

The Baptist CHALLENGE

a voice of independent Baptists

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Church Truth

By W. Lee Rector

The Church — Its Institution and Its Witness

The church of the living God is the body of Christ, a local assembly of baptized believers, covenanting to preach the gospel to every creature throughout the ages, thus honoring the commission of Christ, its head, and actually yielding its life to the personal

supervision, enduement, and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The church was founded by Christ Jesus in person, during His personal ministry on earth, and immediately after His return from His wilderness temptation (Mk. 3:13-14; Lk. 6:12-13). He called unto Him His disciples (made by John) and organized His body. That the church was organized in the mountain

at the time He called the disciples unto Him is seen in the following facts: A church is a *called out body* — These were *called out*. A church is a body of *baptized believers* — These *believers were baptized* by John. A church is an *organized body* — This body *was organized* by the Lord. The Lord ordained twelve of their number; set them first in

the church (1 Cor. 12:28); and then sent them out as evangelists and missionaries from the church (Lk. 9:1-10). The church was organized with its official family and upon its institution the Lord delivered to it the beatitudes (Mt. 5:3-12).

That the church was organized by the Lord before the Day of Pen-

(See **RECTOR** on page 6)

Go-ology

By David R. Abbott

Under other circumstances, I might well speak of astrology, biology, psychology, sociology, typology, zoology, or some other such subject, but I desire rather to speak on go-ology. First of all, I believe it is a better subject than these others. In fact I believe it is one of the greatest subjects confronting us today.

(See **GO** on page 18)

Five Bible Warnings

By Chester E. Tulga

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

1. *The warning against false professors.* "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord shall enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Mt. 7:22-23). False professors appeared in the earliest days of the church and have persisted through the centuries. In spite of these stern warnings, we are living in a day when one may be

(See **TULGA** on page 21)

Wisdom's Way

By L. S. Ballad

"Her ways are the ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace" — Prov. 3:17.

Solomon was called the wise man of his day. He was a philosopher whose intellectual brilliance has never been excelled in any age of the world. He not only spoke from inspiration but by observation as well.

(See **WISDOM** on page 14)

Quiz The Pastor -- #6

“Baptized For The Dead”

By the late Nick Michalinos

Question: Please give me information on being “baptized for the dead” as found in First Corinthians 15:29.

Answer: This verse is a real puzzle to many folks, and some among the cults have made it to mean something completely foreign to the tenor of Christian and Biblical beliefs. The verse reads: “Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? Why are they then baptized for the dead?” (1 Cor. 15:29).

We must bear in mind that this whole chapter of 58 verses in First Corinthians 15 is mainly about the subject of *resurrection*. The word “resurrection” in the Greek means “to stand again, to arise again.” In this whole 15th chapter of First Corinthians the Holy Spirit

is using Paul to confirm the resurrection (arising) of Christ out from among the dead, for all of Christianity stands or falls on His resurrection.

Within the church at Corinth there were those that doubted or denied His resurrection. God will answer those skeptical minds with certain questions designed to show them to be in error. Read Matthew 3:16-17 concerning the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. In that act of baptism, Jesus pre-figured the gospel facts, namely of His dying for our sins, being buried (immersed in water), and of being raised again from the dead (coming up out of the water) (1 Cor. 15:3-4). This is actually what baptism symbolizes, a burial and a resurrection.

Now carefully read First Corinthians 15:12-19, where Paul, under inspiration of

the Holy Spirit, reasons if there be no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen, and therefore, we conclude His baptism by John the Baptist was a falsehood for He in that act, symbolically showed that by coming up out of the water He would be resurrected! If Christ be not raised, there is no gospel, for He only died and was buried (1 Cor. 15:14-19). He stopped in that tomb.

We as believers are then left without hope. We are yet in our sins and we are to be pitied. If this be true (we know it’s not), then when John the Baptist immersed Jesus, he should have kept Him under the water, and not allowed Him to come up out of the water. This is the line of reasoning that Paul is using in this 15th chapter to show us the resurrection error on the part of the skeptics.

Also, by noticing Romans 6:3-11, believers who are baptized, are in the act said to be “planted together in the likeness of his resurrection.” We see here that through faith in Christ as Savior, believers are spiritually identified with Christ in His death (Rom. 6:6, 8, 11), and then as He was actually buried in a borrowed tomb, and three days later resurrected, even so in the act of baptism we are figuratively said to be buried with Him and resurrected with Him (Rom. 6:3-5).

But, if the skeptics at

Corinth are correct, and He is not resurrected, then the act of baptism is a false symbol to use, for it pictures an arising out of death. Now, this is the very point that Paul is making in First Corinthians 15:29. What sense is there in being baptized (“What shall they do ... ?” if there be no resurrection? They are symbolically pictured as being buried in the baptismal water as “dead,” but “if the dead rise not at all (as the Corinthian skeptics claimed), why are they (baptized ones) then baptized for the dead?” ... who are anticipating being resurrected as the ordinance of baptism declares?

Keep in mind that the act of baptism gives us hope as it promises resurrection even as Christ was resurrected. It is “a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Pet. 1:3). Because He lives, we shall live also (Jn. 14:19; Rom. 8:11). There is no hint here that some believers were being baptized in behalf of believers or non-believers who had previously died. No, in no sense is this the meaning. What he is saying is that we are buried as “dead ones” in the water of baptism, and raised from the water as resurrected “live ones.”

Baptism then is the true symbol chosen by God to portray this two-fold act.

(See **DEAD** on page 24)

THE BAPTIST CHALLENGE

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Salty Salt

By C. M. Prewitt

Following our Lord's message on the Beatitudes, He said to His disciples, "Ye are the salt of the earth." A truth so far reaching that we wonder if those few words spoken to those disciples by the Master when on earth are still true today. We also wonder if any professing Christian can claim the distinction of being designated as "salt." The Master evidently was speaking to His church when making this statement, and He also said, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Most folk who believe the Lord's local, visible, independent church is still operating today believe the Lord included all the members in His declaration. Just how many can you name that you believe can be classed as the Lord's "salt"? Let's see what composes salt, and what valuable properties it contains, and the effect of the application of natural salt, a type of the "salt" the Lord was talking about.

1. Salt is composed of two principal elements — Chlorine and Sodium — a compound. Sodium is the medium by which the active chlorine is brought into action. Even so the "salt" the Lord is talking about must be a compound

produced by uniting two elements — earthly substance, man created in the image of God, and — heavenly Chlorine — the Holy Spirit producing the compound — the Lord's "salt."

2. Salt produces results when applied to material substances, such as meats, vegetables, etc. It preserves from decomposition and corruption. Even so the Lord's "salt" must preserve His truth from error; must hold inviolate the truth about His salvation and proclaim it without deterioration and worthlessness; must maintain the truth about His divinity; must declare His virgin birth; must recognize His power, wisdom, and eternal presence; and while disseminating the truth about the blood atonement, keep a watchful eye for His bodily, visible, and audible return from the skies.


3. Salt produces thirst when taken into the body of red-blooded animals, as well as virile humanity. Evidently the Lord included this property in His "salt." This obvious fact makes us wonder if many of those calling themselves Christians can produce a real thirst in others for the salvation they profess. We have sometimes heard others say, in making appeals to the

unsaved, "If what he or she has is religion, I don't want any." Or, "if they are going to heaven, I want to go to the other place."

Again others will say, "I don't want to be a fanatic like they are." Something must be wrong with their salt. The Lord says something about "salt" losing its savor or thirst producing qualities.

4. Salt is attractive in its whiteness. What person looking upon some great salt basin on a bright sunny day and has not been attracted by its glistening whiteness. It reminds us that the Lord has promised His own children bright shining robes of untarnished

brightness, robes washed in the blood of the Lamb. Surely the "salt" in the lives of God's saints is attractive. It will shine more and more unto the perfect day.

While much could be written on "salt" we have only touched some high spots, and it is the hope of the writer of this little message that it will cause someone to let God's Chlorine — Holy Spirit — to permeate their lives that they shall be truly the Lord's "salt" compound; preserving His truth; producing a thirst for righteousness in others; and showing to the world the attractiveness of God's salvation. 

A Stranger

An earnest Christian woman was engaged in her ministry to doctors, nurses and patients in a hospital.

A doctor facetiously said to her, "Do you believe God will hear your prayer? I'm hard up. If I asked Him would He send me \$100?"

The good woman answered, "If you were introduced to the president, would you put your hand in his pocket at once?"

"No," he said, "not until I knew him better."

"You will need to be a great deal better acquainted with God before you can expect such an answer as you wish."

Have Anything Better?

A story is told of an atheist who sent a young Christian a parcel of infidel literature, and suggested that he read it instead of the Bible. In reply, the young man wrote:

Dear Sir: If you have anything better than the Sermon on the Mount, the parable of the Prodigal Son, and that of the Good Samaritan, or if you have any code of morals better than the Ten Commandments, or anything more beautiful and consoling than the Twenty-third Psalm, or, on the whole, anything that will throw more light on the future and reveal to me a Father more merciful and kind than I find in the New Testament, send it along."

God's Masterpiece — Man's Body #7

How Long Will You Live?

By Arthur I. Brown

Several articles of a general nature have been given and we have followed the interesting journey of the first protoplasmic cell, one one-hundred and twenty-fifth of an inch in diameter through its devious and very complex journey lasting nine months and in the last study the little man was born. He is about twenty inches long and weighs seven or eight pounds, a bit more or less, as he begins his life struggle in this new environment and wonder entirely different conditions from those which have previously surrounded him.

If we think of him in a very matter-of-fact way, he is composed of about fourteen elements in various combinations, the same elements found in the dust of the earth, and one day he is destined to return to this primordial dust unless translated according to 1 Thess. 4 — at least the physical body will thus disintegrate. His soul and spirit, which entered we do not know exactly where along the line of his development, will live (exist) forever.

Someone has expressed in a somewhat facetious way, and only approximately, what an

average adult person consists of. This is the picture:

Water — ten gallons;
 Fat — enough to make seven bars of soap; Salt — thirty to forty teaspoonfuls; Sulphur — a heaping teaspoonful, about enough to make sufficient ointment to kill the fleas on a medium-sized terrier dog; Sugar — one-quarter pound; Phosphorus — enough to tip 2,200 match heads; Lime — sufficient to whitewash a small chicken coop; Baking soda — one half teaspoonful; Carbon — enough to make nine thousand lead pencils. And the entire mass, at current drugstore rates, is worth about ninety-eight cents!

This calculation, of course, must not be taken literally, but there is an element of truth in it which shows how surprisingly God can take very ordinary substances, and, by applying His Omniscient power, transform these elements into billions of cell-people equipped to carry on all the operations incidental to the complex life of an individual.

If you think of the body as a machine, — then it must have fuel to make it go. The human body cannot

utilize coal, or wood, or oil, or gasoline, but its fuel is food of various kinds. This food is placed in the body engine and is there burned up by a process of combustion, which we shall study, this process providing nourishment, power and energy, with resulting manufacture of heat without which the body would die. The ashes of combustion are carried away by a remarkable garbage-removal system and the busy workers are fed and cared for with meticulous attention to detail, as we shall see.

It is interesting to calculate the amount of fuel needed for a single individual during an average lifetime. Dr. Morris Fishbein of the American Medical Association once gave the following amounts of the different foods needed to keep one person going through life: 6,000 loaves of bread, 4 calves, 8 hogs, 4 sheep, 300 chickens, 70 geese, 100 pigeons, 2,000 large fish, 2,000 sardines, 9,000 pounds of potatoes, 12,000 pounds of other vegetables, 14,000 pounds of fruit, 6,000 quarts of milk, 12,000 quarts of coffee, 1,000 pounds of salt, 5,000 eggs, 800 pounds of sugar, 2,000 pounds of cheese, 10,000 quarts of water, and smaller amounts of various other foods. Quite a list, isn't it.

Barring accidents and sudden death, how long may our infant be expected to live? Naturally, there is

no way of making any exact calculation, but it may be possible to discover some approximation to this answer. Statistically, the average American male dies in his 60th year, and more often from diseases of the heart or circulatory system than from any other cause.

In the case of each individual, the situation is different: he may die at 35 or 95; he may never know that he has heart disease, although that may be the final cause of death. Of course, everyone dies when the heart ceases to beat, but to a great degree the condition of one's heart muscle and some other factors determine the life expectancy for persons who will eventually die of heart disease in some form.

Dr. Raymond Pearl, internationally known biologist of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, gave an address a few years ago before the New York Academy of Medicine which has been widely quoted. He announced that he had constructed an "index" of life expectancy. He was cautious in his statements, and did not speak in terms of years lived, but of long life, and short life, and what made the difference between them. He had studied two groups of 93 men each. The members of each group had all died of heart disease, but one group, on

(See **BODY** on page 23)



Tobacco — A Parable

By **Richard H. Heatherly**
Fayetteville, TN

Behold the tobacco plant, which God created for the worms, the seeds thereof which men took and planted in their fields. Which is indeed one of the least of all seeds, but when it is grown it becometh a large plant with broad and thick leaves, so that, large vile, and loathsome worms come and feed upon the leaves thereof.

And it came to pass in the process of time, that men did look upon the tobacco plant as an object to make one look strong and manly. And they put forth their hands and took of the tobacco leaves and began to use them in a manner that defies all intelligent logic, for they began to roll the leaves into stick-like forms and did put

fire to them and smoke them, sucking upon them foolishly pulling the foul smelling smoke into their lungs thereby poisoning their body greatly.

Others did wrap the leaves in paper, and smoked them looking very grave and calf like. And still others did put it in their mouths, and did chew it and snuff it, spitting vile amber spit somewhat akin to the vile worms that dwell in the leaves thereof. And because the strong and pungent taste causes great need to spit frequently, and since spitting out windows of moving vehicles is extremely messy, especially for those who wear glasses, this did cause many to resort to carrying with them at all times empty pork and

bean cans and soft drink bottles, carefully puckering their lips so as to make sure the spittle goes into the containers lest it greatly foul their vehicles and living quarters.

And behold when tobacco became socially acceptable, and was seen by men as a symbol of acceptance by ones peers, many young men began to smoke it, snuff it, and to chew it at a very early age. And behold many were sickened by the many poisons in the smoke and began to die with a strange disease called cancer. Notwithstanding this sad violation of the body as the temple of the Holy Spirit, even their women did leave that which is natural and holy, and did disgrace the pure and holy image of motherhood by smoking chewing and snuffing it.

Thus they did disregard all of God's warnings, and even flaunted the warnings of health officials, knowing to do good, they did it not, thereby causing many of their babies to be addicted to this drug even while in the womb, grieving a holy God.

Therefore many husbands and fathers did die young from the terrible disease of the lungs, leaving many widows and orphans. The women too suffered greatly, sometime giving birth to children greatly deformed by the use thereof.

And it came to pass in due time, the results were

so costly to society, and the misery caused was so great, the governments began to pass laws forbidding the use of it in restaurants and public gathering places, causing many poor souls to be seen standing outside public buildings sucking long and hard in order to get as much smoke as they can before going inside. The hospitals, too, and those hawking products to help one quit the habit, waxed rich from the misery of those who continue to smoke it, snuff it, and chew it.

And behold, as if it were not confusing enough, the government through pressure from congressmen and lobbyists continued to pay crop support to those who raise it. Many preachers took the word of God and tried to show people the evil of it, and that God would have His people refrain from defiling themselves thereby. And they pled with people to quit for God's glory, but they all with one consent began to say, "we cannot stop smoking, chewing, and snuffing it, for we are enslaved thereby."

Howbeit many continue to promote this vile drug, causing it to become a huge industry. From the farmer who raises it, to the merchants who peddle it, vast multitudes profit great sums of money from the misery it produces.

And even as they did

(See **TABACCO** on page 17)

Christlikeness

Oh, that my tongue might so possess
The accent of His tenderness
That every word I breathe would bless.
To those who mourn, a word of cheer;
A word of hope to those who fear,
And love to all men far and near;
Oh, that it might be said of me,
"Surely thy speech betrayeth thee
As a friend of Christ of Galilee."

RECTOR . . .

(Continued from page 1)

tecost, following the resurrection of the Master, is proved by the following facts:

1. The Lord organized it in the very beginning of His personal ministry on earth (Mk. 3:13-14; Lk. 6:12-13).

2. The Lord during this ministry affirmed Himself to be its builder and its perpetuator throughout the ages to come (Mt. 16:18).

3. The Lord delegated to His church the authority to act for heaven (Mt. 16:19; 18:18), and this delegation further proved the church's existence before Pentecost, following the resurrection, since Christ had not been crucified at that time.

4. The Lord instituted the Lord's Supper and set it in the church (Mt. 26:26-29), and this was done before His death. All worshipping bodies assume that the church is the custodian of the Lord's Supper. Pedo-Baptists do this in spite of the fact that the Supper was instituted by the Lord before His death. Paul sets forth the detailed instructions for the administration of the Supper, given by the Lord to His disciples or His church (1 Cor. 11:23-30).

5. The Lord set the ordinance of baptism in the same body before His crucifixion (Mt. 28:19).

6. The Commission was given to His church to

evangelize, and to baptize, and to teach (Mt. 28:19-20) and this was done before His death.

7. The Lord assembled Himself with His body, after His resurrection, and before His ascension (Acts 1:4), and this was before the Pentecost following His resurrection.

8. The Lord delivered His body, its Magna Carta while renewing the Commission He had previously given to it (Acts 1:8), and then He ascended (Acts 1:9).

9. The church transacted business in old-fashioned Baptist way (Acts 1:15-26), and this was before Pentecost dawned.

10. The Lord added to them (the church) on the Day of Pentecost, about three thousand souls (Acts 2:41). Since something cannot be added to nothing, then the church had to be in existence for the Lord to have something to which to add the saved.

These ten facts ought to prove to any unbiased mind that the church of the living God was founded by the Lord Jesus Christ in person during His earthly ministry and that it both existed and operated before the Day of Pentecost, following the Lord's resurrection.

The church instituted by the Lord Jesus is God's lone witness on earth. A Convention of Baptists has no authority to witness for

(See **RECTOR** on page 22)

Speak Out For Jesus

You talk about your business,

Your bonds and stocks and gold;
And in all worldly matters

You are so brave and bold.

But why are you so silent

About salvation's plan?
Why don't you speak for Jesus
And speak out like a man?

You talk about the weather,

And crops of corn and wheat;
You speak with friends and neighbors

That pass along the street;

You call yourself a Christian,
And like the gospel plan —
Then why not speak for Jesus,
And speak out like a man?

Are you ashamed of Jesus

Who suffered on the Cross?
You lower His pure banner
And let it suffer loss.

Have you forgot His anguish?

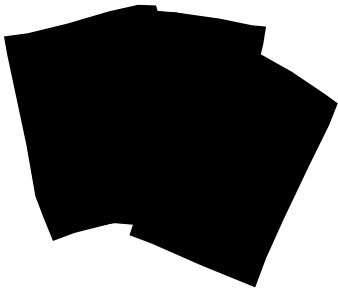
Or did He die in vain?
Oh, stand and speak for Jesus,
And speak out like a man!

I'd like to tell the story

Of Jesus, wouldn't you?
And help some other people
To know the Savior, too.

I'd like to travel onward

Until I heard Him say:
"Well done, my faithful servant.
You've helped Me work today."



The Battle In the Past Against Apostasy.

Forty years ago when I first entered the ministry, the word “modernism” was on the lips of every fundamentalist. The word had a connotation to such organizations as the Federal [National] Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. Individual names such as Harry Emerson Fosdick, Harry Ward, E. Stanley Jones and others became synonymous with our exposure of modernism or apostasy.

Many great pulpiteers and Bible expounders became well-known for their battle against modernism. Included among these were T.T. Shields, J. Frank Norris, Harvey Springer, Carl McIntyre, Bob Ketchum, Bob Jones, Art Wilson, Noel Smith, Archer Weniger, Henry Grubs and a host of others too numerous to list. All these men have been very close friends.

They fought seemingly insurmountable battles against apostasy and unbelief in denominations and councils. These men were giants in their day. They fought those who

Modernism Takes A New Form

By Victor E. Sears

would bring false doctrine into our churches and those who would attempt inclusive policies of fellowship between fundamentalists and modernists. The lines were definitely drawn so that people knew unequivocally the difference between fundamentalists, neo-evangelicals, and modernists. Today these lines are fast becoming obliterated.

CCM Music — The New Form of Apostasy. Now there is a new form that modernism and apostasy has taken to creep surreptitiously into our churches and destroy their scriptural testimony. This time it does not come in the form of preaching or teaching, but rather in the carnal production of the musical program from many church platforms. Much of the singing heard today by choirs and specials on the average church platform is what is known as contemporary or as soft rock and is often backed with the sound of canned music that could be produced by the average dance or disco band at the corner honky-tonk.

In my personal estimation, much noise or racket (certainly not music) is a polluting stench in the nostrils of a holy God. With

its sensual tones, jungle beat, and nightclub presentation, it appeals to the flesh rather than to the spirit. It motivates the carnal interest instead of the new nature. The sad truth is that most of this new contemporary, soft rock, offbeat style of music was conceived in hell, hatched among the charismatic crowd, and printed in their publishing houses.

Beware: Charismatic Music Is Taking Over Our Churches! Good fundamental Baptists and others that refuse the teachings of the charismatic crowd concerning tongues, signs, miracles, etc., are now singing their music in our churches and preparing our people for the world, the flesh and the devil. It is the new Trojan Horse move of modernism to deaden our churches to spiritual truth. Icabod can be written over most of its lyrics and notes. The sad part of this is that many of our pastors are now aware of what is taking place. A lot of these musical arrangements (arranged by the charismatics) comes in the form of “canned music” with the sound of drums, amplified guitars, plus other instruments with the offbeat of the jungle just like you would expect to hear in the

honky-tonk saloon.

Music That Sounds Like The World. I have heard several people say that it carries the same beat and swing that they used to dance with before they were saved. There is a sort of hippy-oriented “pop” flavor that is disgusting to any consecrated Christian and must be repulsive to Almighty God.

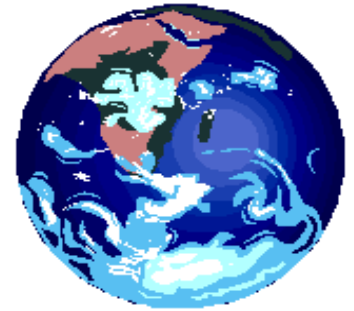
Too many soloists and groups singing such music put on the poise and style of Hollywood entertainers. Many of these “entertainers” wear clothing (or lack of it) that is the same as worn in nightclubs. Often men have long hippy-type hair arrangements that speak of the rebellion of this age and are a contradiction of 1 Corinthians 11:14 where it states: “Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?” Many of these “entertainers” would not go across the street to win a soul to Christ or attend a Bible study or prayer meeting.

The average musical group turns up the public address system so high that it destroys all hearing of the words and receiving of a message. I heard B.R. Lakin say in Orlando, Florida, that the “average quartet, if they sang in an auditorium the size of a telephone booth, would want a public address system.” This blatant,

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World News Roundup



Ruling Against VMI Prayers Stands. — An evenly divided federal appeals court refused to reconsider a ruling that group prayers before evening meals at Virginia Military Institute were unconstitutional. The 6-6 vote by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals lets stand a three-judge panel's decision that the prayers, although nondenominational, violated the separation of church and state. VMI, a state-supported school in Lexington, discontinued the prayers while the lawsuit was pending. None of the judges voting on the prevailing side explained their reasons. Virginia Attorney General Jerry Kilgore said he would appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Thriving Porn Industry. — The smut industry now pulls in estimated annual profits of \$10 billion. An estimated 25,000 video stores in the U.S. now rent and sell hard-core films (6/2 *New American*). The U.S. is now by far the world's

leading producer of porn, cranking out hard-core videos at the astonishing rate of about 211 new titles each week. — CC

Mexico, A Catholic Nation. — The July *Charisma* reported that a growing revival is sweeping through Latin America, "where the majority of believers are Pentecostals." Pastors, leaders, and lay people representing over 20,000 churches converged in the world's largest city (over 23 million) for a March of Glory. This is our neglected mission field. — CC

Plain Truth Joined NAE, But Denies Hell. — The Plain Truth Ministries was formerly known as the Worldwide Church of God. Under its founder, Herbert W. Armstrong, it adhered to many heretical doctrines, including denial of the Triune God. After Armstrong's death, under the leadership of its new president, Joseph Tkach, the [cult] supposedly underwent a total transformation, converting to Trinitarian belief and to evangelical Christian doctrine. It was voted into the National Association of Evangelicals in 1997 and

soon later adopted the name *Plain Truth Ministries*. But despite the evangelical affirmations and assertions, it continues to adhere to unbiblical heretical doctrines including the denial of an eternal hell [June-July *Fund. Digest*]. A 7/03 *Chr. Today* article shows leaders now debating what to do with the valuable, immaculate 55-acre Ambassador College campus. — CC

What's Wrong With Harry Potter? — A "Harry Potter fan" writes this: "No one can deny that J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series of books is purely about witchcraft, wizardry and the occult" (6/21 *H. Times*). Harry and his friends are fond of disrespecting authority, breaking the rules, lying, cheating, stealing and swearing. Harry Potter is dangerous because it popularizes, promotes or even intentionally hides real witchcraft and occult rituals. It is extremely popular, however. "One of every 10 books bought in the U.S. in 1999 was a Harry Potter." — CC

Guns A Danger To Children? — It is said that guns are a constant danger

to children. But: Bathtubs are twice as dangerous to children as guns. Fire is 18 times more dangerous ... Cars are 57 times more dangerous. Household cleaners and poisons are twice as dangerous. Defensive gun use stops more crimes than police intervention (8/10/02 *World*). Defensive gun use by private citizens indicate that as many as 3.6 million crimes annually are prevented by armed citizens. — CC

Daschle No Longer Catholic. — Sen. Tom Daschle's home Catholic diocese in So. Dakota sent him a letter directing him to remove from his congressional biography and campaign documents all references to his standing as a member of the Catholic Church. This isn't exactly excommunication, which is unnecessary, since he made himself ineligible for communion almost 20 years ago with his divorce and remarriage. The report cited his consistent political opposition to Catholic teachings on moral issues,

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La Voz Del Desierto

10 Errores Fundamentales de los Adventistas Del Séptimo Dia

Por Julio C. Morales H., Cárdenas, Tabasco, México

[Parte Segundo]

6. La Teoría o Doctrina de la Purificación del Santuario.

Esta teoría surgió como consecuencia del gran chasco y la gran desilusión del día 22 de octubre de 1844, fecha en que ellos, los Adventistas, esperaban al Señor Jesucristo viniendo en las nubes para purificar la tierra con fuego pero llegó dicha fecha y pasó todo el día y una vez más quedaron chasqueados. Luego vino la confusión y reinaba el fanatismo y se desintegraba el movimiento; pero un grupo de los más fanáticos no se daban por vencidos y seguían orando, esperando recibir más luz o nueva luz. Fue entonces que surgió la teoría de la purificación del santuario y la interpretación de que la profecía de Daniel 8:14 no se refería a la purificación del santuario celestial. Pues es bien sabido que un error engendra otro error y esto fue exactamente lo que ocurrió dando así origen a otra teoría a saber, la purificación del Santuario que

está en el cielo, pero hasta el año 1844, comenzando un juicio investigador a partir de esa fecha y que se prolongaría hasta la segunda venida de Cristo. Así vemos que el movimiento logra salir del gran bache del gran chasco del 22 de octubre de 1844.

Pero en todo esto, sólo vemos una interpretación artificiosa de los líderes del movimiento pues todo esto se parece a un grupo de hombres que habiendo naufragado su nave en alta mar, no habiendo esperanza de sobrevivir, se agarraron de un pedazo de madera con tal de sobrevivir a la catástrofe aunque encontrarán muerte segura en las inmensas olas del océano. Pues es bien claro que el Señor Jesucristo nuestro gran Sumo Sacerdote, cuando ascendió al cielo e inmediatamente pasó hasta el lugar santísimo para comenzar su triple ministerio.

A. Como nuestro gran Sumo Sacerdote para ofrecer simbólicamente y literalmente los méritos de Su sacrificio

infinito a favor de todos los santos redimidos de todas las dispensaciones hasta el fin del mundo. "Porque la sangre de los becerros, corderos y machos cabrios no pueden quitar los pecados" (Heb. 8:1-7; 9:1-28; 10:1-18).

B. Como nuestro Mediador, pues la Biblia habla claramente que nadie puede acercarse directamente hasta la presencia de Dios Padre, y solamente tenemos un solo Mediador (Juan 14:6; 1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 7:22; 9:15).

C. Como nuestro Abogado. Tenemos un enemigo que nos calumnia y nos acusa día y noche delante de Dios nuestro Padre, pero por la divina gracia del Señor tenemos un gran Abogado que nos defiende cada día y a cada momento (Apoc. 12:10-11; 1 Jn. 2:1-2; Heb. 7:22-25; Rom. 8:34).

Y una vez más vemos la forma artificiosa y forzada que los líderes de la secta dan a las claras enseñanzas de la Palabra de Dios, tratando siempre dar apoyo a sus errores

doctrinales. Pues nuestro Señor Jesucristo pasó directamente de inmediato hasta el lugar santísimo en el Santuario Celestial desde que El ascendió al cielo desde el Monte de los Olivos a la vista de Sus amados discípulos, y no como erróneamente enseñan los Adventistas hasta el 22 de octubre del año 1844.

7. La doctrina y la práctica del rebautismo entre los Adventistas del Séptimo Día. Según esta interpretación y la práctica del rebautismo hacen depender aunque indirectamente la creencia en la regeneración bautismal haciendo depender parcialmente la salvación por medio del bautismo. El autor de este tratado ha visto ciertos casos de que algunos de sus miembros han recibido hasta más de tres bautismos administrados por un mismo ministro. Y lo más lamentable es que hasta la profetiza la Sra. Elena G. de White habla al respecto confirmando esta práctica

(Vea SEPT en la pág. 10)

SEPTIMO . . .

(Viene de la pág. 9)

antibiblica, diciendo de esta manera: “El Señor pide una reforma decidida. Y cuando un alma en verdad se ha convertido de nuevo, debe ser bautizada otra vez. Renueve alla su pacto con Dios y Dios renovará Su pacto con ella” (Evan-gelismo, pág. 273).

Aquí también falla y se equivoca la Sra. de White contradiciendo directamente las enseñanzas claras y precisas de la infalible Palabra de Dios (Mt. 28:16-20; Ef. 4:5 — “Un Señor, una fe, un bautismo” — no dos o tres y menos de la misma denominación

8. Los Adventistas del Séptimo Día y su doctrina y práctica de las comidas. Este error consiste en guardar y practicar la ley ceremonial pues ellos se apegan estrictamente al libro de Levítico, capítulo 11:1-47 y tratan de practicarlo conforme a la letra. Pero es bien claro a la luz del Nuvo Testamento que todo esta ley pertenecía a la ley ritual, y de hecho quedó abolida y clavada en la cruz del Calvario (Ef. 2:14-16; Col. 2:14-17).

Además, el Señor Jesucristo en Sus claras y preciosas enseñanzas habló acerca de las comidas

(Marcos 7:14-23), dando a entender que lo más importante es el corazón y no el estómago, porque “Bienaventurados de limpio corazón, porque ellos verán a Dios” (Mateo 5:8; Prov. 4:23). Vea lo que dice Pablo acerca de las comidas (Rom. 14:14-23). Una cosa más importante es saber que estamos en los postreros días, y que la Palabra de Dios dice que en los últimos días algunos apostatarían de la fe, escuchando a espíritus de error y a doctrinas de demonios (1 Tim. 4:1-8). Actualmente hay muchas sectas y falsos profetas que están agradando a Dios, pero de una manera inconciente están dando cumplimiento a la Palabra de Dios (Tit. 1:10-16; 2 Tes. 2:11-12). Además, todos los que tratan de seguir guardando la ley de Moisés se están colocando en una situación peligrosísima quedando bajo la maldición de la misma ley (Gál. 3:10-11). A la vez están quedando desprovistos y alejados para siempre de la gracia de Dios (Gál. 2:21; 5:4).

9. El mensaje del primer ángel. Este error consiste en interpretar y aplicar mal el mensaje de Apocalipsis 14:6-7. Y una vez más la Sra. de White hace el siguiente comen-

tario y aplicación acerca del primer ángel y su mensaje. Ella dice que este mensaje lo predicó Guillermo Miller y lo hizo bien. El cumplió el mensaje a él confiado y los ángeles de Dios acompañaban a Guillermo Miller en su misión. Fue firme e indómito en el mensaje a él confiado (Early Writings, págs. 232, 258; El Conflicto de los Siglos, págs. 400-401). Y como ya se ha dicho, un error engendra otro error, y a fin de sacar al primer ángel del atolladero, y evitar así un completo fracaso y tal vez la desaparición del movimiento, entonces surgió la teoria de la purificación del Santuario Celestial y el comienzo del supuesto Juicio Investigador. Ya sabemos lo que pasa cuando un hombre se está ahogando en el rio. En su desesperación es capaz de agarrarse hasta de un espinero tratando de salvar su vida. Esto fue lo que pasó exactamente con el movimiento Adventista después del gran chasco y la gran desilusión del 22 de octubre de 1844 cuando Cristo nuestro Señor no vino como ellos esperaban. Esto tenía que ser así y no era para menos ya que el mismo Cristo nuestro Señor lo dijo claramente, que el día y la hora nadie sabe, ni aun los ángeles que están en el cielo (Mateo 24:35-36; 25:13; Marcos 13:28-37).

10. El Sello del Dios Vivo. Este error consiste en aplicar el Sello del Dios

Vivo al Séptimo Día sábado del Antiguo Testamento.

Concerniente a esto dice la profetisa Sra. Elena G. de White, el primer sábado del mes de abril, la importancia del sábado le fue revelada a Elena G. de White en una visión del Santuario Celestial. En una carta dirigida a José Bates el 7 de abril de 1847, describió así lo que le había sido mostrado:

“Después de contemplar las glorias del lugar santo Jesús alzó el segundo velo y yo pasé al santísimo. En el lugar santísimo ví el arca ... Jesús abrió las tablas de piedra escritas con el dedo de Dios ... en una tabla habia cuatro mandamientos y en la otra seis. Pero el cuarto mandamiento del sábado brillaba más que todos los demás; pues el sábado ha sido puesto aparte para ser observado en honor del santo nombre de Dios. El santo sábado parecia glorioso y lo redeaba completamente un halo de gloria” (Fundadores del Mensaje, págs. 143-144).

[Más el mes próximo]

Tomorrow

Today is the
tomorrow,
That yesterday
we feared;
You faced it with
foreboding,
And dreaded as it
neared.

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WNR . . .

(Continued from page 8)

especially abortion (7/03 *Baptist Bulletin*). But what about Ted Kennedy? Isn't he guilty of worse? Why give him a free pass?

* * *

United Methodists Drop Heresy Charges Against Bishop Sprague.

— United Methodist Bishop C. Joseph Sprague of Chicago came under fire last year for a new book where he referred to the "myth of the Virgin Birth." He also questioned the bodily resurrection, the role of Jesus in salvation, and recently said the god of Islam is the God of the Bible. But church members who sided with Sprague said room must be made for different interpretations of Scripture. — CC

* * *

Canada's Largest Church Endorses Same-Sex Marriage.

— Weeks after Canadian high courts ruled to allow same-sex marriage in two provinces, delegates from Canada's largest Protestant community passed a motion calling on the federal government to endorse same-sex marriage throughout the country. The 38th General Council of the United Church of Canada, representing Methodists, Presbyterians and the

Congregational Union of Canada, passed the motion after just 45 minutes of debate at its annual conference in Nova Scotia last week. Conservatives warned the motion could have implications for churches in the United States and elsewhere. Linda Harvey, president of *Mission: America*, a conservative public policy group, said the Canadian church's decision likely will impact churches in the United States. "I don't think it's inevitable that we will follow suit in this country, but I do believe that there will be mainline large denominations in this country, possibly the United Methodists, possibly others, that will endorse same-sex marriage in the near future," Harvey said. Harvey predicted that if U.S. churches follow suit, they will likely notice a drop in membership.

* * *

Wal-Mart To Change Anti-discrimination Policy.

— Following the requests of several homosexual Wal-Mart employees and an investor, the nation's largest private employer has amended its anti-discrimination policy to protect homosexual employees. Wal-Mart Stores sent a letter July 2 to its 3,500 stores to inform them of the changes, *The New York Times* reported. The new policy states, in part, "We affirm our commitment

and pledge our support to equal opportunity employment for all qualified persons, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability or status as a veteran or sexual orientation." With Wal-Mart's latest move, nine of the 10 largest Fortune 500 companies now have anti-discrimination policies protecting homosexuals, according to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a gay rights group in Washington, D.C., that monitors discrimination policies and laws. The one company to abstain is Exxon Mobil.

* * *

Guest Chaplain's Prayer Offends House.

— A pastor who offered the opening prayer at a recent session of the U.S. House of Representatives is under fire for what some believe were veiled references to abortion and homosexuality, reports *The Hill* newspaper. The Rev. George Dillard III of Peachtree City Christian Church near Atlanta served as guest chaplain of the House on May 14. ... According to the report, Dillard asked God for "leaders who will seek Your truth ... who accept that a lie is a lie and not spin; that it is immorality and not an alternative lifestyle; that it is murder, not a procedure; that it is stealing and not creative

accounting; that rebellion is rebellion no matter what name we give it." Guidelines set by the Rev. Daniel Coughlin, the House chaplain, say guest chaplains' prayers "must be free from personal political views, from sectarian controversies, from any intimations pertaining to foreign policy." "His remarks were rather judgmental, but some members think highly of him," Coughlin told the Capitol Hill publication. — WorldNetDaily.

* * *

Legal Group Cautions Schools on "Censoring Religion."

— As American students prepare to return to school, a national legal watchdog group is calling on school officials around the country to uphold the Constitution in the classroom and not censor student religious expression. The Rutherford Institute, a Charlottesville, Va.-based civil liberties organization, sent a memorandum to more than 15,000 public school superintendents warning of potential violations of students' rights over zero tolerance policies and misunderstandings over "the separation of church and state." John Whitehead, president of the institute, said the mailing was meant to "raise awareness as well as fuel debate on the continuing vitality of our first liberties. — CNS □



Wandering Stars

By Edgar C. Carlisle

In the Bible stars are spoken of as pictures, or types of people. In more than one verse stars are used as types of the spiritual seed of Abraham and the saints of God, with instructions to let their light (spiritual light) shine upon the earth. In Jude 13 we notice “wandering stars” are used as types of certain men who are religious, yet mostly unsaved. These are apostate teachers and blind guides.

Wandering or falling stars attract attention because of their advantage in that they are closer to the earth and are moving rapidly. Even so these human wandering stars have “men’s persons in admiration because of advantage” (Jude 16). Often these men for a while occupy prominent pulpits and attract attention and admiration in that manner. Realizing the prominent position into which they have vaulted, they work like bees to get everything possible under their control and build the work around themselves in order to increase the already manifested attention and admiration.

Many wandering, falling stars put on a great show

with a long trail of fire and smoke and make much noise, thus attracting the attention of earth’s inhabitants. Some men seem to always be on the move apparently leaving a trail of great success behind them. Yet, as the trail of fire and smoke left by the falling star soon fades away, so these seemingly mighty works soon pass out of existence. Thus, these works turn out to be more human “pow-wow” than anything else. To listen to some men, one would think that they are the most wonderful men the Lord ever used and are cutting the biggest swaths in the work of Christ. But time will tell what sort of men they are and what kind of works they have built. Jude called these men wandering stars and said of them “and their mouth speaketh great swelling words” (Jude 16).

Wandering, falling stars have strayed from the orbits fixed by the Almighty. These human wandering stars are not content to live in the orbit of Divine will and control, nor to follow in the steps of Christ the Savior. There isn’t enough “:praise of the brethren” prescribed by the written Word to suit them,

for they eagerly feed upon such admiration. These men, with exceedingly pleasant personalities, will fully tread the paths of error in order to attract attention and in so doing lead many a soul to eternal destruction with them. But, Jude knew about them for he said “these be they who separate themselves” (Jude 19).

And then he said also in verse 12 that these human wandering stars are “spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear.” Often such men get among the faithful saints and in the churches of the Lord Jesus Christ. They try to act like they believe what true churches believe, doing everything possible to hide their real opinion. They feign to be as sound as the Apostle Paul, and for a while they work with boldness, feasting on the fellowship of the saints and churches. To me they are like flies in the ointment and blackbirds in a pie.

These fellows are continued to be described as “clouds without water” (Jude 12) “having not the Spirit” (Jude 19). They have no fountain of living water flowing from their inward parts, and their sins have never been washed away by the blood of Jesus Christ. Thus, those who follow their wicked ways have nothing but doom and destruction facing their ever dying souls.

And then, many of them are “carried about of winds” (Jude 12). They are unstable. You can’t seem to put your finger on them. They boast of their devotion and faithfulness, but when circumstances change, we notice they change also. There is a mighty difference between men of principle and men of circumstances. A man who is honest because it is profitable to be honest is a liar. If circumstances arose which would make it unprofitable for him to tell the truth he would lie to further his own selfish aims and save his hide. There are many who pretend to believe certain vital Bible doctrines because circumstances arise among those who hold the truth which appear profitable to these deceivers. But when the new wears off and fiery trials present themselves they will not stand. When mighty warriors of the Word stand and fearlessly preach the truth uncompromisingly, leaving no loopholes, these wandering stars are offended. Why? The doctrine is much too strong. Jude said that they murmur and complain (Jude 16). They favor the policy of never preaching anything that might hurt someone’s feelings. Such men readily and easily fit in any group of people because they have no genuine convictions. Men of principle stand in spite of circumstances.

(See STARS on page 13)



What Alcohol Does To the Cell

As soon as alcohol comes in contact with the watery body of the cell, two things begin to happen.

First, alcohol, having a strong attraction for water, begins to suck the cell dry of the water it contains. Since so much of the volume of the cell-body is water, this loss leaves it shrunken and shriveled.

A simple experiment will illustrate the action of alcohol in reaching out for water. Take a small quantity of ordinary table salt and pour it upon a concrete floor or sidewalk. Allow it to stand for an hour or two and it will be found to be damp. A little later it seems moist and in time it will be actually wet. The chemists say that salt has an "affinity" for water and is forever reaching out into its surroundings in an effort to capture water. If it is surrounded by blood, body-cells, or protoplasm, it will proceed to extract the water from these surroundings.

This explains why a drinker has a "burning thirst" after taking alcohol into the mouth or throat. These organs are covered with mucous membrane, an

exceedingly moist membrane, and the alcohol draws the moisture out, leaving it parched and dry. In time the membrane will secrete more moisture, but in the meantime the drinker has the sensation of a terrible thirst.

The second thing that happens when alcohol comes in contact with the protoplasm cells is a "cooking" of the proteins of the nucleus. When the lipoids have been dissolved away, and the water sucked out of the cell, the alcohol begins to attack the delicate nucleus of the cell upon which the life of the cell depends. This nucleus is composed of proteins, and is neither dissolved like the lipoids, nor absorbed like the water. It is coagulated by the action of the alcohol and can never be restored.

To get a picture of what happens, pour a little alcohol on the white of an egg and watch the results. First, a white film appears wherever the alcohol is in contact with the egg, and in time this film thickens until the egg has the appearance of being cooked. Nothing can be done to restore it. The

change is permanent. In a similar way, once the protein of the protoplasm cell has been damaged by contact with alcohol, it cannot be restored.

When molecules of food pass into the body of the cell they enter into the living protoplasm, furnishing it with potential energy, rebuilding and repairing the cell, and generally strengthening it. But when alcohol enters the body of the cell, it sucks it dry of water, coagulates the proteins, and unless prevented from doing so by some outside force, will completely destroy the cell!

STARS . . .
(Continued from page 12)


Men of circumstances hold views favorable to the situation that is most profitable to them.

Devotion to Christ and His words need no boasting. Paul said "If any man love God the same is known of him" (1 Cor. 8:3). If we love God, others will be able to discern it. If we keep His commandments, others will be able to see it.

And then, these apostate people are said to be "trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots" (Jude 12). They bear no fruit that is true fruit, because they are not true branches connected to the true vine, thus their fruit or works wither away. In addition they are twice

dead. Having not the Spirit, they are already dead in trespasses and sins and separated from God. Being apostate in heart, they have for themselves a religion of works, "having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof" (2 Tim. 3:5), going in the "way of Cain" (Jude 11) following a deadly religion. They are as dead logs and brush lying in the way of truth and stumbling stones to sinners.

Jude continues by calling these fellows "raging waves of the sea" (Jude 13). They "foam out their own shame," that is, their own words condemn them. Denying the truth at heart, many of them "run after the error of Balaam" (Jude 11), thus causing trouble in the ranks of truth; they "mock" (Jude 18); and "speak evils" (Jude 10).

Now, what will finally happen to them? Jude solemnly declares "Woe unto them!" (Jude 11). Christ will execute judgment upon them all (Jude 14-15). They will be some of those of Matthew 7:21-23 who will claim to have done many wonderful works in the name of Christ. These will no doubt brazenly deny having failed to care for the children of God (Mt. 25:41-46). But these ungodly men will be convinced of their ungodly deeds and hard speeches against Christ. Yet, that is not all. These wandering stars shall be flung into the blackness of darkness forever! (Jude 13). 

WISDOM . . .

(Continued from page 1)

He knew wisdom's way because he had walked therein. And he also knew vanity's way because he had followed it through all of its cesspools of sin. He speaks of vanity's way as a way of vexation of spirit: a way disappointing to all who follow it. Having seen the folly of a life of pleasure and the value of a life of service to God, he speaks by authority when he says, "Wisdom's ways are ways of pleasantness and all her paths are peace."

Let us note that there is a vast difference in a way and a path. The one indicates a broad way, the other a narrow way. Wisdom's Way is broad enough to take in all of her paths. In the rough and rugged mountains of the world we see more paths than ways, and only skilled footmen and climbers can follow those paths.

I. Wisdom's Ways

1. Wisdom's way is a highway. All dangerous obstacles have been removed therefrom, and hence it runs smoothly and pleasantly. What a joy to drive, or ride over a great highway where there are no dangerous curves or rough places to disturb the tranquillity and joy of the journey. There is no joy like the joy of walking in Wisdom's Way. Its

beginning is salvation, its termination is the new Jerusalem. And O what wonderful blessings are received by those who walk therein. Enoch followed this way through the gates into the eternal city of God. Elijah traveled this way until God sent an airplane to convey him to heaven.

2. Wisdom's Way has a fixed goal for which it steers, and that goal is the glory of God. There is absolutely nothing in Wisdom's Way to rob God of His glory. No selfish person walks there. No one seeking personal honor can be found there. Only the consecrated, the meek and the humble are conspicuous in this way. All the Christian's walk and works in Wisdom's way are for the glory of God. So if you see one who is self-conceited, proud and arrogant, seeking personal glory, you may know that he is walking in his own way, which is the way of the foolish. The great apostle Paul walked in Wisdom's Way, forming a resolution from which he never departed. "This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:13-14).

3. Wisdom's Way is the way of useful service. It always puts usefulness before pleasure and profit. Those who put

pleasure and profit before service to God, leave Wisdom's Way to walk in their own way. Pretended service to God not backed with a scriptural design and a right motive is an abomination in the sight of a holy God. Christian activity based upon the Word of God, promoted by sacrificial endeavor honors the Lord and makes life's way pleasant for those performing the service and those for whom it is done. There is no strife, jealousy, selfishness, hatred, or

bitterness in Wisdom's Way. There is no place for selfish clans and political propaganda in Wisdom's Way. It is a broad way, which provides room, work and position for all who desire to walk therein. There are no clashes and wars in this way for wisdom is free from all such Satanic maneuvers.

In short Wisdom's Way is God's way, which leads onward and upward to the higher nobler things in life

(See **WISDOM** on page 15)***Thy Way Is Best***

I know not where my Lord may lead—
O'er barren plain or grassy mead,
Through valley, or mountain crest:
But where He leads, I know 'tis best.

I know not what a day may bring
Of perfect health or suffering;
Of rich delight, or deep distress—
Keen disappointment or success.

Nor do I know at morning sun
If life shall last till day is done,
But this I know — come toil or rest,
God always sends me what is best.

God often sends me joy through pain;
Through bitter loss, Divinest gain,
Yet through it all, dark days or bright,
I know my Father leads aright.

And when life's evening shadows fall,
And I shall hear the final call,
I'll lay my head upon His breast,
And say, "Dear Lord, Thy way is best!"

WISDOM . . .

(Continued from page 14)

and reaches forth for the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, the goal of which is the glory of the great and holy God who gave us our being in the world, and who has provided for us in heaven a house not made with hands.

4. Wisdom's Way is the way of sweet fellowship. All those who walk there go hand in hand, having sweet communion one with another. "How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell in unity."

Taking the Jerusalem church as our example we find first of all, that they had fellowship in doctrine, and by the way doctrine is put first. Secondary they had fellowship in their social functions, "and in breaking of bread." And thirdly they had fellowship in prayer.

"And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common" (Acts 2:42-44).

The entire membership of the Jerusalem church walked in Wisdom's Way and therefore had sweet fellowship one with another. Let it be remembered that the activities of any New Testament church, to have fellowship, must be based upon the Word of God. And

if there is not fellowship in doctrine, there can be no fellowship in other matters. A church that takes the Bible strictly as its rule of faith and practice, and adheres to its precepts only, rejecting the traditions of men, will have fellowship in doctrine, and therefore fellowship in all other matters, for the reason doctrine covers everything pertaining to the church and its work.

5. Above all, to walk in Wisdom's Way is to walk with Jesus Christ. Since Jesus walks there His hand is under all of our burdens, His heart of sympathy is in all of our sorrows. If you have not had any sorrows remember that your time will come sooner or later, and then you will need the loving arm of the Son of God to uphold you. But if you are not walking in Wisdom's Way, you may feel after Him, but He will not be found. God permits His own children to wrestle with their own problems alone, who do not walk with Jesus. But those who walk with Him shall travel on to reign with Him in glory, while those who walk in their own ways will build upon the sand, and to their shame will be saved so as by fire with all of their works burned up.

Wisdom's Way does not lead through the honky-tonk, the night club, the beer garden, the dance hall, nor the corrupt, obscene shows of our day. When you turn into those places,

you leave Wisdom's Way and dissolve partnership with the Son of God, and thus fellowship is broken with Him.

II. There Are Paths In Wisdom's Way: "And all her paths are peace."

1. There is the path of personal faith in Christ which is indeed a path of peace. "Therefore being justified by faith we have peace with God" (Rom. 5:1).

Faith is a personal matter. No one can believe for you, neither can you believe for anyone else. There are many things in Wisdom's Way which are common to all, but your personal faith in God is a matter that concerns you and no one else. No one can enjoy the direct benefits of your personal faith in God but you. Therefore it is a narrow path made for your feet. People are not saved by blocks or groups through the faith of one individual, but each one must have faith for himself. Personal faith in Christ brings personal salvation. Each one saved must meet God on the basis of his personal repentance toward God and his personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. There is the path of personal service to God. You and you alone can fill that place. When God saved you He cut your life to fit that pattern, and no one else will fit in that place. God has something

for which every man is fitted to do, and that makes each of us a part of God's great plan. In the material world one man may at times take another man's place and carry on for him, but not so in the spiritual world. You cannot lift the responsibility from the shoulders of anyone, neither can he lift it from yours. One individual could as easily eat or drink for another as you could shift your responsibility to another, or take another's responsibility from him.

When we walk in the path of personal service to God, we follow the path of peace. What a joy there comes into your heart at the close of the day to know that you have done the will of God and finished the work that He had for you to do on that special day. It stimulates your faith and braces your hope to take upon you the obligations of another day. And so the path grows brighter and sweeter with each day's service. