

# The Baptist CHALLENGE

a voice of independent Baptists

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WHOLE NO. 470

## *Was Peter Ever Pope?*

*By George R. McFaul*

The Roman Catholic Church claims that Christ gave to Peter supremacy over the other apostles; that the authority given to Peter passed to his successors; that the sole inheritors of Peter are the Bishops of Rome. She affirms Peter founded the Church of Rome and was its Bishop for twenty-five years. Butler's Catholic catechism,

pages 15 and 16, contains the following: "Who is the visible head of the Church?" "The Pope, who is Christ's vicar on earth and supreme and visible head of the Church." "To whom does the Pope succeed as visible head of the Church?" "To St. Peter, who was the chief of the apostles, Christ's vicar on earth, the first Pope and

Bishop of Rome."

Was Peter ever bishop of Rome? This question is most important to the Roman Catholic Church, for with it either stands or falls the whole papal system. If Peter was not Pope at Rome then the Popes were never his successors.

A brief study of the New Testament will at once

furnish to any candid-minded person convincing proof that Peter was never Pope. It will readily be seen that *Christ refused to recognize any pope among His disciples.*

The Savior never introduced Peter to the other disciples by saying: "See, I have appointed Peter as

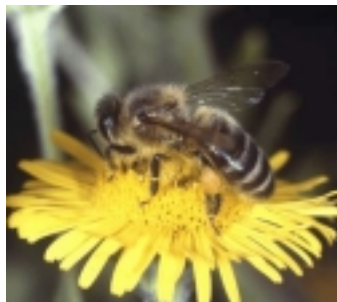
(See **POPE** on page 21)

[The author, a physician specializing in allergy, is the author of *Insect Allergy — Allergic Reactions to Bites of Insects and Other Arthropods*, a study of reactions to insect bites and stings, and the treatment of these reactions. He has also studied the behavior of insects.]

For one already interested in allergies and insects, it is especially interesting to study the behavior of honey bees. One could compare some of the behavior of worker

## *Like The Honey Bees*

*By Claude A. Frazier*



bees, for instance, with the way an ideal church member-worker should be.

The average worker bee is able to carry a burden equal to half its own

weight. It flies as far as three miles in search for raw materials for honey, and it has been estimated that a pound of honey represents nearly 300,000

miles of flight.

To be busy as a bee is no idle comment! A honey bee can travel 25 mph when carrying a full load, but must take frequent rest stops. A worker bee seldom dies from old age, but literally works itself to death. Rather than stop working, it will sacrifice itself by continuing work until it is unable to make it back to the hive, and thus dies.

The Bible tells us we are to be workers for our Lord Jesus Christ. "I be-

(See **BEES** on page 2)



## Quiz The Pastor -- #22

# If A Baby Dies Before It Is Baptized, Is it Lost?

By the late Nick Michalinos

**Question:** If a baby dies before it is baptized, is it lost?

**Answer:** Babies that die are not lost, but safe, and being baptized or sprinkled or having water poured on them has absolutely nothing to do with their spiritual standing or state before God. In fact, baptism has nothing to do with saving either babies, adults or anyone.

The Bible nowhere states that infants, or little children have any accountability before God. What age a child must attain in order to be held accountable, we are not told by the Bible. In their unaccountable state, little children are as if they had never sinned and thus are not lost, but are kept safe

until the time of their accountability before a *just* and *holy* God.

By looking at Second Samuel 12:23, we read a statement from David concerning his infant son that had just died. He said, "I shall go to him, but he shall not return unto me." David was a saved man expecting to go to heaven, and he also was a man acquainted with the truths of God's Word. David not only expected to go to heaven, but he expected to meet his son there as expressed in the words, "I shall go to him." The thought of this reunion with his son removed the deep grief that would normally accompany the loss of a little child.

I bring to your attention

the fact that the child was the product of an adulterous union between David and Bathsheba. In other words, an illegitimate child. This does away with the erroneous idea that illegitimate children do not go to heaven. From David's words we learn they do.

David, through the Holy Spirit, gives us further light on the spiritual state of children. In Psalms 51:5 he writes: "Behold, I was shapen (born) in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me." Here he is speaking of a sinful nature that each of us possess from the moment of conception. It is also referred to as original sin.

Again we read: "The wicked are estranged from the womb (conception): they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies" (Psa. 58:3). We are "by nature (inherently) the children of wrath" (Eph. 2:3). We find we don't have to teach a child to disobey or rebel against authority, it is an inborn quality. It is interwoven within our nature. Though little children may do many things that are wrong, they are held as innocent and unaccountable before God. Infants and little children are in a state

of safety until they reach an accountable age before God, then they are confronted with the eternity deciding decision of either accepting or rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Savior (Jn. 3:16, 18, 36; Acts 4:12. □

## BEES . . .

(Continued from page 1)

seech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Rom. 12:1). The Christian believes that his body belongs to God. True worship is the offering to God of one's body and all that one does with it every day.

In a colony of bees there is a general sequence of work which the bees perform. However, this division of labor is very flexible, constantly changing according to the conditions inside and outside the hive.

## Joint Effort

The work of the church also is a joint effort. All the members must work together to accomplish Christ's purposes. Paul often used figures to depict the church as the body of Christ: "For as the body is one and hath many members and all members of that body, being many, are one body; so also is

(See **BEES** on page 14)

## THE BAPTIST CHALLENGE

M. L. Moser, Editor  
 Pastor Emeritus  
 CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH  
 15601 Taylor Loop Rd.  
 Little Rock, Arkansas 72223  
 Church Phone: (501) 868-7703  
 Email: mlmoser1@juno.com  
 Editor's Phone: (501) 224-1942

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

**God's Masterpiece -- Man's Body #10**

## Food And Its Uses

By Arthur I Brown

Having surveyed the beginning of the human body, along with its development until birth, and having taken a hurried glance at the various kinds of cells and tissues that make up the living individual we are prepared to look at some other features. There are many plans possible as to the order in which to discuss the body and its operations. The one which I am adopting may not be the usual one but I think it will serve our purpose adequately. And so I propose now to examine the way in which the countless cell workmen manage to live, and how they secure the fuel which supplies power to the motors so that the machine with all its parts keeps going day and night, year after year and decade after decade.

If I ask you why you eat you might tell me — because you are hungry and like the taste of food, and you dislike that empty feeling which is the accompaniment of starvation. That is only part of the answer and really science cannot tell you much about it. I like to say that God has made these little cells, which are actually motors, constructed so as to transform their fuel,

which is food, into energy. These cells will accept only certain kinds of food which must be carefully prepared for them. They are very choosy in their tastes.

And this brings us to the question of food and digestion. The raw material which comes from the outside to the body is food and anyone can see that there are at least three distinct uses for food. It supplies the energy that we need in order to move about, and to maintain our bodily heat. It provides the ingredients out of which the body grows, and manufactures the special substances needed for the varied forms of activity. And also, it replenishes such materials as water and salt, which merely pass through the body in the course of the day's work. You may think of these three purposes as sustaining, nourishing, and replacing. With the exception of the water and salt, all foods are derived from plants, or from animals which have lived on plants. Plants, as we have seen, make food, because they have the power to use the energy of sunlight, and from lifeless chemicals

secured from the earth, bring into being living and nourishing substances for our use. Animals cannot utilize chemical elements in that way, and so, either directly or indirectly, are dependent upon plants. The body, you see, is a self-stoking, self-repairing, and self-reproducing, if it has the proper materials with which to work.

While the analogy is not absolutely correct, we may for the purpose of this discussion think of food as fuel to be utilized by the busy combustion engine, with the resultant formation of calories. We hear much about them. Do you know what a calorie is? It is defined as that quantity of heat required to heat nine-tenths of a quart of water one degree centigrade. On a good gas range this takes about six seconds. One gram — (less than one-half cubic inch) — of protein or carbohydrate, which is starch or sugar, furnishes four calories, while the same quantity of fat will give nine calories. It does not seem to make much difference to the body — and in this it resembles a steam engine — as to the kind of fuel it has to work on in order to derive protein, carbohydrate and fat are mutually interchangeable in their capacity as fuel.

Obviously more work means more calories. For persons resting and taking meals in bed, the daily caloric requirement is from

1,700 to 2,000 calories. Light work requires 3,000 calories, and heavy labor as much as 8,000. Theoretically a person's daily requirement can be taken care of by 350 grams of fat, or 800 grams of protein, or 800 grams of carbohydrate. But our digestive apparatus prefers a mixture of these three foods. The normal foods of the body are the carbohydrates — starch and sugar, but of these the liver and muscles can store only about 300 grams, that is, one-third of the daily requirement. If more carbohydrates are eaten — they are transformed into fat.

The minimum quantity of protein needed daily by the body is about 50 grams. However the body works better — as do machines — when given a certain excess of fuel, and so an average working man of medium height, ought to have daily 50 grams of fat, 100 grams of protein, and 600 grams of carbohydrate.

I do not intend to give you any intensive course of diet and nutrition, but these facts are interesting and valuable to know. Starch is contained in almost all kinds of grains and seeds, and we eat it principally in bread, which consists of about 50 percent starch, and the remainder, — water, protein, and salt. There are several kinds of sugar, — grape-sugar, cane-sugar, and milk-sugar, all of equal

(See **BODY** on page 23)

# Difference Between the — Family of God, — Kingdom of God And Church of God

By H. Boyce Taylor

## IS THE TRUE CHURCH VISIBLE OR INVISIBLE? MANY HAVE THE CHURCH AND KINGDOM MIXED — CAUSING MUCH ERROR

### The Family of God

“Of whom *the whole family in heaven and earth is named*” — Ephesians 3:14-15

### The Kingdom of God

“The Lord ... who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into *the kingdom of his dear son*” (Col. 1:10-16).

### The Church of God

“Paul ... unto the Church of God, *which is at Corinth*” (1 Cor. 1:1-3).

“Ye (the Corinthian church) *are the body of Christ*” (1 Cor. 12:27).

“*The Lord added to the church daily the saved*” (Acts 2:47).

### Bro. Taylor is asked a Question

“Men are born into the family of God by the new birth, but men are NOT born into the church” — H. B. Taylor in News and Truths.

Bro. Boyce Taylor made the above statement in his paper. A certain editor read it and asked this question:

“If that is the truth, if men get into the family of God by one process, and into the Church of God by another and a different one, it follows, certainly, that the family of God and the Church of God are two different institutions. ... We should feel an everlasting obligation to Bro. Taylor if

he would tell us just what God must do to this person, or what the person himself, must do to become a member of God’s church, after he has been ‘born into the family of God,’ after he has remission of sins, after he has become a ‘new creature.’

