decidid no poner tropiezo u ocasión de caer al hermano. Así que, sigamos lo que contribuye a la paz y a la mutua edificación. Bueno es no comer carne, ni beber vino, ni nada que tu hermano tropiece, o se ofenda, o se debilite.

Así que, los que somos fuertes debemos soportar las flaquezas de los débiles, y no agradarnos a nosotros mismos. Cada uno de nosotros agrade a su prójimo en lo que es bueno, para edificación. Porque ni aun Cristo se agradó a sí mismo; antes bien, como está escrito: Los vituperios de los que te vituperaban, cayeron sobre mí.

Porque las cosas que se escribieron antes, para nuestra enseñanza se escribieron, a fin de que por la paciencia y la consolación de las Escrituras, tengamos esperanza. Pero el Dios de la paciencia y de la consolación os dé entre vosotros un mismo sentir según Cristo Jesús, para que unánimes, a una voz, glorifiquéis al Dios y Padre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo (Rom. 14:1-4, 7-10, 12-13, 19, 21; 15:1-6).



DEBERES . . .

(Viene de la página 9)

en su valor. Una vida impura o infiel de parte de cualquier miembro, no es solamente un pecado, sino un golpe a la Iglesia donde se es miembro (1ra Pedro 1:14-16).


4. El deber de orar (Efesios 6:18; Filipenses 4:6; 1ra Tesalonicenses 5:17). Todos podemos orar. Quizá pocos pueden predicar o son entendidos en la dirección de los asuntos de la Iglesia, pero todos podemos contribuir a la comunión, aportar una vida pura y orar por el pueblo de Dios. Si todos los miembros de la Iglesia oran por el bienestar de ella con regularidad y anhelo, tendremos grandes bendiciones que de otra manera faltarían.

5. El deber de servir (Marcos 10:42-45; Lucas 17:10; Romanos 1:1). No es suficiente amar, dar, vivir y orar. Debemos trabajar también; debemos anhelar un lugar en el ejército del Señor. Solos podremos hacer muy poco; pero en la Iglesia, nuestro poco puede ayudar para hacer mucho. Estamos obligados al servicio. La Iglesia necesita los talentos de cada miembro. Debemos darlos sin reserva a la

causa de Cristo, por medio de la Iglesia, que es Su cuerpo.

6. El deber de asistir a los cultos (Salmos 100:4). Todas las Iglesias para cumplir mejor su cometido de adoración, instrucción y trabajo, se reúnen en lugar y hora determinados. Todos debemos, como miembros, asistir a dichas reuniones. Es un deber impuesto por Dios (Hebreos 10:25).

La Iglesia es un lugar de ayuda y servicio. En ninguna otra parte podemos encontrar una comunión tan desinteresada en todo lo que es mejor y más puro. Necesitamos sus ideales, su culto y sus altas demandas sobre nuestra alma.


Pocos de nosotros somos suficientemente capaces, o suficientemente enérgicos para trabajar solos, y aunque pudiéramos, nuestra obra dependería de nuestra propia salud, de la duración de nuestra vida, o de nuestra estabilidad económica. Nuestro poco dinero debe unirse al de otros; nuestra poca habilidad, nuestro tiempo limitado, nuestra poca energía deben encontrar comunión para hacerse efectivos. Cuando nosotros fallemos, otros no fallarán y la obra proseguirá (1ra Corintios 15:58). 

Pasajeros de Tres Clases

A cierto pueblo llegó un turista con ansias de conocer lugares pintorescos. Se dirigió al mercado de donde salía un automóvil a cierto sitio de interés turístico. Al pedir el turista hacer el viaje, el chofer le dijo que en su auto había tres clases de pasajeros y que el precio del viaje era de conformidad. Habían pasajeros de primera, de segunda y de tercera clase. Aunque el turista no notó ninguna distinción dentro del carro, tomó a broma aquello y compró boleto de primera. Al rato, el automóvil se llenó con más pasajeros y así, bastante apretaditos, el chofer inició el viaje.

Al llegar a cierta pendiente en el camino, el chofer detuvo el vehículo y, volviendo el rostro hacia atrás, dijo muy campante: “Pasajeros de tercera salgan del vehículo y empujen a empujar el carro; pasajeros de segunda salgan y párense a ver; pasajeros de primera se quedan sentados en sus asientos.” Y así lo hicieron. Al turista, aquella escena le pareció extraña y divertida, y se alegró que aunque no sabía el porqué de todo aquello, el había comprado boleto de primera clase.

Esto ilustra la situación de muchas iglesias. Pareciera como que hay tres clases de miembros: los de tercera, los de segunda

y los de primera. Los de tercera son aquellos hermanos que llevan adelante la obra del Señor; ellos son los que sudan la gota gorda, como se dice. Los miembros de segunda son los que siempre están observando lo que hacen los demás. Y los miembros de primera son los que todo lo quieren fácil; que todo se haga para ellos porque se creen con todos los derechos. Ojalá que todos los hermanos miembros de nuestras iglesias sean semejantes a los pasajeros de tercera clase; éstos son la garantía del crecimiento y vigor de la obra (1ra Corintios 15:58). — Del libro: “501 Ilustraciones Nuevas”, Adolfo Robleto, Com-pilador. 

Salmos 19:1-6


“Los cielos cuentan la gloria de Dios, Y la expansión denuncia la obra de sus manos.

“El un día emite palabra al otro día, Y la una noche a la otra noche declara sabiduría.

“No hay dicho, ni palabras, Ni es oída su voz.

“Por toda la tierra salió su hilo, Y al cabo del mundo sus palabras. En ellos puso tabernáculo para el sol.

“Y él, como un novio que sale de su tálamo, Alégrase cual gigante para correr el camino.

“Del un cabo de los cielos es su salida, Y su giro hasta la extremidad de ellos: Y no hay quien se esconda de su calor.” 

Iglesia Bautista El Redentor
Central Lafayette #17, Arroyo, PR 00714
(787) 839-3669 y (787) 839-5792
Marcos A. Curet, Pastor

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NARAL Targets Pro-Life Democrat For Defeat. — Pennsylvania pro-life Democrat and gubernatorial candidate Bob Casey, Jr., is taking a drubbing from a national abortion rights group. The National Abortion & Reproductive Rights Action League launched a new television ad campaign to tell voters that “Bob Casey wants to ban abortion,” and that Casey’s Democratic primary opponent Ed Rendell, by contrast, supports abortion rights. Casey’s father, the late Democratic Gov. Bob Casey, was denied an opportunity to address the 1992 national Democratic convention due to his pro-life stance on abortion. — CNS

Sudan, North Korea Worst Religious Rights Violators. — A coalition of Christian and international religious rights groups cited the regimes of Sudan and North Korea as the worst violators of religious rights in the world. Four years after passing the landmark International Religious Freedom Act, the United States is still not doing enough to protect the Christian and animist population of southern Sudan, which is being decimated by the Muslim government in Khartoum, congressional leaders and eyewitnesses

said at the Second Summit of Christian Leaders on Religious Persecution in Washington. In addition, the communist regime of North Korea is using pretexts otherwise used against political dissidents to persecute Christians, who are being imprisoned, tortured and forced to flee the country, human rights advocates reported. In Sudan, 2.1 million people, mostly Christians, have been killed and millions more made homeless by Muslim forces in a civil war that has raged for two decades, reported Rep. Frank Wolf (R-Va.). Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-Ala.) said the government of Sudan not only supported Islamic jihad against the people in southern Sudan, but they have supported the terrorists who declared Islamic jihad against the United States.” — CNS

Persecution Watch In Moldavia. — A second Baptist church has been threatened with demolition as authorities try to force congregations to register officially with the government. Vasili Timoshchuk, pastor of Krasnoe Baptist Church, told Keston News Service (KNS) that he had been warned that his church would be demolished in the near future, even though it was built with planning permission. He said the move followed complaints about the church’s activities from a local Orthodox priest. — CNS

Commercial Contemporary Music. — Modern praise concerts where there is a ticket price have moved from worship of God, to the entertainment of the people. You don’t pay to worship God! The cost of a praise service can be covered by a freewill offering but when tickets are sold, as in a recent Gaither concert in Toronto, the emphasis is on entertainment rather than the worship of God (2/02 *Canadian Revivalist*). Toronto Free Presby. pastor Dr. Frank McClelland said “according to advertised ticket prices, if the Air Canada Centre was full that would bring in \$1.5 million.” — CC

France Upholds “Right Not To Be Born.” — France’s highest court of appeal has ruled that disabled children are entitled to compensation if their mothers were not given the chance of an abortion. ... The ruling was a surprise because it upheld a widely condemned landmark decision — known as the Perruche case — which awarded a mentally retarded boy damages [in the year 2000] because he had not been aborted. The case was widely described as establishing in law a disabled child’s “right not to be born.” — BBC News

House Approves

“Born Alive” Bill. — The U.S. House of Representatives again has approved a bill providing legal protection to full delivered babies, even when abortion is intended. The House approved March 12 the Born Alive Infants Protection Act, H.R. 2175, which clarifies that a newborn child fully outside his mother’s womb is a person to be protected under federal law. The Senate has yet to act on the bill this year, although it approved the measure as an amendment to other legislation last year. — ABN

Marriage Is “For Better.” — According to a report issued Feb. 14, married folks live longer and make more money (4/1 CT). They also are less depressed, suicidal, violent, and prone to drug abuse than their single and divorced cohorts. — CC

Female Feticide In India. — In India, a cultural obsession for boys drives 5 million women to kill their unborn baby girls each year, per the UN Children’s Fund. High-tech ultrasound equipment has encouraged a boom in female feticide. But that may be changing. Courts are confiscating assets of prenatal sex-determination clinics. — CC

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Islam's Allah vs. Christianity's God. — "Islam is a religion in which God requires you to send your son to die for him. Christianity is a faith in which God sends His Son to die for you."

CCM Leads To New Evangelicalism. — Music is a powerful force for change. Rev. John Ashbrook writes in the 4/01 OBF *Visitor*: "Wherever Christian contemporary music is welcomed by a fundamental church or school that fundamental entity will become new evangelical. Worship music is one of the great battles in Bible-believing churches today. We must teach students to thrill to the worship music which upholds the Savior." Be warned, be wise, beware! — CC

Lawsuit Threatens If School Teaches Creationism. — A legal group that specializes in issues relating to religious liberty said it would consider taking legal action against a Colorado public school district if the school board decides to introduce creationism into its science classes. Americans United for Separation of Church and State said it will consider suing the Liberty School District in Joes,

Colo., if the school opts to teach creationism when it meets to vote on the issue Tuesday. The five-member board, which represents a school of about 100 students in a farm community on the eastern plains of Colorado, is contemplating a proposal by Rev. Douglas Sanford, a school board member who is also a Baptist minister. Sanford called for the adoption of a new policy called "Creation Science/Evolution Science Education" that would require the district to give "balanced treatment" between evolution and creationism in science classes. "We didn't want to teach religion — I am opposed to teaching religion in school — all we wanted to do was to bring in some information about creation science," Sanford said. "By 'creation science' I do not mean teaching God, I do not mean teaching Adam and Eve, I do not mean teaching any of those things, but I mean to teach that instead of everything happening by chance, that there was design to our universe, to our world, to our human body." But attorneys for Americans United say the policy is patently unconstitutional and if enacted, will almost certainly bring about litigation. — CNS

Catholic Priest's Unscriptural Theology. — Influential Catholic priest Michael Manning gave the following answers to Larry King's questions

(12/1) show: King asked: "Now Father, if you don't believe in Christ when you die, are you going to hell?" Manning replied: "No, not at all. It's the Catholic belief that Jesus is the source of salvation, Jesus is God; we believe that. But what [do] we say to the millions and billions of people who don't even know about Jesus, are they just thrown into hell? Or what about a Rabbi who really follows the Lord as best he can? As a Catholic, I'm very comfortable that he attains salvation by doing this." King: "So he achieves it without believing in Christ?" Manning: "Correct." [He added that it's not the goal of Christ to try to throw people into hell.] King: "... [H]ow do you view Mohammed?" Manning: "As a very wise man. I see the beauty of Islam in a very strong way. A simple approach to God. ... I'm very touched by Ramadan, by the fasting, the beautiful presence of God and the power of God. And as a Catholic, I need to learn from that." — Foundation.

UN Workers Trade Aid For Sex. — The United Nations has publicly accused its own aid workers and peacekeepers of rampant sexual abuse in West Africa (3/30 World). According to testimony of refugees, male UN staff members traded wheat and other food items, tarpaulins, and medicine for sex with

girls under 18. UN workers feel free to abuse the people they are supposed to help and protect. — CC

Ventura Proclamation a "Celebration of Homosexuality." — Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura insulted "the deeply held beliefs of millions of Minnesotans" when he recently proclaimed June of this year as "Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration Month," and at the same time refused once again to issue a proclamation noting May 2 as a "National Day of Prayer," according to the Minnesota Family Council. "Once again, Governor Ventura has thumbed his nose at millions of Minnesotans with his celebration of homosexuality, bisexuality and transgenderism while refusing to acknowledge the important role prayer and faith play in our society," said Tom Prichard, president of the Minnesota Family Council, in a statement. "... Minnesota deserves better, much better, from its governor," Prichard concluded. — CNS

New York Kindergartner Allowed to Pray at Snack Time. — A public school kindergartner in New York will be able to pray out loud before snack time, at least temporarily,

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following a verdict by a U.S. District Court judge in Utica, NY Friday. A teacher at the Dorothy Nolan Elementary School in Saratoga Springs, NY, backed up by the school's principal, had forbidden the little girl, Kayla Kimp-Broadus, from praying aloud, but the conservative Rutherford Institute rallied to Kayla's side and persuaded Judge David N. Hurd to issue a temporary injunction against the school's decision. The ruling gives Kayla the right to continue her snack time prayer until the trial begins in June. "This is considered as a good sign," John W. Whitehead, president of The Rutherford Institute, said. "Saratoga Springs school officials claim the Constitution requires them to be alert to personal student discussions and immediately censor any student expression that appears religious," Whitehead said. "In fact, the Constitution requires the opposite — that school officials protect the equal rights of religious students to free expression and that they refrain from singling out religious speech for discriminatory reasons." Whitehead said school board attorneys typically are not knowledgeable enough about the constitutional issue involved in such a case. — CNS

* * *

Half of RC Priests**May Be Homosexuals.**

— Roman Catholic seminary president Donald Cozzens says that at least half of the priests and seminarians in the U.S. may be homosexuals and that the priesthood is becoming a gay culture (4/8 *C. News*). RC officials have covered up for them. — CC

* * *

Groups Seek To Oust McKinney From Committees.

— A black conservative group is calling for the removal of Rep. Cynthia McKinney (D-Ga.) from the House Armed Services and International Relations Committees for allegedly having ties to terrorists or terrorist allies. "Dick Gephardt should remove her from those committees and launch an investigation into her donors," said Kevin Martin, director of government affairs for the African-American Republican Leadership Council (AARLC). In a statement issued Monday, the group challenged McKinney because she has allegedly "refused to disavow support of known terrorist supporters including Hezbollah and Hamas protagonist Abdurahman Alamoudi." As CNSNews previously reported, McKinney received \$1,000 from Alamoudi, the founder and former executive director of the American Muslim Council. "I have been labeled by the media in New York as being a supporter of Hamas. Anybody sup-

porters of Hamas here?" Alamoudi asked, to cheers from the crowd at an October 2000 White House protest of U.S. policies in the Middle East. "Hear that, Bill Clinton? We are all supporters of Hamas ... I wish they added that I am also a supporter of Hezbollah," he added. Both Hezbollah and Hamas are on the State Department's official list of terrorist organizations. "Given the sensitive nature of the committees on which [McKinney] sits, the American people would be better served and rest easier at night reassured that [information from] the briefings this congresswoman might be privy to, does not end up in the wrong hands," the group's statement continued. The AARLC is calling for a House Ethics Committee investigation into whether McKinney has "compromised her committees' assignments, is a friend of terrorists, has accepted funds from terrorists, aids and abets terrorists, committed treason in her oath to defend and protect the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic." — CNS

* * *

Court Kills Ban On Virtual Child Porn.

— The U.S. Supreme Court last month shocked Christians over the country with a decision that legalizes child pornography when the pictures are generated by computers, etc. The ruling struck down a congressional

ban on virtual child pornography, saying the First Amendment protects pornography or other sexual images that only appear to depict real children engaged in sex. *** And a federal judge has ruled against a bid by the Justice Department to overturn an Oregon law that allows doctor-assisted suicide. Attorney General John Ashcroft had sought to override that law, saying helping people to die was not a "legitimate medical practice." — CC

* * *

Victim Awarded \$80,000 For Injury At Service.

— A woman who broke her arm after being "slain in the spirit" during a charismatic worship service won \$80,000 from the Long Island church where she was injured (2/21 *Ala. Baptist*). The minister placed his hand on her forehead causing her to fall backwards. She argued the church should have had someone in place to catch her. Or better yet, why not heal her? — CC

* * *

Court Takes Landmark Abortion Protest Case.

— The Supreme Court agreed Monday to decide whether federal racketeering law criminalizes the activities of abortion-rights protesters who obstruct clinics and whether it allows juries to award triple damages to

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abortion providers. The massive case, which has been going on for more than 15 years and covers a variety of demonstrations, should be heard sometime next fall. The stakes in the case are very high. — CNS

* * *

Texas Teacher May Sue School District For Discrimination.

— A Texas public school teacher who alleges she was denied a promotion to assistant principal because she sent her own children to a private Christian school, has won a battle to have a federal jury decide her lawsuit. U.S. District Court Judge Sidney Fitzwater denied the Greenville, Texas Independent School District's request to dismiss the case, ruling there was enough evidence for a jury to determine whether Karen Jo Barrow was the victim of discrimination. Kelly Shackelford, chief counsel for the Liberty Legal Institute, is representing Barrow, whose lawsuit was filed in 2000, two years after she applied for the assistant principal's job. Shackelford said Barrow had been a teacher for 15 years before that and had collected all of the appropriate training to become an assistant principal, even obtaining a principal's certificate, but still could not get promoted. "We think normal people, when they

hear what happened to this little lady, when they see what happened to her, they are going to be outraged," Shackelford said. "She had her principal's certificate and waited for nine years for a position to open up. A position opens up and everybody said she was tremendous. "Instead, because she won't rip her kids out of Christian school, they give it to a woman who has no principal certificate, who hasn't been waiting for the position, who has nowhere near the same qualifications," Shackelford added.

* * *

European Law Could Ban Distribution Of Old Testament.

-- A proposed European Union law against racism could ban some children's stories and even the Old Testament, a British legislator said Wednesday. Lord Richard Scott told colleagues that a suggested harmonization of European anti-racism laws would "almost certainly" ban children's stories such as the Biggles series ... The EU proposal could also censor religious texts, Lord Scott said. "It would probably cover the distribution of the Old Testament as well," he said. "I don't know what the government's reaction to this particular proposal will be. I imagine it will be a mixture of horror and laughter." As an independent Law Lord, Scott is part of a special subgroup of Britain's upper chamber of Parliament with

expertise on legal matters. The Law Lords also serve as a final court of appeal for certain judicial cases. Lord Scott was speaking during a debate on proposals for a Europe-wide arrest warrant. ... "If any member state creates offences on these lines ... we in this country would be expected to extradite the accused under a (universal) European arrest warrant," he said. Home Office minister Lord Rooker of the ruling Labor Party said a bill in line with the EU proposals would be introduced in Parliament before the legislature's summer recess begins in August. The EU legislation, introduced in the wake of Sept. 11, would outlaw "public incitement to violence or hatred for racist or xenophobic reasons and directing, supporting or participating in the activities of a racist or xenophobic group." Racism and xenophobia is defined as hatred based on "race, colour, descent, religion or belief, national or ethnic origin." — CNS

Philippine Terrorists Taunt US, Threaten To Kill American Missionaries.

— Muslim extremists holding an American missionary couple hostage in the southern Philippines have thrown down the gauntlet to the joint U.S.-Filipino forces hunting them, mocking them as "useless" yet warning that should they get the upper hand, the hostages will be killed. — CNS

"Virtual Child Porn" Illegal Under New Proposal.

— The House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security responded Wednesday to the April 16 decision by the U.S. Supreme Court that the current legal definition of child pornography is unconstitutional. Under the Supreme Court's ruling, law enforcement agencies would have to be able to positively identify a child depicted in a photograph or video, and conclusively prove that the individual was underage. The court left open the defense of a "reasonable doubt" if the accused pornographer claims that the individual depicted is actually a young looking adult, or a computer-generated simulation. "There is no evidence to suggest that the child pornography circulating on the Internet today depicts anything but real children," according to Michael Heimback, chief of the FBI's "Crimes Against Children" unit. "Law enforcement agents have only been able to successfully identify a minute fraction of those child victims," he added. "Subcommittee Chairman Lamar Smith (R-TX) has introduced the Child Obscenity and Pornography Prevention Acts with 18 original co-sponsors. The bill would make it illegal to possess, distribute, or receive "visual depictions of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct." An

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Millions Dying . . . So What!

(From The Baptist Challenge, June 1968)

I'm quite surprised that you should ask me what I think of missions, as that's quite obvious. Let me tell you a little about myself, for knowing me will help you to understand my point of view.

My name is Indifference. Spell that with a capital "I" if you please. That first letter is a key to my entire nature. My rich heritage includes such ancestors as Selfishness, Pride, and Prayerlessness. My mother's name is Ignorance.

I do not lead a very strenuous life. I just settle down in the lives of Christians, with one foot firmly

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"affirmative defense" is included in the statute to overcome the Supreme Court's ruling. — CNS

* * *

Annual Test For Homosexuals Advocated.

— The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says sexually active homosexuals should be tested at least once a year for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Health experts believe more homosexual men are having unprotected sex, something that will cause a surge of new infections. — CNS

planted on Love and the other equally as firm on Compassion and keep them smothered. No one can do this job better than I.

I want you to know that I attend church regularly. In fact I visited your church this morning. It was I who suggested that you might as well read your bulletin now, you'll not miss anything. Did you recognize me? It was I who distracted your interest while the missionary letters were being read.

I am sorry I missed your missionary conference this year, but I just don't like to be around fellows like Dr. Let's Get Concerned and Dr. Let's Pray More. They'd like to run me off personally and permanently if they could. They don't fool me though; I know who to do my work. I was in your office the next day and suggested that you needn't get too concerned about missions. I know you haven't forgotten the visit, though perhaps you don't remember it was I.

Do you remember the Wednesday evening a missionary spoke in your prayer meeting? Oh, I'm sorry, I forgot I had persuaded you to stay home where you had more important things to do than listen to the woeful tales of a missionary.

Let me give you a few pointers on missions. They

say that millions of people are dying, **SO WHAT!** Is this something new? People have died before, haven't they? Don't forget you'll die too someday, so enjoy your privileges now. You're only young once, you know.

SO WHAT if you don't pray for Who-is-it on the mission field! How can your prayers affect God? And besides, if He wants the missionary to get well, or to build a church, or to start a school, He'll supply the need whether you pray or not. He always does. And if He doesn't, don't they just assume it was not God's will?

SO WHAT if you didn't make a Faith Promise offering this year for the work of God! You gave what was in your pocket that morning. It made an impression when you dropped it in the plate, and you had to eat dinner at home instead of at your favorite restaurant. Now that was sacrifice!

SO WHAT if your aunt went to the foreign field having her affections set on "things above" (Col. 3:2)! You know she was an old maid who couldn't find a husband to set her affections on. After all, she had to have something to do. But you're beautiful, talented, musical. Why be foolish enough to take off for parts unknown where

your talents will go unpraised, where your beauty won't even be appreciated?

You know there's really no reason to get involved in this matter of missions. In fact, if this is what you want I'll be glad to help out. I'll run your life for you without any charge. You will still attend church of course, but just abide by a few simple rules and we'll get along fine. Let me list them for you:


1. **DON'T** ever attend a missionary meeting if you have anything else to do.

2. **DON'T** attend prayer meeting. They pray too much for missions.

3. **DON'T** read your Bible daily, only on Sunday.

4. **DON'T** go near a Bible college or conference. They are both the camp of the enemy.

5. **DON'T** allow your friends to talk about missions in your presence. Guilt feelings are a cause of mental disturbance.

If however, with all these precautions you should hear of a missionary crying for help, a church presenting a financial missionary need, or read (quite by accident) a prayer letter, simply shake your head, sigh, and say, "Isn't it too bad." This will clear your conscience, create a favorable impression, and won't cost you a thing. 



The Beauty of Women

By Mrs. Don N. Kitch, Pastor's Wife

Women have always discussed their proper place in the home and in the church. Our foundation is God's Word. It is our premise and basis for precept and example.

First the home. The home was established before the church. The first example was Adam and Eve: "... *she shall be called woman because she was taken out of man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh*" (Gen. 2:23-24). Deuteronomy declares the soldier to have one free year with his wife prior to war duties "... *lest he die in battle*" (Dt. 20:7). "*Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing and obtaineth favor of the Lord*" (Prov. 18:22).

The first couple had two sons, Cain and Abel, obeying God's command to "*replenish the earth.*" Children are a fulfillment of the home life "*I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully*" (1 Tim. 5:14). "*Marriage is honorable in all ...*" (Heb. 13:4).

Guiding the home is **W O R K**, not a hobby. The woman's duties in the home are defined: "... *to*

be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed" (Tit. 2:5).

There is nothing wrong with courtship in its proper time and place. Jacob served 7 years for Rachel and it seemed but a few days because of his love for her (Gen. 29:18-19). Older women were to teach their daughters to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children (Tit. 2:4). Each home has a divine command to teach their children to fear God and learn His laws and doctrines (Dt. 31:13; Isa. 28:9).

Women are the weaker vessels. The devil knew Eve to be weaker, so he approached Adam through her "... *she ate and gave to her husband and he did eat*" (Gen. 3:6). Even so the husband is to honor his wife as the weaker vessel (1 Pet. 3:7).

The principals of the Equal Rights Amendment are disgusting in light of the Scriptures. Quality womanhood has always shared the lime light. Notable women besides Eve (Gen. 3:6) were: Miriam, the ambitious woman (Num. 21:1); Hannah, the ideal mother, gave her son unto the Lord (1 Sam. 1:20); Esther, the self-sacrificing woman, laying her life on the line (Est.

4:16). Ruth, a hard working widow woman, provided sustenance, yet was humble, and was rewarded for her obedience unto God by being in the lineage of Christ. The Shunamite woman being an example of hospitality to God's man (2 Ki. 4:8-10); Deborah, a prophetess, judged and delivered Israel from their enemies. Barak would not go without her to the battle (Judg. 4:4).

Mary Magdalene transformed from a life of gross sin to a servant of God, anointed Jesus with perfume (Mk. 14:3). Mary, chosen of God to bear the Christ Child (Lk. 1:29). Martha, the housekeeper, who fretted about serving her sister; Mary, chose the spiritual food over the physical (Jn. 12:2). The woman at the well, the evangelist, went forth telling others to come to Jesus (Jn. 4:4); Dorcas, the seamstress, full of good works and almsgiving (Acts 9:36); Lydia, the business woman whose heart the Lord opened, giving salvation to her and her family (Acts 16:14). She invited Paul and those with him to abide in her house. This act was evidence of a work done in her heart toward God's servants.

The woman's ministry was extended to the prophet Elijah, where a special service was rendered (2 Ki. 4:10). Some notable women

ministered unto Jesus in Galilee (Mt. 27:55). Also prophetess Anna is mentioned in the Bible (Lk. 2:36). She departed not from the temple, serving God with fasting and prayer. The four daughters of Phillip, all virgins which did prophecy (Acts 21:9). These women were not preachers, nor pastors. God forbids women to teach men or to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence (1 Tim. 2:12).

Women helped in beautifying the tabernacle with embroidery, sewing, spinning of the beautiful tapestry, hanging of blue and purple (Ex. 35:25-29). Crowning qualities of womanhood are: generosity to the poor (Prov. 31:2). The widow giving her all (Lk. 21:2-4). Mary using a very costly ointment on Jesus' feet and she wiped them with her hair, this was a memorial unto His burial (Jn. 12:3).

Woman's place is the running of the household, "*keepers of the home*" (Gen. 27:9). Rahab met an emergency, saved her household (1 Sam. 25:18). Women can help in church work, they held a prayer meeting down by the riverside. Paul was the only man present. Look over

(See **BEAUTY** on page 19)



Catholic Sex Scandals

(From the Missionary Challenge)

Since January the news has been filled with Catholic sex scandals that are enough to make angels hide their faces.

The news began when several men in Boston accused a priest of molesting them when they were boys. Then other boys came forward with additional accusations. Investigations revealed that the priest, John Geoghan, who is now in prison and had a history of pedophilia, was not disciplined by his superiors but reassigned to other churches in an effort to keep it quiet.

The Boston Cardinal

The priest in charge of the pervert is now Cardinal Law of Boston. As more details became public, Catholic families began demanding that "Cardinal" Law resign, but he has refused, although he did make a feeble apology. Over 80 priests in Boston have been charged with sexually abusing young boys. A Chevy Chase priest demanded that the Pope remove the Boston "Cardinal"!

As the news spread over America other men began accusing priests of abusing them when they were boys. Many lawsuits have been filed or settled

out of court. In America over a hundred priests have been suspended, forced to resign, or are in jail.

A Heartbroken Catholic Journalist

The well-known Catholic journalist, Maureen Dowd, wrote that her priest delivered a "gutsy sermon" in which he called the molesters "weirdos" and "sickos" in the priesthood. As he thundered against sinful priests and church leaders who turn a blind eye, he urged the people in the pews to take back their Church! A few began clapping, then others, and finally a standing ovation!

Mrs. Dowd stated that according to various estimates, *30 percent to 50 percent of American Catholic priests* are gay and many others are pedophiles. She stated that several books have been written about this growing problem, but the Church ignores them. Our hearts go out to Mrs. Dowd and her friends because they have been deceived and betrayed. The only way they can take back their church is by the Word of God alone and reject all false doctrines.

In The Southwest

For years San Antonio has been shocked by priests who molested boys, but the cases were settled out of court for undisclosed amounts. In 1998 alone it cost the Church 4 million dollars to settle for one priest. Catholic authorities said they would have removed the priest had they known, but records show that the priest's sins were known as early as 1974, but nothing was done. Two women in San Antonio are suing Archbishop Flores and Bishop Flanigan for allowing continued sexual misconduct by a priest, and they have formally asked the Pope to remove them!

In 1977 a Dallas, TX court ordered the Catholic Church to pay over 119 million dollars to families of boys who were molested by priests. In 1999, the Catholic Church of Santa Fe, New Mexico, settled 171 sex abuse lawsuits by priests, with more pending. About the same time a Catholic bishop in Arizona was sued by several men because he seduced their wives. As more details became known the whole Nation was shocked at the number of women involved. It would be amusing if it were not so tragic because the women involved became furiously jealous of each other when they

learned that they were not the "only one"! The distinguished Catholic journalist, William F. Buckley, wrote in utter disgust that the sinful bishop had a virtual harem and he couldn't understand why the Church was unable to control this growing scandalous problem. Cardinal Roger Mahoney of Chicago, the highest ranking Catholic in America, has been accused of sexual misconduct.

Not Just An American Problem

As reports of more sinful priests were revealed in America, such incidents began surfacing in Europe, and all over the world! In fact, the scandal was so bad in Poland that archbishop Paetz resigned in disgrace. And he was a personal friend of the Pope! With that shameful news came word that Catholic Ireland is one of the worse Catholic countries in turmoil over the sins of priests. It is unspeakably hypocritical for the Irish to continue murdering British Protestants while their own Irish Catholic Church is in shambles because of immoral priests. Yet the Catholic underground terrorist group, "The Irish

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SEX . . .

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Republican Army,” regularly murders Protestant women and children as well as man. And the Catholic Church does nothing to stop it. Even worse, American Irish Catholics send money to the “Irish Republican Army” to help them kill Protestants!

But It Didn't Start Yesterday

Catholic reporters imply that this scandal is a recent problem for their church, but they are trying to deceive the public. Sexual sins of priests have been going on for centuries.

Quebec Canada is French Catholic. And there is constant turmoil between that state and the rest of Canada which is English and Protestant. During the 1840's, a French Catholic priest, Father Charles Chiniquy, began diligently studying his Bible and got saved. He immediately began preaching the Bible to his church (rather than Catholic doctrine) and soon won the entire congregation to the Lord. As the revival spread, Catholic authorities held a trial against Chiniquy for preaching “Protestant heresy.” But Chiniquy insisted that he was still a Catholic and was simply preaching the Bible. He also signed a statement of loyalty to the Church, but he continued preaching the Bible and the revival spread further, so threats

were made against him and his members.

Defended by Abraham Lincoln

So he and most of his congregation moved to Illinois, and his preaching along with his soul-winning congregation began winning American Catholics to the Lord. Then Catholic authorities, in order to silence him, made false charges against him in Illinois about 1850, and he got a little-known lawyer, Abraham Lincoln, to defend him. Lincoln brilliantly defeated the Catholics in court, and greatly humiliated them for their lies and treachery. The trial lasted for weeks and crowds came from long distances. Reports of the trial swept over the country. Chiniquy won many Catholics to the Lord and wrote several books revealing moral corruption in the Catholic Church. One, **“The Priest, The Women, and The Confessional,”** described the large number of priests who seduced women in the confessional. Another book was his life story which emphasized his salvation experience. He also wrote a history of the Catholic Church showing the scandalous conduct of priests, that for centuries they fathered children with concubines and nuns by living in sin with them. He even reported from Catholic sources the large baby cemeteries near European Convents. Nuns impregnated by priests gave birth

and killed their babies. Early abortions! When these books were published a great resentment spread across America against the Catholic Church. But Catholics, like today, tried to hide the problem by accusing Protestants of intolerance, prejudice and bigotry! Secular historians repeated this cover-up and said that a Catholic could never be president because of Protestant bigotry.

I was a Korean War Air Force Chaplain and then served 35 years in the Reserves. When we came to San Antonio as missionaries, the Air Force assigned me to the giant Air Force Hospital here (Wilford Hall) where I served eight years. During a shortage of chaplains they frequently called to see if I could help a few extra days. Most of the time I was able, but for me it was mostly an opportunity to win souls. A senior Catholic chaplain nearing retirement made regular trips to Florida. All other chaplains wondered why since his family was in another state. He received an elaborate retirement ceremony as an honorable colonel and praised as a faithful man of God. But the very next day, he resigned the priesthood and married! Then we knew what his Florida “business” was!

Some Catholic chaplains came to Wilford Hall Hospital to be treated for Aids. Some priests in San Antonio have died of Aids. During my years in the Air Force every Catholic chap-

lain I worked with was a drunk, to varying degrees. Many came to work on Monday either with a hang-over or booze on their breath!

Shocking History

The following quotations are from **The Halley Pocket Bible Handbook**, pages 684-85, which Catholic records provided:

Pope John XII, 955-63, lived an immoral life almost too terrible to describe. “He made the papal palace a brothel and was killed while in the act of adultery by the woman’s enraged husband.”

Pope Boniface VII, 984-85, murdered Pope John XIV and “maintained himself on the blood-stained papal throne by stolen money.”

Pope Benedict VIII, 1012-24, *bought* the Papal office.

Pope John XIX, 1024-33, bought the papacy. He was not even a priest and passed all the priestly steps in one day.

Pope Benedict IX 1033-45, was made a pope as a boy of 12 by a money bargain by the powerful ruling families of Rome. “Surpassed John XII in wickedness; committed murders and adulteries in broad daylight; a criminal so hideous that the people drove him out of Rome.”

Three men claimed to be Pope during 1045-1046. The Italians had made the papacy so wicked and cor-

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BEAUTY...


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your congregation, mostly women and children. This is not as it should be but even today it is this way.

In Romans chapter 16 Paul commends Phebe, a servant of the church, along with eight other women mentioned as his helpers. Priscilla was also his helper, teaching with her husband, Apollos, the way of the Lord more perfectly (Acts 18:26; Rom. 16:3).

Many evil and wicked women are mentioned, such as Jezebel (1 Ki. 2:17) who had the prophets killed. Zeresh, in the book of Esther, had the gallows built to hang Mordecai. Job's wife gave such ungodly advice to Job, "*to curse God and die.*" Harlots and strange women have tempted men and enticed them to sin. Delilah deceived Samson, causing his defeat and death (Judg. 16:6).

Some very special distinctions of the women are:

1. Last at the cross (Mk. 15:47).
2. First at the tomb — Mary (Jn. 20:1).
3. First to proclaim the resurrection (Lk. 24:10).
4. First to give the good news to the Jews (Lk. 2:38).
5. They attended the first prayer service with the church (Acts 1:14).
6. First European convert was Lydia, a woman (Acts 16:14).
7. First to greet Paul and Silas, missionaries (Acts 16:13). 

SEX...

(Continued from page 18)

rupt that the famous writer, Dante, visited there about 1303 and called the papacy "A sewer of corruption." He further named three of the worst popes and said they were going to the lowest parts of Hell.


For 70 years the Papal Palace was moved to Southern France in hopes of cleaning it up (1303-1377), but it didn't help. (Lack of space prevents listing but a fraction of the corruptions). And all the while these sinful popes were burning Bible believers at the stake!

"Saint" Thomas Moore

William Tyndale (later burned) smuggled the first printed English Bibles into England. The right-hand man of King Henry VIII, Sir Thomas Moore, burned Christians at the stake by the hundreds for owning an English Bible or listening while someone read the English Bible. Moore even boasted that he was saving their souls by burning their bodies! But Thomas Moore was totally unconcerned about the many priests, bishops, and archbishops who were living in sin with nuns and concubines and fathering children by them! And the Catholic Church made Moore into a "Saint"!

Some Protestants Guilty?

Catholics are saying that Protestants are just as

bad, but this is a blasphemous lie. A tiny fraction of Bible-preaching, married, Protestant ministers are guilty of similar sins, but their number is a tiny fraction compared to the multitude of sinful priests. The only solution is for the Catholic Church to come back to the Bible! 

ICC...

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terrorists.

Helms To the Rescue. Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) has introduced the Servicemembers Protection Act (S857), now languishing in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee whose Chairman Joe Biden (D-Del.) likes the ICC concept and refuses to expedite this bill to save U.S. military and civilian officials from the ambitious ICC.

A companion bill (HR 1794) by Rep. Tom DeLay (R-TX) is stuck in the House International Relations Committee under Chairman Henry J. Hyde (R-IL).

Both bills have the exact same language. When passed, they would go straight to the President for immediate action and would provide the following:

- Cut off U.S. military aid to any country that ratified the ICC Treaty.
- Prohibit U.S. forces from participating in UN operations, unless immunized from ICC jurisdiction by a specific UN resolution.
- Authorize the President to take any action "necessary

and appropriate" to free Americans from ICC captivity.

Why ICC Is So Popular. So, why would an International Criminal Court be so popular with 66 nations of the world — nations willing to surrender their freedoms and sovereignty to a world organization? Even the 17 members of the European Union (EU)?

Most of these nations have never tasted the exhilaration of the freedoms and independence that Americans have. Perhaps many want to "get back" at the Colossus of the North (the USA) with their super Colossus of the World (the UN). This may particularly be the inbred attitude of the EU (Britain, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, etc. — nations that have never experienced American-style freedoms and prosperity. Maybe they secretly want to stick it to us, i.e., force the haughty Americanos into a world organization and be cut to size.

Americans do not have to accept this creeping ICC which its instigators want to operate for a while without upsetting us, as the ICC concept moves quietly along, just as the Genocide Convention did for many years before being ratified. That's their plan for the ICC.

President Bush took an oath to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution

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JESUS . . .

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In 1 Kings and 2 Kings He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

In 1 and 2 Chronicles He is your intercessor and High Priest.

In Ezra He is your temple, your house of worship. In Nehemiah He is your mighty wall, protecting you from your enemies.

In Esther He stands in the gap to deliver you from your enemies.

In Job He is the arbitrator who not only understands your struggles, but has the power to do something about them.

In Psalms He is your song, and your reason to sing.

In Proverbs He is your wisdom, helping you make sense of life and live it successfully.

In Ecclesiastes He is your purpose, delivering you from vanity. In the Song of Solomon He is your lover, your Rose of Sharon.

In Isaiah He is the mighty counselor, the prince of peace, the everlasting father, and more. In short, He's everything you need.

In Jeremiah He is your balm of Gilead, the soothing salve for your sin sick soul. In Lamentations He is the ever-faithful one upon whom you can depend.

In Ezekiel He is your wheel in the middle of a wheel the one who assures that dry, dead bones will come alive again.

In Daniel He is the

ancient of days, the everlasting God who never runs out of time.

In Hosea He is your faithful lover, always beckoning you to come back even when you have abandoned Him.

In Joel He is your refuge, keeping you safe in times of trouble.

In Amos he is the husbandman, the one you can depend on to stay by your side.

In Obadiah He is the Lord of the Kingdom. In Jonah He is your salvation, bringing you back within His will.

In Micah He is the judge of the nation. In Nahum He is the jealous God. In Habakkuk He is the Holy One.

In Zephaniah He is the witness. In Haggai He overthrows the enemies.

In Zechariah He is the Lord of Hosts. In Malachi He is the messenger of God.

In Matthew He is the king of the Jews. In Mark He is the servant. In Luke He is the Son of Man, feeling what you feel.

In John He is the Son of God. In Acts He is Savior of the world.

In Romans He is the righteousness of God.

In 1 Corinthians He is the rock that followed Israel. In 2 Corinthians He is the triumphant one, giving victory.

In Galatians He is your liberty; He sets you free. In Ephesians He is head of the church.

In Philippians He is your joy. In Colossians He

is your completeness.


In 1 Thessalonians He is your hope. In 2 Thessalonians He is your patience and discipline.

In 1 Timothy He is your faith. In 2 Timothy He is your stability.

In Titus He is the truth. In Philemon He is your benefactor. In Hebrews He is your perfection. In James He is the power behind your faith.

In 1 Peter He is your example. In 2 Peter He is your purity.

In 1 John He is your life. In 2 John He is your pattern. In 3 John He is your motivation.

In Jude He is the foundation of your faith. In Revelation He is your coming King. 


NICK . . .

(Continued from page 2)

into the world, made of a woman (Mary)" (Gal. 4:4; 1 Jn. 3:10, 14) and later the Father sent the Holy Spirit into the world as Comforter (Jn. 14:16). [Notice: Mt. 3:16-17; Jn. 5:17; 14:16; 2 Cor. 1:21-22; 13:14; Gal. 4:6; 1 Pet. 1:2; 1 Jn. 5:7.]

So, if we can count, there are three distinct personalities, Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Mt. 28:19). After His resurrection and ascension into heaven, *our Lord* sat down at the right hand of His *Father* (Heb. 1:3) where He had been prior even before the foundation of the world (Jn. 6:38; 1:3). The *Holy Spirit* is said to be in the world, reproving it (Jn. 16:8).

Thus, we find the Trinity in their distinct present day activities.

The Trinity idea is reflected in many other ways. Man himself, being one, is a trichotomous being, spirit, soul and body (1 Thess. 5:18). Time is three-fold: past, present and future. Space consists of length, width and height. There are three levels of heaven as well as three aspects of one grand salvation (from the penalty, power and presence of sin). Christ is said to be the Good Shepherd, the Great Shepherd, and the Chief Shepherd. The ancient Tabernacle and Temple each had the outer court, the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. Therefore as we can see, the Bible and the world about us abound with the truth and principle of the Trinity. 

FAITH . . .

(Continued from page 5)

ham's positional justification, when he first put his faith in the true God, Jehovah. Abraham graciously was made righteous before God; God declared Abraham to be right with Himself through faith and apart from any work that Abraham had performed.

James shows the genuineness of Abraham's faith and God's work of grace in his life, how that, after forty years of positional justification, Abraham continued to justify conditionally that he was a truly

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FAITH . . .

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regenerated man; he proved that he was right with God (and “the friend of God” — Jas. 2:23) by his works of faith.

James uses the testimony of Abraham to question those who claim to believe in God but show no true repentant faith that results in the abiding Holy Spirit’s work of regeneration, conviction and transformation.

That kind of superficial faith is no different from that of demons: it is dead and unprofitable (Jas. 2:14, 17, 19, 26), and it cannot save. Paul also argues that when a person is genuinely saved by faith in God’s perfect work of salvation through Christ without any works of his own, he will be compelled of God to live a life of good works: “For by *grace are ye saved through faith*; and that *not of yourselves*: it is the gift of God: *Not of works*, lest any man should boast. For *we are his workmanship*, created in Christ Jesus *unto good works*, which God hath before ordained that *we should walk in them*” (Eph. 2:8-10; see Phil. 2:12, 13; Titus 3:5-8). As some simply have put it, “Good works are the fruit and not the roots of one’s salvation.”

My dear friend, are you justified by faith alone as was Abraham? In other words, are you totally depending on God to be made right in His sight through

sincere faith in His perfect salvation and promise of complete forgiveness through the holy sacrifice of His perfect Son, the Lord Jesus Christ? Consider the Scriptures:


“*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*” — John 3:16.

“*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation: but is passed from death unto life.*” — John 5:24.

“*For the wages of sin is death: but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*” — Rom. 6:23.

The second thief who was crucified with the Lord was justified solely on his trusting the promise of the perfect Savior (Luke 23:40-43). No one can add to the perfect salvation of the infinite Savior without robbing the glory that belongs to Him.

Anyone trying to add his imperfect, finite work to that of the Holy Son of God is attempting to mar that glorious salvation and set up himself as co-savior! This is blasphemy against the eternal God!

Why not in simple trust call on the only true Savior to save you from your sins and justify you completely: “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord *shall be saved*” (Rom. 10:13). 

ONE . . .


(Continued from page 1)

hooked tightly together so there isn’t any slack between them? According to those who know, the answer is that if this were done, the engines wouldn’t be able to get the train rolling. Overcoming the inertia of all the cars at once would be too much for even powerful diesels. But starting one car at a time, even if it moves only a small distance, gets the entire train in motion.

Might there be a spiritual parallel here for believers? We are heading into another year — 365 days stretch before us. We trust these days will bring joys; we know they will bring pressures. Living today is a pressure experience for almost everyone. And many people (some with domestic problems, some with financial needs, some with varieties of other burdens) face exceptional tensions. Looking down a long road ahead and seeing no relief in view, they could easily give way to despair because the total load seems too great.

But as the loaded freight cars start one at a time, so we are to live just one day at a time. We don’t need grace for an entire year ahead; we only need it for the particular demands of each day. And the promise of the Word is, “...As thy days, so shall thy strength be” (Dt. 33:25).


Let’s not try to overdraw on our supply of en-

abling grace. At the same time, let’s seek to claim the full amount due us for each day, that our lives may genuinely glorify God. 

The Dangers of Compromise

There is a classic story from the civil war which tells how an inhabitant of the border country between North and South decided to remain neutral. He dressed himself in Confederate trousers and in a Union jacket, with the unfortunate result that the Confederates shot him in the chest and the Union soldiers shot him in the seat of the pants!

Some men seek to straddle the fence between the two opposite theological positions: fundamentalism and modernism. It is impossible; a man either believes the Bible or he doesn’t; he either believes in the Deity of Christ or he doesn’t. The crying need of the hour is to be out and out for God and the gospel.

“Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee” (Josh. 1:9). “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you” (2 Cor. 6:17). 

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.

HELL . . .

(Continued from page 1)

that thy soul shall be in hell; that is affirmed many times, but it positively declares that thy body shall. That same body which is now standing in the aisle, or sitting in the pew, if thou diest without Christ, shall burn forever in the flames of hell. It is not a fancy of man, but a truth that thy actual flesh and blood, and those very bones shall suffer — “Thy whole body shall be cast into hell.”

Lest that one proof shall not suffice thee, hear another out of the same gospel, chapter 10:28: “Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” Hell will be the place for bodies, as well as souls. As I have remarked, wherever Christ speaks of hell, and of the last state of the wicked, He always speaks of their bodies; you scarcely find Him saying anything about their souls. He says: “Where their worm dieth not,” which is a figure of physical suffering — the worm torturing forever the inmost heart, like a cancer within the very soul. He speaks of the “fire that never shall be quenched.”

Hell Not Mere Metaphor

Now, do not begin telling me that that is metaphorical fire. Who cares for that? If a man were to threaten to give me a meta-

phorical blow on the head, I should care very little about it; he would be welcome to give me as many as he pleased. And what say the wicked? “We do not care about metaphorical fire.” But they are real, sir — yes, as real as yourself. There is a real fire in hell, as truly as you have now a real body — a fire exactly like that which we have on earth in everything except this, that it will not consume, though it will torture you. You have seen the asbestos lying in the fire red-hot, but when you take it out it is unconsumed. So your body will be prepared by God in such a way that it will burn forever without being consumed; it will lie, not as you consider, in metaphorical fire, but in actual flame.

Did our Savior mean fictions when He said He would cast body and soul into hell? What should there be a pit for, if there were no bodies; why fire, why chains, if there were to be no bodies? Can fire touch the soul? Can pits shut in spirits? Can chains fetter souls? No; pits and fire and chains are for bodies, and bodies shall be there. Thou wilt sleep in the dust a little while. When thou diest, thy soul will be tormented alone — that will be a hell for it — but at the day of judgment thy body will join thy soul, and thou wilt have twin hells; body and soul shall be together, each brimful of pain, thy soul sweating in its inmost pore drops of blood, and thy body from

head to foot, suffused with agony; conscience, judgment, memory, all tortured; but more, thy head tormented with racking pains, thine eyes starting from their sockets with sights of blood and woe; thine ears tormented with

“Sudden moans and hollow groans,
And shrieks of tortured ghosts.”

Thine heart beating high with fever, thy pulse rattling at an enormous rate in agony; thy limbs crackling like the martyrs on the fire, and yet unburnt; thyself, put in a vessel of hot oil, pained, yet coming out undestroyed; all thy veins become a road for the hot feet of pain to travel on; every nerve a string on which the devil shall ever play his diabolical tune of hell’s unutterable lament; thy soul forever and ever aching, and thy body palpitating in unison with thy soul. Fictions, Sir? Again, I say, they are no fictions, and as God liveth, but solid stern truth. If God be true, and this Bible be true, what I have said is the truth, and you will find it one day to be so.

But now I must have a little reasoning with the ungodly on one or two points. First, I will reason with such of you as are very proud of your comely bodies, and array yourselves in goodly ornaments, and make yourselves glorious in your apparel. There are some of you who have

no time for prayer, but you have time enough for your toilet; you have no time for the prayer-meeting, but you have time enough to be brushing your hair to all eternity; you have no time to bend your knees, but plenty of time to make yourselves to look smart and grand. Ah! fine lady, thou who takest care of thy goodly-fashioned face, remember what was said by one of old when he held up the skull: —

“Tell her, though she paint herself an inch thick,

To this complexion she must come at last.”

Evil In Persistent Sin

Something more than that: that fair face shall be scarred with the claws of fiends, and that fine body shall be the medium of torment. Ah! dress thyself, proud gentleman, for the worm; anoint thyself for the crawling creatures of the grave; and worse, come thou down to the pit in goodly apparel; my lord, come there, to find yourself no higher than others, except it be higher in torture, and plunged deeper in flames. Aye it ill becomes us to waste so much time upon the trifling here, when there is so much to be done and so little time for doing it in the saving of men’s souls. O God, our God, deliver men from feasting and pampering their bodies when they are only fattening them for the slaughter,

(See **HELL** on page 23)

HELL . . .

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and feeding them to be devoured in the flames.

Again, hear me when I say to you, who are gratifying your lusts — do you know that those bodies, the lusts of which you gratify here, will be in hell, and that you will have the same lusts in hell that you have here? The debauchee hastes to indulge his body in what he desires — can he do that in hell? Can he find a place there where he shall gratify his lust and find indulgence for his foul desire? The drunkard here can pour down his throat the intoxicating and deadly draught; but where will he find the liquor to drink in hell, when his drunkenness will be as hot upon him as it is here! Aye, where will he find so much as a drop of water to cool his parched tongue? The man who loves gluttony here will be a glutton there; but where will be the food to satisfy him, when he may hold his finger up and see the loaves go away from him, and the fruits refuse his grasp. Oh? to have your passions and yet not to satisfy them? To shut a drunkard up in his cell, and give him nothing to drink? He would dash himself against the wall to get the liquor, but there is none for him. What will you do in hell, O drunkard, with that thirst in your throat, and having naught but flames to swallow, which increase thy woe? And what will you do, O rake,

when still you would be seducing others, but there are none with whom you can sin? Do I speak plainly? Did not Christ do so? If men will sin, they will find men who are not ashamed to reprove them. Ah? to have a body in hell, with all its lusts, but not the power to satisfy them? How horrible that hell will be?

Hear me yet again. Oh? poor sinner, if I saw thee going into the inquisitor's den to be tormented, would I not beg of thee to stop ere thou shouldst put thy foot upon the threshold? And now I am talking to you of things that are real. If I were standing on a stage this morning, and were acting among these things as fancies, I would make you weep; I would make the godly weep to think that so many should be damned.

But when I speak of realities, they do not move you half so much as fictions would, and yet sit just as ye did ere the service had commenced. But hear me while I again affirm God's truth; I tell thee, sinner, that those eyes that now look on lust shall look on miseries that shall vex and torment thee. Those ears which now lendest to hear the song of blasphemy shall hear moans and groans, and horrid sound, such as only the damned know. That very throat down which thou dost drink shall be filled with ire. Those very lips and arms of thine will be tortured all at once. Why, if thou hast

a headache thou wilt run to a physician; but what wilt thou do when thy head, and heart, and hands, and feet, ache all at once? If thou hast but a pain in thy liver, thou wilt search out medicines to heal thee; but what wilt thou do when gout, and theum, and vertigo, and all else that is vile attack the body at once? How wilt thou bear thyself when thou shalt be loathsome with every kind of disease, leprous, palsied, black, rotten, thy bones aching, thy marrow quivering, every limb thou hast filled with pain; thy body a temple of demons and a channel of miseries.

Christ Saves From Hell

Will ye march blindly on? As the ox goeth to the slaughter, and the sheep licketh the butcher's knife, so it is with many of you. Sir, you are living without Christ, many of you; you are self-righteous and ungodly. One of you is going out this afternoon to take his day's pleasure; another is a fornicator in secret; another can cheat his neighbor; another can now and then curse God; another comes to this chapel, but in secret he is a drunkard; another prates about godliness, and God knows he is a damned hypocrite.

What will ye do in that day when ye stand before your Maker? It is a little thing to have your minister upbraid you now; it is a small thing to be judged of man's judgment; what will

ye do when God shall thunder out, not your accusation, but your condemnation: "Depart, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels"? Ah! ye sensual ones, I know I should never move you while I spoke about torments for your souls. Do I move you now? Ah! no. Many of you will go away and laugh, and call me, as I remember once being called before, "a hell-fire parson." Well, go; but you will see the hell-fire preacher one day in heaven, perhaps, and you yourselves will be cast out; and looking down thence, with reproving glance, it may be that I shall remind you that you heard the Word, and listened not to it.

Ah! men, it is a light thing to hear it; it will be hard enough to bear it. You listen to me now unmoved; it will be harder work when death gets hold of you, and you lie roasting in the fire. Now you despise Christ, you will not despise Him then. Now ye can waste your sabbaths; then ye would give a thousand worlds for a sabbath if ye could but have it in heaven. Now ye can scoff and jeer; there will be no scoffing and jeering then; you will be shrieking, howling, wailing for mercy; but—

"There are no acts of pardon passed;

In the cold grave to which we haste;

(See **HELL** on page 24)

Fellowships And Conferences

June 3-7, 2002, Lincoln Baptist Church, 7801 E. Lincoln, Wichita, KS 67207, Vernon Lindbloom, Pastor.

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SALT LAKE CITY, UT

July 21-24, 2002, Anchor Baptist Church, 1800 E. 5600 South, Salt Lake City, UT, Tom Corkish, Pastor.

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SIOUX FALLS, SD

October 7-9, 2002, Empire Baptist Temple, 412 S. Hawthorne, Sioux Falls, SD, Ron Tottingham, Pastor

ICC...


(Continued from page 19)

of the United States." The time has come to prove it — emphatically and precisely with official notification to the United Nations that the United States

A pastor, known for his lengthy sermons, noticed a man get up and leave for part of the service.

After church, the pastor asked the man where he had gone. "To get a haircut," the guy said.

"But," said the pastor, "why didn't you do that before the service?" "Because," the gentleman replied, "I didn't need one then."

hereby "unsigns" the ICC Treaty — or, whatever fancy diplomatic sweet-talk will let the Globalists know that America is having no part of their World Court. Period! 


* * *

U.S. Will Formally Sever Connection with War Crimes Tribunal

The United States prefers to try U.S. citizens accused of war crimes in its own court system, and therefore it will have nothing more to do with a treaty creating the first permanent war crimes tribunal, Secretary of State Colin Powell said on Sunday (5/5/02). Powell said the U.S. will notify the United Nations this week that it does not intend to seek ratification of the treaty, which former President Bill Clinton signed in December 2000.

In fact, said Powell on ABC's "This Week," the United States is "no longer bound in any way to (the treaty's) purpose and objective."

Critics, including Sen. Russ Feingold (D-Wis.), say withdrawing from the treaty creates a credibility problem for the U.S. by "casting doubt on the U.S. commitment to international justice and accountability." Human rights groups also expressed dismay. But the Bush administration agrees with critics who say the court will infringe on U.S. sovereignty, and might even be used to bring frivolous and politically motivated charges against U.S.

soldiers and diplomats. As Powell said on Sunday, "We found that this was not a situation the U.S. believed was proper for its men and women in the armed forces, its diplomats and its political leaders, and for that reason we will be notifying the Depository of the Secretary General of the U.N. that the United States does not intend to ratify the ICC."— CNS 


FREE...

(Continued from page 1)

tional circles. Martyrs have died to keep their churches free of governmental control, only to have the self-seeking leaders of their own group build empires within. Hierarchies, councils, conventions, associations, organized fellowships and pressure groups have arisen to plague nearly every Baptist movement.

Let us as independent Baptists resist steadfastly such selfish interests in our midst. Let us be aware that the local church is the scriptural unit supreme; let us beware of any "sales-talk" tending to "line up" the local churches whether it comes from a mission society, mission board, college, seminary, or well-meaning but misled laymen's groups which are actually tools in the hands of the parent "glamour group."

We must see that the true strength of the local church lies in its independence and freedom to choose for itself its missionaries, its pastor, and to channel or to change its giving only through local

independent Baptist churches. All our independent Baptist churches need to be aware of the predatory forces which must be recognized, resisted, and put in their proper places as servants, not bosses of the Lord's churches. We should (and must) be alert to support only truly independent Baptist missionaries, causes and institutions practicing Baptist polity and policy. 

HELL...

(Continued from page 23)

But darkness, death, and long despair,

Reign in eternal silence there!"

Oh my hearers! the wrath to come! the wrath to come! the wrath to come! Who among you can dwell devouring fire? Who among you can dwell with everlasting burning? Can you, sir? Can you? Can you abide the flame forever? "Oh, no," sayest thou, "What can I do to be saved?" Hear thou what Christ has to say: "Believe thou on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shall be saved." "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; he that believeth not, shall be damned." "Come, let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as wool; though they be red like crimson, they shall be whiter than snow." — **The Watchman Examiner**, May 10, 1956. 