“His declaration that ‘men are born into the family of God’ is entirely correct, but that the family of God is one thing and the church of God is another thing is entirely erroneous.”

### Bro. Taylor’s Answer

We gladly answer the questions herein contained. In fact, while we are at it we go a little further and distinguish between the

family of God, the church of God and the kingdom of God as used in the New Testament.

### FAMILY

The family of God includes all the children of God in Heaven and on earth. In Eph. 3:15 Paul speaks of the “whole family in heaven and on earth.” This family includes all believers. “Ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus” (Gal. 3:26).

All believers are God’s children. Since the Old Testament saints were saved by faith in Christ (Acts 10:43; Rom. 4:16; etc.), they are all members of God’s family.

God’s family is bigger than the kingdom of God or the church of God, for it now contains all the saved from Abel to the last man who has believed, whether in Heaven or on earth. God has only one family. All believers (saved, born again) are children and heirs of God.

### THE KINGDOM

The Kingdom of God includes all the saved on earth at any given time. In Matthew 13 the kingdom is

used to include all professors. But the kingdom as used in John 3:3-5, Mat. 16:19, 11:11, Luke 16:16, Rom. 14:17, Col. 1:13, John 18:36, etc. is composed of all the born-again on the earth.

This is not the kingdom of Daniel 2:44, Luke 9:11-27, Acts 1:6, etc. Those passages refer to the millennium. That kingdom is yet future.

What is sometimes called the spiritual kingdom is composed only of those who have been born again, who have been “translated out of darkness into the kingdom of his dear Son.” In John 3:3-5 the Master said, except a man be born anew he can neither see nor enter the Kingdom of God. In Matthew 18:1-16 and Mark 10:13-15 the Master shows very clearly, that the kingdom is composed of only such as have received Him, whether children or adults. The family of God includes all the saved of all ages, whether in Heaven or on earth; the kingdom of God includes that part of the family of God who are on earth now.

(See TAYLOR on page 5)

**TAYLOR . . .**

(Continued from page 4)

### THE CHURCH

The church of God is never used of any institution, except of an assembly or congregation of baptized believers in some given locality, e.g., the church of God at Corinth (1 Cor. 1:2).

The local individual church is the only kind of church God has on this earth today.

There is only one family of God, composed of all the redeemed of all the ages in Heaven and on earth.

There is only one kingdom of God, composed of all the born again on the earth NOW.

There are thousands of churches of God on earth. Every individual Baptist church is a church of God. No others are.

When a man is born again he is born into God's family. He is in the family of God forever. The relationship does not change. Whether in Heaven or on earth he is in God's family.

When he is born again he also enters God's Kingdom. This relationship is for life. When he dies he passes out of the kingdom of God on earth and enters "his heavenly kingdom" (2 Tim. 4:18).

After he has been born again he is not yet in a church of God, but is now a scriptural subject for admission into a church of God. "The Lord added to

the church daily the saved" (Acts 2:47). Church membership was NOT something a man got with salvation but a subsequent blessing he got after salvation by being added to the church.

Baptism is NOT essential to admission into either the family of God or the kingdom of God: but baptism is essential to admission into a church of God.

Men are born anew into the family of God and into the kingdom of God: but they are baptized into a church of God (1 Cor. 12:13). The "one body" referred to by Paul in 1 Cor. 12:13 was the church of God at Corinth. Note in 1 Cor. 12:27 he says, "Ye are a body of Christ and members in particular."

### ONE BODY

That local church at Corinth was the body of Christ at Corinth. Jesus Christ has only one kind of church or body on this earth, and that is the local assembly — the organized body of baptized believers in any given community.

### VISIBLE OR INVISIBLE

Joseph Cross says: "We hear much of the invisible church as contradistinguished from the church visible. Of an invisible church in this world I know nothing, the Word of God says nothing; nor

can anything of the kind exist.

"A mere aggregation is NOT a body; there must be organization as well. A heap of heads, hands, feet and other members would not make a body; they must be united in a system, each in its proper place and all pervaded by a common life.

"So a collection of stones, brick and timbers would not be a house; the material must be built together, in an artistic order, adapted to utility.

"So a mass of roots, trunks and branches would not be a vine or a tree; the several parts must be developed according to the laws of nature from the same seed and nourished by the same vital sap."

Exactly so — Amen and Amen.

The limbs of a body scattered on a battlefield are not a body. The material of a house in the woods or quarries is not a house. These members and this material must be put in place before you have either a body or a house. So the saved are not a church unless brought together and organized or built into a body or house of God.

There is not and cannot be such an institution as a universal invisible church on this earth, composed of all the saved, because the material has never been brought together and built into a house or body.

When the Lord Jesus and Paul spoke of the


baptized believers of a larger territory than a local church they always said churches. There was no confusion in their speaking though there is much confusion in modern thinking upon this question.

### MAKE THE DISTINCTION CLEAR

Once more we try to make the distinction clear. The family of God is composed of all the saved in Heaven and on earth. Old Testament saints and babies who died in infancy are in God's family. They are not now, nor were they ever in the Kingdom or in any church of God.

All believers on the earth at any given time since the days of John the Baptist (Luke 16:16) compose the Kingdom of God. There are no infants in it.

All true believers, whether Catholic, Protestant, Baptist or non-church-members, on earth are in the kingdom; for if true believers they have been born anew.

Only scripturally baptized believers or Baptists are members of the churches of Christ. 

Feel glum? Keep mum. Don't grumble. Be humble. Trials cling? Just sing. Can't sing? Just cling. Don't fear. God's near. Money goes. He knows. Honor left. Not bereft. Don't rust—work! Trust!



## Christians Arrested In Egypt

CNSNew. — At least 22 Egyptian Christians have been arrested, many of them converts from Islam to Christianity, in a crack-down on apostates and those who support them, a British watchdog group has said.

While it is not technically illegal for Muslims to convert to Christianity in Egypt, converts are often sought out and arrested on other charges in an attempt to force them to return to Islam, said Paul Cook, advocacy manager of the Barnabas Fund, which helps Christians in countries where they are a minority, and particularly, where they are persecuted.

According to the British-based charity, a new wave of arrests began on October 21 with the arrests of two converts: Yusuf Samuel Makari Suliman and his wife, Mariam Girgis Makar, two former Muslims.

“The Christians have been taken from Alexandria to police stations in Cairo and are being beaten, interrogated and tortured,” the Barnabas Fund said in a statement.

The group has also received information that Mariam and other women may have been raped in an attempt to persuade them to renounce their Christian faith and return to Islam, said Cook in a telephone interview.

As of October 23, 22 Christians had been arrested, but the number has grown since then, Cook said. “It’s hard to get an accurate number,” said Cook, who added that the Barnabas Fund information had been confirmed by five independent sources in Egypt. “Other converts are hiding in people’s homes, afraid [that they’ll be arrested next],” said Cook.

A team of Christian and Muslim lawyers is de-

fending those who have been arrested, Cook said. They are being charged with falsifying their identity papers.

According to Egyptian law, it is illegal for Muslim converts to Christianity (or any Muslim) to change their names from a Muslim name or marry non-Muslims. That makes it impossible, for instance, for a woman who has converted to Christianity to marry a Christian man. Her children are therefore considered Muslims, and when she dies, she will be buried in a Muslim cemetery, thereby effectively curtailing any Christian activity and keeping her and her offspring in the Muslim fold. “There are also a myriad of other matters making it virtually impossible for Christians to follow their faith safely and authentically whilst they retain a Muslim name and ID,” said the Barnabas Fund.

In order to get around the law, some Christians apply for new government documents such as a passport using an assumed Christian name, which is not recognized by the state, but if they are caught, they are charged with falsifying documents as a way of punishing them for their apostasy. However, it is not illegal for Christians to convert to Islam in Egypt, and changes from a Christian name to a Muslim name are performed legally in such cases with 24 hours.

According to Islamic

*shari’a* law, anyone who leaves Islam should be executed, his marriage should be annulled and his children and property confiscated. *Saudi Arabia, Iran and Sudan require the death penalty for leaving Islam.*

“Whilst Egypt has no law against apostasy from Islam, in practice, converts are actively punished by the police in this 90% Muslim country and often face imprisonment, beatings and torture on various pretexts in order to try to force them to return to Islam,” the Barnabas Fund said. Egyptian Supreme Court Justice Said Al-Ashmawi explained that while conversion away from Islam is not specifically illegal, it is understood not to be acceptable. “It is understood that converting from another faith to Islam is approved, while from Islam to another religion is prevented,” Al-Ashmawi was quoted as saying in a 1996 report by Middle East Concern. “It is not mentioned that it is not allowed, but it is understood; there are technical problems that make it impossible. I hold that Egyptian law is actually Islamic law,” Al-Ashmawi said.

### Double Life

According to Dr. Helmy Guirguis, president of the United Kingdom Coptic Association, Mus-

(See **MUSLIM** on page 7)



## Pagan Wins Prayer Lawsuit In Virginia

## The Doctrine of the Church In These Times

By Chester E. Tulga

Richmond, Va. — Pagans can pray, too, a federal judge ruled Thursday in a case brought against county officials by a Wiccan who was barred from saying a prayer to open board of supervisors meetings.

U.S. District Court Judge Dennis W. Dohnal said the Chesterfield County board discriminated against Cyndi Simpson when it prohibited her from joining a list of clergy who deliver the invocations.

Wiccans consider themselves witches, pagans or neo-pagans, and say their religion is based on respect for the earth, nature and the cycle of the seasons.

“Chesterfield’s non-sectarian invocations are traditionally made to a divinity that is consistent with the Judeo-Christian tradition,” County Attorney Steven L. Micas wrote in a letter to Simpson in September 2002.

The judge said the board violated Simpson’s constitutional right of equal and free expression of her religious beliefs, while allowing Christians to practice theirs by delivering

the “legislative prayer,” which has been upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court for use by a governing body.

Micas did not return a phone call seeking comment Thursday. Simpson, who had not seen the written opinion, was delighted with the decision and said it would bring credibility to witchcraft as a religion.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia and Americans United for Separation of Church and State filed the lawsuit on behalf of Simpson, 47, last December after she was turned down by the board.

Kent Willis, executive director of the ACLU, called the ruling a victory for non-majority religions.


### **MUSLIMS . . .**

(Continued from page 6)

lims who convert to Christianity and don’t change their names are forced to live a double life. “They convert, keep their [Muslim] names ... go to church and take communion, [but] when they go out of the church, they behave like classic Muslims,” Guirguis said in a telephone interview. If

The true church is marked by the faithful they are discovered and arrested, they are tortured and forced to reveal the identities of other converts, who converted them and which people have helped them, Guirguis added.

According to Guirguis, the process of making Egypt with its 10 to 12 million Christians, most of whom are Copts, into a more Islamic nation has been going on for decades. “[Late Egyptian] President Anwar Sadat ... started the process of Islamization of the country, with the end result that he himself was assassinated [by Islamic fundamentalists in 1981],” Gurguis said. Today, through a continuation of teaching that ideology, young Muslims have grown up in that “non-tolerant culture” believing they are the only ones in the country, Guirguis charged.

Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states have also influenced Egypt by injecting hundreds of millions of dollars into the country to strengthen the Islamic culture, Guirguis added. 

exercise of scriptural discipline (Mt. 18:15-18; 1 Cor. 5:1-5, 13; 14:33, 40; Rev. 2:14-15, 20). The doctrine of the external sanctity of the church is a lost doctrine, and a futile effort is being made to give to the church a standing in the world which its degree of holiness does not deserve. There is an attempt being made to give a holiness to the church which does not involve the holiness of the people in the church. Scriptural disciplines are necessary to purity of doctrine in the church, a godly testimony to the world, and a proper observance of the ordinances. To have no rule of doctrine and no rule of life as conditions of membership or participation in the Lord’s Supper, is to corrupt the meaning of both and destroy their spiritual usefulness.

Every organization which proposes to work smoothly, and yet efficiently, must have certain rules and regulations to be followed; certain laws for the individual members to obey. There is no society

(See TULGA on page 13)



**Mass. Court Strikes Down Gay-Marriage Ban.** — Massachusetts' highest court ruled that same-sex couples are legally entitled to wed under the state constitution, but stopped short of allowing marriage licenses to be issued to the couples who challenged the law. The Supreme Judicial Court's 4-3 ruling ordered the Legislature to come up with a solution within 180 days. The ruling closely matches the 1999 Vermont Supreme Court decision, which led to its Legislature's approval in 2000 of civil unions that give couples many of the same benefits of marriage. The Massachusetts question will now return to the Legislature, which already is considering a constitutional amendment that would legally define a marriage as a union between one man and one woman. A similar initiative, launched by citizens, was defeated by the Legislature last year on a procedural vote. In addition to Vermont, courts in Hawaii and Alaska have previously ruled that the states did not

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have a right to deny marriage to gay couples. In those two states, the decisions were followed by the adoption of constitutional amendments limiting marriage to heterosexual couples. No American court has ordered the issuance of a marriage license — a privilege reserved for heterosexual couples. The U.S. House is currently considering a constitutional ban on gay marriage.

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**Constitutional Amendment Would "Cut" Michigan Classes.** — State Rep. Jack Hoogendyk of Michigan has drafted a constitutional amendment that would let the legislature cut classes that are "indoctrination rather than education." Targeted classes would include, "How To Be Gay: Male Homosexuality and Initiation" and "Deviance," which deals with lesbian issues. Both classes are currently offered at the University of Michigan. Hoogendyk's problem with the courses is the fact that "militant pro-homosexual activism is being funded by taxpayers," and, under current law, the Michigan Legislature has no choice

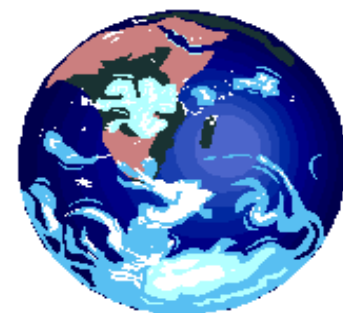
but to let it happen.

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**"Crusader" Mascot Under Fire.** — Americans United for the Separation of Church and State claims a Massachusetts public school's use of a crusader as its mascot violates the so-called separation of church and state. According to the group, the mascot is inappropriate because it conjures up images of "an extremely violent and religiously intolerant time." The activist organization is calling on the district to drop the mascot because of its "historical connotations."

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**Atheists Want Road Side Memorials Removed.** — American Atheists in Maryland want the state to start removing roadside memorials, crosses, flowers and sometimes teddy bears people leave next to highways where a loved one or family member has died in an automobile accident. The practice is repeated all over the country. David Condo, Maryland state director for American Atheists, said his group is opposed to the memorials from a "couple of perspectives" — driver's



safety and that "it's religious in nature." According to Condo, the basic Maryland State policy is to remove anything along the roadways, but he said state officials must be persuaded to enforce the policy when dealing with memorials.

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**Religious Bias In Congress.** — Some Republican congressmen are accusing a group of Democratic senators of religious bias. The charge comes as Democrats continue to stonewall several of President Bush's judicial nominees. The latest rejection came on Thursday when Republicans failed to get enough support in the Senate to end the filibuster against Mississippi's Charles Pickering, a nominee for the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Pickering has often been criticized for his conservative Christian views — and in the eyes of many liberals today, that dis-

(See **WNR** on page 13)

# La Voz Del Desierto

El concepto cristiano de la disciplina eclesiástica, según el Nuevo Testamento, no es la creación y acumulación de leyes restrictivas y prohibitivas para imponer sobre la conciencia de los creyentes, a fin de obligarlos por la fuerza a someterse a un orden y satisfacer determinado criterio.

La disciplina en el Nuevo Testamento es un cauce de luz trazado por Dios, sobre el cual el creyente en Cristo Jesús debe transitar con alegría, como expresión vital de su comunión con Dios y como imperio de una vida regenerada. En la disciplina no hay sombras que atemorizan la vida del cristiano, al contrario, hay luz como consecuencia de la comunión con Dios.

Jesucristo difundió sus doctrinas en el mundo, pero no las impuso por la fuerza, y esas doctrinas aceptadas por los suyos vinieron a ser el cauce de luz normativo de todos como individuos y como corporaciones.

De modo que cuando se dice disciplina no se quiere decir azote, sino orden y ritmo de principios vitales divinos, esto es, pureza e higiene del espíritu. Los que no han aceptado a Cristo en sus corazones, no lo han experimentado en sus vidas,



Por Aurelio Gutierrez

no pueden someterse a disciplina y norma espiritual. Una alma regenerada practica con alegría la disciplina dada en la doctrina de Jesús como el individuo consciente practica feliz las leyes de la higiene de su cuerpo.

“La palabra *disciplina* viene del latín, *a discendo*, aprendiendo, y por eso se puede llamar ciencia; pues la palabra latina *seire*, saber, viene *a discere*, aprender, porque nadie sabe sino el que aprende. Por otra parte se dice *disciplina* porque se aprende llena o total, *discutir plena*” (Isidoro de Sevilla).

En cuanto a la disciplina de la iglesia de Cristo, la enseñanza de Jesús es clara, y enfoca dos factores: (1) Que la Iglesia es un cuerpo ejecutivo divinamente investido de autoridad espiritual. (2) Que el individuo cristiano como participante de la naturaleza de Cristo y constituyente del cuerpo eclesiástico, debe reconocer la autoridad

divina de la corporación de la cual él forma parte. En consecuencia, los dos factores en juego son: la iglesia y el individuo, unidos por vínculos espirituales divinos, fecundados por el amor.

Con esta consciencia el apóstol Pablo dice en dos pasajes de su epístola a los Efesios. “Que el Dios del Señor nuestro Jesucristo, el Padre de gloria, os dé espíritu de sabiduría y de revelación para su conocimiento; Alumbrando los ojos de vuestro entendimiento, para que sepáis cuál sea la esperanza de su vocación, y cuáles las riquezas de la gloria de su herencia en los santos, Y cuál aquella supereminente grandeza de su poder para con nosotros *los que creemos*, por la operación de la potencia de su fortaleza, La cual obró en Cristo, resucitándole de los muertos, y colocándole a su diestra en los cielos, Sobre todo principado, y potestad, y potencia, y señorío, y todo nombre que se nombra, no sólo en este siglo, mas aun

en el venidero: Y sometió todas las cosas debajo de sus pies, y diólo por cabeza sobre todas las cosas a la iglesia, La cual es su cuerpo, la plenitud de Aqual que hinche todas las cosas en todos” (Ef. 1:17-23).

En esta porción el apóstol hace una afirmación rotunda de la suprema autoridad de Cristo, y define la naturaleza espiritual de la iglesia y su relación con Cristo como cabeza suprema de ella. La iglesia, como un cuerpo, ejecuta pero siempre con sujeción a la divina autoridad expresada en su doctrina contenida en el Nuevo Testamento.

Luego dice el apóstol, para formar conciencia en los discípulos de Cristo como individuos y como iglesias: “Que habite Cristo por la fe en vuestros corazones; para que, arraigados y fundados en amor, *podáis bien* comprender con todos los santos cuál sea la anchura y la longura y la profundidad y la altura, y conocer el amor de Cristo, que excede a todo conocimiento, para que seáis llenos de toda la plenitud de Dios. Y a Aquel que es poderoso para hacer todas las cosas mucho más abundantemente de lo que pedimos o entendemos, por

(Vea **DISC** en la pág 10)

**DISC . . .**

(Viene de la pág 9)

la potencia que obra en nosotros, A él sea gloria en la iglesia por Cristo Jesús, por todas edades del siglo de los siglos” (Ef. 3:27-21).

Para que el individuo comprenda la trascendencia de las enseñanzas de Cristo y sienta el gozo de practicar las normas disciplinarias que el Señor ha dado, es preciso que habite el mismo Cristo en el corazón, como dice el apóstol: “Que habite Cristo por la fe en vuestros corazones.” Solamente cuando Cristo habita por la fe en nuestros corazones es que podemos comprender su voluntad, y solamente cuando comprendemos su voluntad y su amor, podemos practicar la disciplina o norma vital del espíritu, para que Cristo sea supremo en la conciencia y reciba la gloria en la iglesia.

La disciplina es un régimen, y el régimen es equilibrio, y el equilibrio es la vida. Donde no hay régimen no hay equilibrio y donde no hay equilibrio reina el caos, el desorden.

La disciplina en la vida de la iglesia es como la higiene para el cuerpo humano. La iglesia en la declaración apostólica es un cuerpo: es el cuerpo de Cristo, y este cuerpo, para supervivir exige la disciplina del espíritu: el poder vita-

lizador y purificador de Dios. Consideramos brevemente la disciplina en el cuerpo de la iglesia.

### **I. La Iglesia Como Cuerpo Es Un Organismo Vivo**

Los miembros que componen el cuerpo de la iglesia son células vivientes que deben estar espiritualmente sanas, con la pureza y vigor del Espíritu Santo. “Porque por un Espíritu somos todos bautizados [con agua] en un cuerpo, ora Judíos o Griegos, ora siervos o libres; y todos hemos bebido de un mismo Espíritu” (1 Cor. 12:13).

Este cuerpo debe mantenerse vigoroso para cumplir su misión en la tierra, de ir y predicar el evangelio de Cristo y testificar el don de la gracia por Cristo. El cuerpo de Cristo que es su iglesia se forma por el principio vital del amor, es decir por leyes supremas o disciplinas morales de integración. Esto quiere decir que si no hay amor no hay disciplina de integración, no hay principio vital. La disciplina de integración es el ambiente, es la atmósfera vital del amor. De modo que con justicia puede el apóstol decir: “Por un espíritu somos constituídos en un cuerpo, ora Judíos o Griegos, ora siervos o libres.”

Es el espíritu de Cristo, quien dijo: “Sobre esta piedra vital del Espíritu edificaré mi iglesia y las puertas del infierno no prevalecerán contra ella.” No, no pueden prevalecer, porque cuando en el organismo militante se introduce la gangrena pestilente, el mismo poder vital del organismo llamado iglesia, o cuerpo de Cristo, comienza su acción eliminadora de purificación, conforme a sus leyes vitales que él mismo le infundió, que él mismo estableció en su Santo Evangelio, como veremos a continuación.

Cuando él habló de las relaciones fraternales a sus discípulos, después de haber constituido su iglesia, sobre la base antes dicha, les dijo: “Y cualquiera que escandalizare a alguno de estos pequeños que creen en mí,” esto es, estas células que están unidas a mi cuerpo, “mejor le fuera que se le colgase al cuello una piedra de molino de asno, y que se le anegase en el profundo de la mar” (Mt. 18:6). Y agrega, “ay del mundo por los escándalos,” y dirigiéndose a ellos dice: “Por tanto, si tu mano o tu pie te fuere ocasión de caer, córtalo y échalo de ti: mejor te es entrar cojo o manco en la vida, que teniendo dos manos ó dos pies ser echado en el fuego eterno” (Mt. 18:8).

En esta declaración apela a la conciencia individual del creyente, del discípulo, para que por imperativo de esa con-

ciencia, que puede llamarse *disciplina de formación*, él por sí solo expulse o elimine el mal para que resplandezca la vida en el organismo o cuerpo fraternal del cual forma parte: esto es, de la iglesia constituida por el espíritu de amor fraternal, y por la obediencia disciplinaria de la voluntad del Señor.

### **II. La Iglesia Como Organismo Vivo Que Milita**

Constituida la iglesia sobre principios vitales de disciplinas formativas, tiene que cumplir su misión encomendada por Cristo, primero de formación por la salvación de las almas y la incorporación de las mismas al cuerpo militante, y segundo, de preservación de ese cuerpo, de ese organismo que milita.

Veamos ahora esto como disciplinas correctivas de preservación. La iglesia ha de cumplir su misión encomendada por Cristo, preservándose con la vitalidad del espíritu divino, mediante la doctrina de Cristo, que en este caso es la sangre que corre por las venas del organismo viviente de la iglesia.

Cuando la iglesia está viviendo de acuerdo con la doctrina de Cristo, es un organismo vigoroso que impide la corrupción y el error doctrinal dentro de su organismo, porque tiene en sí misma la vitalidad ne-

(Vea **DISC** en la pág 11)

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

**DISC . . .**

(Viene de la pág. 10)

cesaria para expulsar los gérmenes de descomposición sin mayor dificultad, sin conflicto notorio.

Cuando Cristo dijo a los discípulos que era preferible cortarse la mano o el pie, o sacarse el ojo antes que provocar escándalo, inmediatamente después, como previniendo la impotencia individual por escasa visión de la voluntad divina, dijo: “Por tanto si tu hermano pecare contra ti, ve, y redargúyete entre ti y él solo: si te oyere, has ganado a tu hermano (esto es, a aquel que no pudo evitar el mal por sí mismo). Más si no te oyere, toma aún contigo uno o dos, para que en boca de dos o tres testigos conste toda palabra. Y si no oyere a ellos, dilo a la iglesia: y si no oyere a la iglesia, ténle por étnico y publicano” (Mt. 18:15-17).

Aquí entra la disciplina correctiva encomendada a la iglesia. Es ella la autoridad final constituida por Cristo para evitar la pestilencia moral en su propio organismo, en su propio seno, haciendo uso de sus recursos vitales y espirituales contenidos en la doctrina del Señor. La iglesia espiritualmente vigorosa actúa, defendiendo su propio organismo de gérmenes nocivos que amenazan desintegrar y descomponer su cuerpo. Funciona exactamente como puede funcionar el

cuerpo humano en la plenitud de su vigor. No así cuando el cuerpo de la iglesia es anémico y endeble, debido a los males que la minan comenzando por el error doctrinal que se enseorea de ella, seguida por la corrupción moral que se apodera de sus miembros.

Desde luego, si la iglesia es en primer lugar un organismo vivo, y en segundo lugar un organismo militante, veamos en tercer lugar:

### **III. La Iglesia Como Organismo Militante Ejerce Autoridad Disciplinaria**

El ojo espiritual vigilante de la iglesia notará sin dificultad los casos concretos cuando debe ejercer su autoridad disciplinaria de preservación moral y espiritual en su propio cuerpo, esto es, en los miembros que la componen.

Para esto vamos a referir los casos concretos que como principios fundamentales universales se nos presentan como escándalos.

1. En caso de error doctrinal, la iglesia consciente de la verdad doctrinal que sustenta, debe seguir el consejo dado por el Señor de amonestar al delincuente y después separarlo de su seno, si no se arrepintiere, con la esperanza de que esta acción le haga reflexionar para volver al cuerpo. Para este caso tenemos esta

enseñanza: Romanos 16:17 dice: “Os ruego hermanos (hermanos de la iglesia) que miréis los que causan disenciones y escándalos contra la doctrina que habéis aprendido; y apartaos de ellos.” Esta amonestación es sumamente clara en cuanto a casos de escándalos contra la doctrina, como los que se mencionan también (2 Tes. 3:6, 14; Tito 3:10; 2 Juan 1:9). En estos casos como principios normativos universales no queda otro recurso aconsejado que “separarse del hermano, esto es, separarlo del cuerpo de la iglesia, expulsándolo de la misma, para evitar la contaminación general.”

2. En caso de escándalo moral que afecta todo el organismo y desdora la obra del Señor, como este que el apóstol Pablo menciona en 1 Corintios 5:1-4, que dice: “De cierto se oye que hay entre vosotros fornicación, y tal fornicación cual ni aun se nombra entre los Gentiles; tanto que alguno tenga la mujer de su padre. Y vosotros estáis hinchados, y no más bien tuvisteis duelo, para que fuese quitado de en medio de vosotros el que hizo tal obra. Y ciertamente, como ausente con el cuerpo, mas presente en espíritu, ya como presente he juzgado al que esto así ha cometido: En el nombre del Señor nuestro Jesucristo, juntados vosotros y mi espíritu, con la facultad de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, el tal sea

entregado a Satanás para muerte de la carne, porque el espíritu sea salvo en el día del Señor Jesús” (1 Cor. 5:1-4).

Debe notarse la fuerza espiritual que autoriza al apóstol para pedir la expulsión de un incestuoso que trae vergüenza y dolor al cuerpo de la iglesia, formada como Cuerpo de Cristo. Teniendo esto como punto de partida universal ninguna iglesia que pretende seguir y predicar la doctrina de Cristo, puede excusarse de tolerar la no expulsión de un tal pecador.

3. En caso de cualquier condición moral contraria a la voluntad de Dios claramente establecida en la palabra del Señor, como las que el apóstol enumera en 1 Corintios 6:9-10, y que dice: “¿No sabéis que los injustos no poseerán el reino de Dios? No erréis, que ni los fornicarios, ni los idólatras, ni los adúlteros, ni los afeminados, ni los que se echan con varones, ni los ladrones, ni los avaros, ni los borrachos, ni los maldicientes, ni los robadores, heredarán el reino de Dios” (1 Cor. 6:8-9).

La enumeración de hechos contrarios al espíritu de Cristo es sumamente clara para tomar una determinación por concepto del organismo espiritual llamado iglesia.

Toda iglesia del Nuevo Testamento por su propia vitalidad doctrinal no podrá tolerar una situación de maridaje de Cristo con Belial. □

# Editor Challenged For Proof

Dear Bro. Moser:

I've been doing a little study on the religion of our American forefathers and in the process recalled something of the exchange we engaged in some months ago. As I recall you stated that George Washington was baptized by a Baptist minister. I think you said a chaplain. My review of the matter now allows me to give a fuller and more accurate response than I could at the time. I have found no evidence of his baptism by immersion [sic]. I would be very interested in your source of information. All I could find is evidence and outright statements that he was a deist up until death. The name of Christ does not appear in any of his diaries. He attended church on an average of 6 times a year and managed to make it 18 times one year.

Dear Bro. \_\_\_\_\_:

Received your Email a short time ago, but as I am now recovering from back surgery have not had time to answer it. I have no desire to enter into a long discussion concerning this, but I have decided to go a little further in answering your question than just that concerning the immersion of George Washington. Relating to the immersion itself, I am attaching a

picture of a painting of his baptism that is now in the John Gano Chapel at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri. Also, I have a photocopy (in poor condition) of a book written by Dr. Ben M. Bogard entitled "President Washington a Baptist, The Father of His country a Devout Christian." In this book is correspondence from

several of the descendants of Washington who remarked that their ancestors (grandparents, etc.) passed down to them those who claim to have been eye-witnesses of his baptism. I understand that the book is still available today as it is mentioned on the internet under Google.com.

However, back to the general subject. There are



## Was George Washington Baptized By John Gano?

For 200 years, the descendents and relatives of John Gano, founder and pastor of the First Baptist Church of New York City and George Washington's chaplain have passed on the story that the father of our country was indeed immersed. This painting, now at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, in the John Gano Chapel, was commissioned, curiously, by Episcopalian Rector E.T. Sanford of New York in 1908, and was hung in a Baptist church in Asbury Park, New Jersey. In 1926, a great granddaughter of John Gano gave it to the college.

two "flocks" in the United States today. Each of them have an agenda. The first "flock" are those whose agenda is to destroy everything in the history of the United States that might indicate that the United States began as a Christian nation. Not that they were Christians, but the basis of its founding was on Christian principles. Their effort is to take the founders of this nation and seek to present them as men who founded this country with no reference to God, Christ, the Bible, the Ten Commandments, etc. and by doing so, state that our country was founded on the principles of humanism, which is the deification of man. Those who fall in this group are the ACLU, atheists, ag-nostics, liberals, etc. They are really anti-God, anti-Christ, anti-Bible, anti-Ten Commandments, etc. They are presently in control of our courts as the judges in both our lower courts up to the U.S. Supreme Court are in charge, and nearly every ruling that they issue is made to undermine what has historically been true in the United States.

The second "flock" is composed of those who believe the Bible to be the

(See **REPLY** on page 13)

**REPLY . . .**

(Continued from page 12)

Word of God, and the Ten Commandments to be the best law to be observed on the earth. They believe that the founders of our country, even if not personally believers in Jesus Christ as a true Christian is, were so influenced by Christ and the Scriptures, that they depended upon God to help them in establishing this nation as a nation under obedience to God. This is evident in the many times they sought God's direct help in forming this nation. They believed in the God of the Bible and sought His help. Those who fall in this group find all kinds of evidence to support this view. All one has to do is to read the Inaugural Speeches of the presidents as well as later speeches, the many leaders who were active in the founding of this nation, and then statements by previous members of the U.S. Supreme Court in their opinions.

A common expression is "Birds of a feather, flock together." I find myself in the second "flock." I do not know what "flock" you would be in, but I certainly would not want to be among those who are the supporters of those who are anti-God, anti-Christ, etc.

Finally, beginning with the December issue of **The Baptist Challenge** and continuing for several months, I will be inserting material from history

showing that the founding fathers of our country, and those who followed them were believers in God and that it played an important part in their political life as well as in their personal life. This will continue for several months, perhaps until the end of the year 2004 or more, and I trust that you will give it careful consideration.

You do not need to respond to this Email as I have so much to do that I do not want to get into a long discussion. I cannot add more to what I have written that would convince you one way or the other, and anything I might add would simply be a repetition of what I have already said.

I trust you will continue to pray for me as I recover from my surgery. I am able to get up and about some, but I am sure that it will take some time for it to completely heal.

Prayerfully yours,  
M. L. Moser


**TULGA . . .**

(Continued from page 7)

to which these remarks apply more appropriately and with more emphasis than the local church of Christian believers who profess before the world to have found a Savior from sin and superior way of life. When these laws fall into disuse, the message of the church is corrupted and the lives of its members cease to inspire confidence.

These disciplines can be applied wisely or unwisely. E. T. Hiscox (**The New Directory for Baptist Churches**, pp. 101-102) says, "To some the word *discipline* has an unpleasant sound. It seems punitive. It savors of transgression, conflict and punishment. But church discipline is not to be taken in this narrow sense alone; nor does it develop these unlovely features, except, where, by the culpable neglect of pastors and others it has fallen into decay, good order and the well-being of the body have been long disregarded, and the church has become a lawless and disorderly company. Then a very hasty, and possibly an intemperate effort to make matters right, without sufficient prudence and precaution, may develop difficulties."

Whatever the difficulties, in many cases these disciplines of the Word of God must be used to restore the church to health and the Lord's Table to holiness. Hiscox says, "Many a church has found serious trouble in re-establishing a healthful order and discipline, after long continued neglect and disorder. But many a church has also found that a thorough course of Christian labor, and the re-establishment of a healthful scriptural discipline, has brought back to the body order and harmony, reinvigorated its wasted energies, has pro-

duced a better tone of practical piety, and become the precursor of a revival of religion." A true church uses scriptural disciplines lovingly and wisely (**The Doctrine of the Church in These Times**, C.E. Tulga, pp. 35-36). 

**WNR . . .**

(Continued from page 8)

qualifies a person to sit on the bench. According to Cybercast News Service, the House Republicans say the same fate appears to be in store for Alabama Attorney General William Pryor, also nominated for an appeals court post. On Thursday, a group of House Republicans released a report which specifically names Democratic Senators Chuck Schumer, Dick Durbin, and Patrick Leahy as trying to establish a religious litmus test for these nominees. Republican Congressman Walter Jones of North Carolina says, "We cannot allow this to continue. Everyone has a constitutional right to practice or not practice their religious faith." Fellow GOP Congressman Lamar Smith of Texas agrees, saying, "Some senators have decided to assert an unconstitutional religious-beliefs test as they debate judicial nominations."

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**Restoration Act**

(See WNR on page 15)

**BEES . . .**

(Continued from page 2)

Christ" (1 Cor. 12:12). The many members in the church make up one body, the one head of this body is Christ. "He is the head of the body, the church" (Col. 1:18).

As many as 50,000 bees can labor together under one roof in harmony, for the common good of the colony. We who are members of the body of Christ should work together in harmony to build up the church which is His body. We are to love one another as He loved us. "And above all these things put on charity (love), which is the bond of perfectness" (Col. 3:14).

Bees have definite rules to follow. As Christians we are to let Christ rule our lives "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in the one body. And be thankful" (Col. 3:15).

When they are rearing brood, bees maintain a temperature of about 92 degrees Fahrenheit in the nest during the period of about 10 months a year, and humidity is at a high level. Such conditions would be favorable for the growth of bacteria which could destroy the bees.

As bacteria constantly endanger the life of the honey bee, so does Satan constantly endanger the Christian. "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant

of his devices" (2 Cor. 2:11).

**Protective Mechanisms**

Conditions would be favorable for the growth of bacteria if the bee colony did not have protective mechanisms. Experiments have been done to determine if bacteria can live and multiply in honey. Ten different types of germs were introduced into honey, including the germs that cause typhoid fever. The germs were dead within two days.

As the power of the germ can be destroyed, so can the power of Satan over the Christian be destroyed by God. "To open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me" (Acts 26:18).

Antibiotic activity, the ability to destroy germs, is found in royal jelly, the substance which worker bees secrete from glands in their head and feed to the larvae. Larvae which will become queen bees get more royal jelly than those destined to become workers. This antibiotic is about one-fourth as effective as penicillin against germs exposed to it, but its activity is high enough to give the royal jelly considerable protection against bacteria.

The Christian should

pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit, so that he can be protected against Satan and be able to witness more effectively for the Lord. "That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man" (Eph. 3:16).

How do bees protect their stores of pollen? I mentioned that bacteria could destroy bees, yet it has been found that bacteria-producing lactic acid serves to protect pollen stored in the hive. The lactic acid protects the pollen against destruction by other germs.

This reminds me of 2 Corinthians 12:7: "And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure." Paul saw that a divine purpose had been worked out through the physical ailment he had to suffer. This would not break him. This was the work of all sufficient grace. It is the glory of life that it is in our weakness that we find this wonderful grace; man's extremity is God's opportunity.

A returning bee may enter the wrong hive. If the stray bee had been performing a housecleaning task, such as removing a dead larva or adult from its own hive, it may by entering the wrong hive spread the

disease that killed the insect.

"Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump" (1 Cor. 5:6)? Leaven was sin and in this instance stood for a putrefying and corrupting influence. Paul was shocked by the attitude of the Corinthian church to a very blatant sinner. The church had accepted the situation and done nothing about it. This poison could spread throughout the church and destroy it, for an evil influence in the church and corrupt the whole church, as the leaven permeates the whole lump of dough.

Bees in a hive are quick to take action against a foreign object. Even if a bee is already occupied, it will switch to the task of removing the foreign object. Those foreign objects are not merely removed from the hive; they are carried some distance from it, so that if they represent a source of danger or infection, they are rendered unlikely to cause trouble.

"Purge out therefore the old leaven that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us" (1 Cor. 5:7). Paul was saying that the man who was very evil must be put out of the church to bring him to his senses.

**Drones Don't Work**

(See **BEES** on page 15)

## How Shall They Hear

*“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher?”* (Rom. 10:13-14).

Are you one of these people that think your duty ends with tithing or by going to church every Sunday morning? If you are, woe be unto you!

How do you expect the lost people of this sin-cursed earth to hear about Christ and His saving power if you don't do something about it besides sitting around in an easy chair twiddling your thumbs and building up treasures on earth. Friend, it just can't be done that way!


Mark 26:15 says, “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” Who is going to do this if you don't? There are literally thousands of people all over the world who are lost and on their way to hell, and literally thousands who have never had a chance to hear the gospel. Do you think it is fair for you to do nothing about it?

What would you do if you had a child and you told that child to go to bed and the child stubbornly refused to do it? I'll tell you what

you would do, you would punish the child so it would do what you wanted it to do. Well, brother, you had better watch out if you are not doing what the Lord wants you to do. Just remember how He brought old Jonah down to his prayer-bones in the fish's belly, and remember what the outcome was. Jonah went to Ninevah and by the grace of God every person in Ninevah was saved, even the vilest of criminals.

If you are fighting the call of God, remember God created the universe, the earth, and breathed the breath of life into man; He can also provide the grace for you to lay everything on the altar if you will only let Him do so.

According to the Bible, we are living in the last days and you know as well as I do that Christ might come back at any time. Would you want Him to catch you astride the fence of indecision, or would you want Him to find you gathering in the harvest of souls?

Make your decision now before it is everlastingly too late. Pray about it — Prayer Changes Things! (I know.) 

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### BEES . . .

(Continued from page 14)

Discipline sometimes has to be exercised for the sake of the church. It may be very damaging to the church to shut our eyes to the evil offenses. Discipline

is designed to mend the person who has sinned. It is to make him — not break him. It must be curative.


So far as is known, the drone bee does no work at all. It evidently does not have the same standards as do the workers. The drone has a short tongue which he uses to take food from workers and from honey-storage cells in the hive; he does not collect food from flowers. Towards the end of summer when fresh nectar becomes scarce, the other bees prevent the drones from feeding.

We are not only to work for Jesus Christ, but we are to work for the good of ourselves, our families and the community in which we live. “For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: If any one will not work, let him not eat” (2 Thess. 3:10). This has nothing to do with the unfortunate man who, through no fault of his own, can find no work to do; but the refusal to work is important. A tree is known by its fruits and a man is known by his work. The Christian, just because he is a Christian, should be a better workman than anyone else.

The bees apparently “know” what work is needed to be done at any particular place or time and do it. The answer to what makes the bees realize the needs of the colony, so as to make it run as a well-adjusted society is still unknown. Whether it

is the “necessity” or a special factor or the food trans-mission or some other stimuli, we do not know.

If we live close to God we will know His will for our lives. We will know His will and will want to do His will. We will want to pray as Paul did: “Lord what wilt thou have me to do” (Acts 9:6)? “Jesus said to them, my food is to do the will of him who sent me to accomplish his work” (Jn. 3:34). The great keynote of Jesus' life was submission to the will of God. He was perfectly obedient to the will of His Father.

God has a plan for each of our lives and a work that He has given us to do. It is God's great desire that we should be as He is. To do the will of God is the way to peace, happiness and power. 

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### WNR . . .

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**Would Defer Power To States.** — Colorado Senator Wayne Allard has introduced a bill that, if passed, will have an impact on people of faith. he says the Religious Liberties Restoration Act is intended to “protect America's Judeo-Christian heritage.” According to Allard, the way the courts are going now, “they want to remove the Ten Commandments and ... take things like the national motto as well as the Pledge of Allegiance

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# Institutions in Jewish Life

By J. Calvin Dennis

When we open our New Testament and contemplate its surroundings, the first thing of prominence to meet our attention is the Jew. It is also impossible to correctly understand the New Testament without becoming thoroughly acquainted with the Jew, and Jewish life in general. I shall not approach this matter with the purpose of giving detail information, since it covers a number of generations. There are two institutions in Judaism which I shall give attention.

## The Synagogue

When we come to the close of the Old Testament history, or the last book in our Old Testament, we have read nothing of any other place of worship but the Temple. After we pass from Malachi to the New Testament we find a new and prominent institution in the Jewish religion, such as the synagogue. Greek scholars tells us that the word is of Greek derivation, and means "gathered together, or assembly."

There is some question as to when and where the synagogue had its origin. There is one thing certain that it doesn't date back to the time of Moses. Since the synagogue placed such



**Synagogue at Capernaum**

great emphasis upon the study of the Law and Judaism, we are inclined to the position that the Jews while in Babylon, and hopelessly separated from the Temple and its worship services, that the devout Jews met together in various places for the purpose of reading of the Law and its discussion. Ezra did much in this direction when he placed such emphasis upon the devoted study of the Law.

The synagogue was the place where the people received their public instructions in the Law. It was their school of instruction. In its beginning it is not likely that they met on any day except the Sabbath. However, before the Maccabean period supposition is that they gathered together in these synagogue schools on

weekdays as well as on their Sabbath. They had men known as scribes to do their teaching. These services that were held through the week were doubtless held for the convenience of the rural people as they would come into the village with their produce. They usually located the synagogue on the highest place in the community, or, if such a place was not available they would locate the synagogue near the square. These buildings were erected by the entire congregation, however, we do find where one man did, out of his generosity, donate the entire expense (Lk. 7:5).

## The Temple

In the opinion of the Jew the Temple is the only place where they could and should worship God. They

did have, however, prayers and praise services in homes, and synagogues, but to the Jew, Jehovah in a real and adequate way could only be worshiped in the Temple. They used the synagogue largely for teaching; the Temple was a place for worship. Since they held the Temple to be distinctively a place for worship, naturally it occupied a very vital place in the experience and religion of the Jews.

The first Temple was planned by David, who did make a great contribution toward it, but was built by Solomon. This Temple known as the one Solomon built was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C. In the year 516 B.C., the time of the Restoration, Zerubabel built the second Temple. This Temple was plundered and dismantled by Antiochus Epiphanes in the year 168 B.C., and about three or four years later this building was restored and rededicated by Judas Maccabaeus.

In the year 20 B.C. Herod the Great began the rebuilding of the Temple. The work continued on this great structure for forty-six years, and other added improvements made until it was finally completed and

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## Psalm of the New Testament

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, the gospels  
do proclaim,  
That Jesus died — was crucified, to bear His  
people's shame.  
And these are facts as found in Acts, Christ  
did His church empower;  
To bind and loose, to preach the truth, and be  
a mighty sower.

In Romans nine, the Word Divine, says man  
is saved by grace;  
And not of him that wills or runneth, in the  
human race.  
We find the First Corinthians rebukes, in-  
structs, reproves;  
Corinthians two in words so true, tells what  
the Father loves.

Galatians says they of the faith are the seed of  
Abraham;  
Now we that be in Christ shall see, Jehovah  
God, I AM!  
Ephesians tell of the elect — the ones by grace  
He calleth;  
This is that truth where the uncouth arminian  
preacher falleth

Philippians counsels of the time when men  
shall bow the knee;  
Confessing Jesus Christ is Lord, and will  
forever be!  
Colossians bids us live to God, forsaking  
worldly leaven,  
Thessalonians One declares the Son of  
God shall come from heaven.

The Second Thessalonians doth Anti-Christ  
foretell;  
Who truth denies with monstrous lies — He's

ordained into hell.

In Timothy One, Paul says, My Son, through  
faith in Christ our Lord;  
Refuse profane and old wives tales and preach  
God's Holy Word.  
Second Timothy says in the latter days, men shall  
be boasters, proud;  
Having a form of godliness, but not by the spirit  
endowed.  
Titus tells of that blessed hope, and he gives us  
a bishop's rule;  
"For a bishop must be blameless," lest he be the  
Devil's stool.

Philemon marks a Christian's love, as only  
Christians know it;  
Hebrews reveals the gospel, as the old time law  
did show it.  
James insists that without works, our faith is  
vain and dead;  
First Peter points us to the way the saints of  
God are led.

Second Peter tells of times ahead — false  
prophets are not few;  
While in First John the theme is on, the love  
of God so true.  
In the Second and the Third of John, we learn  
about false teachers;  
And Jude doth tell the wrath of hell upon  
unfaithful preachers.

The Revelation speaks to us of that great  
judgment day;  
When Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, will have  
the final say!  
Glory to God, All Highest! in Jesus' name we  
pray. Amen!

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away from us because of a reference to God.” The senator feels the courts are acting inappropriately and has introduced the legislation to reign them in and say to them: “Let’s defer this to the states — that’s where it belongs.” The bill would authorize Congress to limit the courts’ ability to rule on such religious matters, an action many religious leaders have been asking Congress to take for years. — Agape Press.

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### Gambling Wins And

**Losses.** — Recent referendums in several states affected the gambling issue, either directly or indirectly.

■ A proposal to allow two Indian tribes to operate a \$650 million casino in southern Maine failed by a margin of nearly 2-1. ■ In Colorado, voters rejected a plan to install 2,500 video lottery terminals (computerized slot machines) at five dog and horse tracks.

■ Ernie Fletcher’s election as Kentucky’s first Republican governor in 32 years is being interpreted by anti-gambling groups as a defeat for the gambling lobby. His opponent, Ben Chandler, had openly supported gambling expansion.

■ Maine voters approved placing slot machines at horseracing tracks, with

part of the proceeds “to be used to lower prescription drug costs for the elderly and state scholarships.” ■ Orange County, Ind., residents voted to establish a casino between the towns of French Lick and West Baden. — BP

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### Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Hits “Legal Snag.”

— After two congressional attempts to outlaw the procedure were vetoed by President Clinton, supporters of the Partial-birth Abortion Ban Act saw their efforts rewarded when President Bush signed it into law Nov. 5. But injunctions issued by three different judges appear to have prevented enforcement for most of the nation. The latest injunction came Nov. 6 from San Francisco, where U.S. District Judge Phyllis Hamilton issued an injunction preventing the bill from applying to 900 Planned Parenthood clinics nationwide, according to the Associated Press. In New York, U.S. District Judge Richard Casey issued a similar injunction Nov. 6, preventing the law from applying to members of the National Abortion Federation, which claims its doctors perform half the abortions in America. U.S. District Judge Richard

Kopf of Nebraska issued the first injunction the same day the ban was signed. His injunction applies to four doctors who are licensed in 13 states. — BP

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### The State of Freedom.

— To mark the 20th anniversary of the National Endowment for Democracy, President George W. Bush made a sweeping declaration announcing a new policy toward the Middle East. The Bush doctrine seeks to push democracy all over the Middle East. The president is to be commended for his vision and for giving the nation a sense of purpose consistent with its ideals. But one word sums up the reason his policy may not succeed: Islam. Islam, at its core, does not believe in freedom.

\* \* \*

### Murders In Indonesia.

— A well-armed and organized group is responsible for recent killings of at least 12 Christians on the island of Sulawesi, Indonesia’s national police chief said, though he would not say if it was an organization with links to al-Qaida. The murders have raised fears of a return to the widespread bloodletting that left more than 1,000

people dead between 1999 and 2001. Sectarian conflict in the region worsened during that period with the arrival of Laskar Jihad, a Muslim militia believed to be supported by hard-line elements in the Indonesian army. In a speech in the central Sulawesi town of Poso, General Da’i Bachtiar declined to label the murder group and sidestepped questions about reported involvement of Jemaah Islamiyah, the terror group linked to al-Aqida. Investigators have revealed no motive for the attacks. ... About 90% of Indonesia’s more than 210 million people are Muslims, making it the world’s most populous Islamic country. The remainder are mostly Christians, Hindus and Buddhists.

\* \* \*

### Old Fossils — A Problem For Evolutionists?

— According to evolutionists, the oldest fossils ever found are a blue-green algae that lived along the coast of Australia and South Africa. These fossils have been dated by them to be 3.5 billion years old. But when they examined these fossils under the microscope, they found that they were identical to the blue-green algae that are still living today. Dr William Schopf, a leading evolutionist, says that this

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## The Church Resigns

By Glenn H. Asquith

"It refuses to budge," complained Elder Smith, shaking the door of old First Church.

It was a beautiful Sunday morning, and the impatient knot of worshipers gathered about the front entrance had grown to what passed for a crowd in that congregation.

"But of course it will open," said Mr. Jones, strutting forward. "I don't come to church often, but when I do, I intend to get in."

"Really?" drawled a voice which seemed to come from the steeple. "Well, you are not going to get in today or ever again. I resign."

"Who—who said that?" stuttered a frightened voice.

"I did—Old First Church. I repeat, I resign."

"But what do you mean, you resign," questioned the president of the Ladies Aid.

"What did you mean when you resigned in a huff last year? What did Silas Chapman mean when he resigned from the Board because he had not the time to give to the work? What did Eliza Till mean when she resigned after the every-member canvass? They meant they were quitting. That's what I mean

— I quit. One hundred years is enough."

"But why do you want to quit? Who would take care of you in your old age?" asked the sexton.

"Oh, I'll just molder away in peace like my brother, Ebenezer, down the road. I've done my part; 100 years of service to God in this community. You taught me that, you know. 'I've done my part,' said Albert Perkins, "Five years I've been superintendent of the schools'!"

"But you are dedicated to God. You have to serve; that's what you are made for!"

"Look who's talking, Amos Carpenter. Weren't you dedicated to God when you were a baby, Amos? Weren't you made to serve God? What do you ever do?"

There was silence for awhile. This was serious. Finally, the people pushed kindly Judge Green forward. "You tell him, Judge!"

"Can't we arbitrate this, Old First?" inquired the Judge. "Won't you state your conditions and let us decide what we can do?"

"I ought not. None of you ever gives me a chance to reply to your criticisms when you are good and ready to find an excuse to stay home. But I will. Here are my terms, and I will not compromise.

"1. You are not going to live in snug houses while I look like an orphan. I want a complete renovation

and I want a better heating plant. If you cannot afford these improvements, then you cannot afford a church.

"2. I do not intend to go on in a lopsided manner. Either you come out regularly and fill all the pews or I refuse to open. You have time for everything else you want to do.


"3. I insist on better services. If I am to give myself, I expect to see you give yourselves. Sing in the choir, you who have the talent. Serve on the committees, you who have executive ability. Bring in new members to keep me happy, you who can't do anything else. There, those are mild terms. What do you say?"

"My Sunday morning nap," wailed Mr. Jones.

"My new fur coat which I have been saving for when I should have kept my pledge!" moaned Sally Troy.

"And the time, oh, the time this is all going to take" complained the others.

"Well, answered the others, "what choice have we? We just have to have a church. But we shall never be able to call our souls our own again."

"Quite right," replied Old First. "You should never have said they were your own in any event. Have I not been teaching these hundred years that all life is a stewardship? Here goes the door, line up there?" 


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presents a tremendous problem for evolution. Evolution is based upon change, and yet these algae don't appear to have changed at all in their supposed 3.5 billion years. If evolution is based on everything changing, why do we find these oldest fossils to be identical to the living algae today? And it's not just the blue-green algae—scientists continue to find many living animals that appear to have hardly changed at all compared to their fossils that are allegedly millions of years old. Well, the answer's in Genesis—God made all living things—including blue-green algae—only thousands of years ago. They've always reproduced after their own kind as commanded by their Creator.

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dedicated in A.D. 64. This Temple was destroyed by Titus A.D. 70, and has never since been rebuilt. It was in the above mentioned Temple that Jesus had the pleasure of attending with His Jewish parents. This Temple built by Herod was a beautiful structure. The entire Roman empire didn't have a finer building, taking into consideration the imperial city. 

Sometimes failure is a blessing in disguise.

## Did You Ever Hear, “Sunday Is The Only Day I’ve Got?”

By Roy Mason

Thieves of God’s time use this as their stock excuse for not attending public worship on Sunday, and they say it in such a tone and manner as to indicate that it is an irrefutable excuse.

One need not expect unsaved people to have an interest in Sunday and what it commemorates, nor need one expect them to be interested in worship and the things of God. One *should* be able to expect an interest in these on the part of saved people. However, there is good reason for people abstaining from the ordinary duties of life one day a week, and that reason is recognized by our government. The government recognizes Sunday as a legal day of rest from the ordinary duties of life. This is not done because of religion, but because there is need of such a period. France, after the Revolution, when atheism was in flower, knocked out Sunday observance and established a day of rest every tenth day. It didn’t work. It was found that both men and machinery wore out quicker while this obtained. It was further noted that every seventh day marks the ideal time for the cessation of ordinary activities. God knew His business when He ordained that one day

in seven should be used as a day set a part — a day of rest from ordinary labors. He gave the Sabbath to the Jews (and never to any other race). The Sabbath commemorated the deliverance of the Jews from Egypt (See Ex. 31:15-17). The Lord’s Day, commonly called Sunday, is not the Sabbath, but it conserves the same principle that one should cease from the ordinary labors of life for one day out of seven. But the Lord’s Day is much more — means much more, than the old Sabbath. The old Sabbath commemorated the Jewish deliverance from bondage in Egypt. The Lord’s Day commemorates the Savior’s resurrection through which we are delivered from a far greater bondage.

### Why Do We Observe The Lord’s Day?

1. *It celebrates the greatest event that has ever taken place* — the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Jesus arose after having been in the tomb three full days and nights, and He arose at sunset, just as the Jewish Sabbath expired and the new day started. Certainly there should be something to commemorate the resurrection. The Lord’s Day is that

event.

2. *Jesus used that day as a day of meeting with His disciples following the resurrection.* For a period of 40 days (Acts 1) He met with the disciples intermittently, and it was particularly on the first day of the week that He met with them (For example, see Lk. 24:13-31).

3. *The disciples after the ascension continued to meet on the Lord’s Day for worship.* A good illustration is found in Acts 20:7 John on Patmos speaks of being “in the spirit” on the Lord’s Day. Seemingly that particular day was marked by him as out of the ordinary.

4. *Christians have been meeting on the Lord’s Day for worship ever since the days of Christ and His apostles.* The Adventists try to disprove this. They say that the pope changed the Sabbath to Sunday and give the pope’s words to prove it. No matter what any pope has ever said, no pope started Christians worshipping on the Lord’s Day. The writings of the early church fathers, before ever a pope existed, show that Christians worshiped from the earliest times on the Lord’s Day — not on the Sabbath.


### Whose Day Is It?

Revelation 1:10 says “the Lord’s Day.” If it is the Lord’s Day, then “how come” that people say, “Sunday is all the day I’ve

got.” *Sunday is not their day* — it belongs to the Lord. If it is His, then it should be used in a way that honors Him. It is not so used in the following instances:

1. *It is not used to honor God when one runs his business on Sunday.* That allows no time for the worship and service of God. The doctor and the druggist and the nurse and some others may necessarily be busy on Sunday because of the nature of their work, but all business that can be closed down ought to be.

2. *It is not used to honor God, when the day is used purely for pleasure.* This is the main purpose for which Sunday is commonly used today. **SUN**-day has become **FUN**-day. Such results in people ignoring the soul such that they laugh and play their way on into Hell.

3. *It is not used to honor God, when used purely for physical and mental recreation.* The old Sabbath was a day of rest. The Lord’s Day is not merely a day of rest — it is a day for worship and Christian activities. The habits of people on the Lord’s Day pretty well reveal their spiritual state and condition. 

The best kind of pride is that which compels a man to do his best work — even when no one is looking.

**POPE . . .**

(Continued from page 1)

My successor; receive him as your Pope and head of the Church, call him Holy Father, honor and obey him." On the contrary, Jesus made the following positive declaration, which is diametrically opposed to Roman teaching: "But be ye not called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. And call no man your father upon the earth for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ. But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that will humble himself shall be exalted" (Mt. 23:8-12).

**The Apostles Never Acknowledged Peter As Pope**

Paul is silent about Peter's primacy. He wrote some thirteen or fourteen epistles, and never once refers to Peter's authority over the others. If such authority had existed would he not have spoken of it?

Paul considered himself Peter's equal. He says: "I was not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles" (2 Cor. 11:5). If Peter had been Pope would he have dared speak after this fashion?

Paul censured Peter openly. He says: "When

Peter was come to Antioch I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed" (See Gal. 2:11-16). How would Paul have dared to censure Peter openly for failure to practice what he preached in his action toward the Gentiles if Peter had been Pope?

Peter was considered only as one of the pillars of the Church (Gal. 2:8-10). He was like James and John, one of the pillars of the church, not its head.

No writer of the New Testament speaks of Peter as Pope. What does their silence mean? Can it be a conspiracy against him? Why do they ignore his authority? Why? Because Peter never was Pope. All the apostles were brethren.

**Peter Never Spoke Or Acted As Pope**

The only time that Peter acted at all like a Pope was when he used the sword and cut off the ear of Malchus (Jn. 18:10). Popes have often made much use of arms; when at Antioch he did not walk according to the truth (Gal. 2:14) — Popes have done the same thing for centuries; when he contradicted and opposed the teachings of Christ (Mt. 16:21-23). In this respect all the Popes have excelled. This was all the popery Peter had in him. It was enough, but Christ delivered him from the power of the evil one.

Peter was sent to

preach by others. "Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the Word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John" (Acts 8:14). This does not seem Pope-like. In place of sending others to preach, Peter is sent out himself.

Peter did not preside at the Council in Jerusalem. He did not call the Council nor open its deliberations. James took the direction of the gathering. If Peter had been Pope why did he not show his authority (Acts 15)?

Peter refused to have Cornelius kneel before him. "As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet and worshipped him. But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up: I myself also am a man" (Acts 10:25-26). How different from the Popes who compel men to kneel before them!

Peter did not profess to have power to forgive sins, but the Popes pretend they have power to forgive sins. Peter told Simon to pray to God for pardon. "Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee" (Acts 8:22).

Peter speaks of himself simply as an elder or pastor. "Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia" (1 Pet. 1:1). "The elders which are among you I

exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the suffering of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: feed the flock of God that is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock" (1 Pet. 5:1-3).

Peter is completely silent about his position as Pope. He preached the gospel on the day of Pentecost and exhorted the people to repent of their sins, to believe in Jesus and be baptized, but he was silent about his great power and high position. Was he too modest, or did he not know that he had been elected Pope? He wrote two epistles, but never mentioned his office of Pope. Who of the Roman Popes acted like Peter?

Peter never celebrated mass, nor did he hear confessions; he never directed a soul to pray to Mary nor to the saints, nor to use beads; he never advocated the use of holy water, and scapulars, and old bones; he never ordered the people to abstain from meat on Fridays and during Lent; he never declared that priests and nuns should not marry; he never presented his foot to be kissed; he never lived in a place with soldiers to guard him and hundreds of servants to

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**POPE . . .**

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supply his every want. Why did he not do these things? Because he never was Pope.

### **Peter Was A Married Man**

In the "Question Box" of the Catholic Register of Toronto, Canada, appeared the following: "I hear it said that St. Peter was a married man. Is it so?"

"Yes, St. Peter was a married man but was among those who left all to follow the Lord and preach the Gospel. The law that priests shall not be married is not a divine law, but what we call ecclesiastical, and the Church made it because an unmarried clergy is doubly efficient for many reasons ... And the constant experience of all Christian times shows that the experiment, if so it may be called, has been a signal success ..."

We are glad to learn the editor of the Catholic Register acknowledges that Peter was a married man, and the law that priests shall not marry is not divine.

That this so-called law has rendered the clergy of the Church of Rome more efficient we are not prepared to grant, and that the experiment, for we deem it an experiment, has been a success, we also deny. We would urge all priests to read carefully the words of Paul concerning the office

of a bishop: "A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife ... one that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; for if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God" (1 Tim. 3:1-7)?

We would call the attention of all Roman Catholics to the fact that the law that priests should not marry is not only not a divine law, but it is a diabolical one. Paul speaks of it as "A doctrine of devils." "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; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; *forbidding to marry*, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth" (1 Tim. 4:1-3).

Generally Roman Catholics believe that the apostles were celibates like the priests of today. But Rome, to save her cause, will answer that when Peter became priest, or Pope, he left his wife. In the Question Department of the Catholic Observer appeared the following: "St. Peter was married before he became an apostle, but ceased to live with his wife when he was elevated to the office and dignity of the

Christian priesthood."

The Menace very aptly answered this slander against Peter by saying: "If St. Peter ceased to live with his wife one of them must have left the other. If, on the other hand, St. Peter did the leaving then he was a wife deserter. The Roman Catholic Church then, was founded by and upon a wife deserter."

### **Was Peter Ever Pope?**

We know that this statement that Peter left his wife is a falsehood. Paul makes it plain that after Peter became an apostle he still had his wife. He says: "Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Çephas" (1 Cor. 9:5)?

The Word says: "A bishop must be blameless the husband of one wife." Why did Pope Gregory VII say: "Leave your wives! Forsake your children! Abandon your home! My clergy shall not marry!" Why? Because he was not the successor of Peter.

### **There Is No Scriptural Proof That Peter Was Ever In Rome**

The Roman Catholic Church teaches that Peter was the first pope, reigning at Rome twenty-five years. We challenge her to bring a single scriptural proof in support of her assertion. If Peter did visit Rome, the

New Testament is completely silent about that visit. The Word of God speaks of Peter as the Apostle of the Jews (Gal. 2:7-8). In reading the Acts of the Apostles, written by the Apostle Luke, we see Peter at work in Jerusalem, Caesarea and Antioch. If he had been in Rome for twenty-five years as Pope, why did not Luke mention this fact? No historian would overlook mentioning the most important event in a man's life.

In the year 58 A.D. Paul wrote a letter to the Romans. In this letter he mentions more than twenty persons, but he does not say a word about Peter; he sends no greetings to Pope Peter. If Peter had been there he would undoubtedly have mentioned it. In 61 A.D. Paul goes to Rome to visit all the brethren. He did not meet Peter there; if he had been there he surely would have seen him. In 62 A.D. and 63 A.D. Paul wrote to the Philippians, to the Colossians, to the Ephesians, and to Philemon, from Rome. He speaks of several of his fellow laborers, but he is silent about Peter. In 66 A.D., a short time before his death as a martyr, Paul writes to Timothy from Rome and relates to him how all had forsaken him except Luke. Does any one believe that if Peter had been there he, too, would have neglected Paul? Never! Between 41

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**BODY . . .**

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value as food but not all equally sweet. Fat may be either vegetable or animal, the former being usually liquid as oils, like linseed or olive. The animal fats are also liquid at the body temperature of the animal and so all fats are available in the liquid state. Mineral oils, such as paraffin or vaseline, have no food value.

Besides proteins, fats, and carbohydrates, food also must contain other substances, such as water, mineral substances, and vitamins. In the human body there are about 50 quarts of water, and about 3 quarts are lost daily. Since the solid foods contain much water it is not necessary to ingest all the daily water requirement as fluid. Fruits and vegetables contain more than 90 percent water, potatoes 80 percent, eggs and meat, 70 percent. Even bread contains from 35-40 percent of water.

It is well to remember that the body fluid is not pure water, but rather a salt solution, and since the body continually excretes salt solutions in perspiration, tears, etc., it is always necessary to take adequate quantities of salt to make up for the loss. The chief depository of salt is the skin.

The body contains about three pounds of calcium, most of it deposited in the bones. Calcium has

a sedative effect on the cells, nerves, and brain. The ideal calcium-containing food is milk. One quart of cow's milk contains about two grains of it. It is a good plan to take at least one glass of milk daily or to eat such easily digested milk products as cottage cheese, and buttermilk.

Three quarts of the calcium of the body is combined with phosphorus in the form of calcium phosphate. Phosphorus is a very powerful poison, yet the body contains about two pounds of it, always in combination, however, where it is not toxic. Milk contains phosphorus, necessary for growing bone. Meat, bread, potatoes, and legumes are also rich in this mineral. Phosphorus is found in the complex protein and fat compounds, and seems to be indispensable for the highest vital processes. The best known phosphorus fat is lecithin.

The body contains 100 grams of sulphur, every cell having a trace, but most of it is present in the brain, the nails, and the hair, red hair having the most. If the body lacks sulphur, hair and nails become brittle. For sick hair and nails there is no better medicine than to eat daily a plate of hulled oats, which have a high sulphur content. Eggs, beans, lentils, radishes, onions, garlic, and chive contain goodly amounts. The exact function of sulphur in the body is not known.

Potassium, another mineral requirement, is found in potatoes, legumes, and meat. When meat is cooked a considerable proportion of its potassium passes into solution, so that meat broth is a kind of "potassium tea," with a stimulating effect which makes it suitable as the first course in a meal.

Infinitesimal quantities of arsenic, manganese, copper, iodine, and more of iron are found in the body. Anyone who eats rationally of a mixed diet, and consumes milk, cheese, salads, and vegetables, automatically supplies the body with the necessary mineral substances, and need have no worries.

I believe you are beginning to get some sort of an idea of the extreme complexity of the human machine or organism, although we have scarcely scratched the surface of the subject.

You will agree that we are looking at something which must have been planned very carefully by a Power of Infinite Wisdom. Nothing else will satisfy any of our questionings. It looks very reasonable to accept the Bible when it says: "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

Here we have power and wisdom combined with love and thoughtfulness. If you tell me that is simply

my faith and is not based on a scientific foundation, I ask you what better explanation can you offer? My faith is not blind nor credulous. It is sometimes asserted very vehemently that science is built on the solid rock of ascertained fact, while Christianity rests on the shifting sand of mystic feeling or of sheer hypothesis. That is not true. There are some axiomatic truths which lie at the base of all thought. One, it seems to me, is that if all matter and all life had a beginning, they must have had a Cause. This Cause is stated in God's Word to be God, the Creator. Why should that be surprising? It is an absolutely necessary premise.

The unbelieving scientist who ridicules my faith in God will agree that geometry is the most perfectly logical of all the sciences. Yet it rests on certain axioms for which no proof is offered. I want bedrock somewhere — I must have a foundation, — and I have it in God my Heavenly Father, and in His Son, Jesus Christ. I have no doubt of their existence, because I have had fellowship with them and am sure it is possible to know Him "whom to know is life eternal." Millions of intelligent people have made the same tremendous discovery and their faith is unshakable. At least, friend, give Him a trial. You have

(See **BODY** on page 24)

## Isn't It Strange How A 20 Dollar Bill



seems like such a large amount when you donate it to church, but such a small amount when you go shopping?

Isn't it strange how 2 hours seem so long when you're at church, and how short they seem when you're watching a good movie?

Isn't it strange that you can't find a word to say when you're praying, but you have no trouble thinking what to talk about with a friend?

Isn't it strange how difficult and boring it is to read one chapter of the Bible, but how easy it is to

read 100 pages of a popular novel?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants front-row-tickets to concerts or games, but they do whatever is possible to sit at the last row in Church?

Isn't it strange how we need to know about an event for Church 2-3 weeks before the day so we can include it in our agenda, but we can adjust it for other events in the last minute?

Isn't it strange how difficult it is to learn a fact about God to share it with others, but how easy it is to learn, understand, extend

and repeat gossip? Isn't it strange how we believe everything that magazines and newspapers say, but we question the words in the Bible?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants a place in heaven, but they don't want to believe, do, or say anything to get there? Isn't it strange how we send jokes in e-mails and they are forwarded right away, but when we are going to send messages about God, we think about it twice before we share it with others?

### It's Strange Isn't It?

### POPE . . .

(Continued from page 22)

A.D. and 66 A.D., when it was said Peter was in Rome we cannot find a single passage anywhere in the whole New Testament mentioning that fact. Why? Simply because Peter never was Pope.

### Christ's Vicar On Earth Is The Holy Spirit

Before leaving the earth Jesus made this promise: "I am with you always, even

unto the end of the world" (Mt. 28:20). How is He with us? By the Holy Spirit, and not by a visible head, called the Pope. Jesus said: "It is expedient for you that I go away, for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin ... Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth" (Jn. 16:7-13).

This promise was fulfilled on the day of

Pentecost. Since then the same gift of God has been bestowed upon all actual Christians. Today we need no Pope to guide us. God's Word is our authority. Every one whom Jesus saves has the promise of the guidance of the Holy Spirit to illuminate his pathway.

Was Peter ever Pope of Rome? No! Therefore *no Pope could ever be his successor*. Consequently the whole papal fabric falls to pieces. Why? Because it is founded upon a lie.[]

## Activities That Burn Up Calories

Overweight Christians can use up calories in their daily activities without any physical exercise.

Some of the activities and the calories per hour consumption:

Beating around the bush,	75
Jumping to conclusions,	100
Climbing the walls,	150
Swallowing your pride,	50
Passing the buck,	25
Throwing your weight around, depending on your weight)	50 to 100
Dragging your heels,	250
Pushing your luck,	250
Making mountains out of molehills,	500
Wading through paper work,	300
Bending over backwards,	75
Running around in circles,	350
Eating crow,	225
Tooting your own horn,	25

### BODY . . .

(Continued from page 23)

nothing to lose and everything to gain. You are very sure, if you will honestly admit it, that you have a great need in your life. There is no lasting satisfaction and you carry a burden of sin. Let Christ take that burden — He waits your invitation and He will respond quickly, — and HE'S WONDERFUL!

[Next month: "What Makes Your Blood Red?"]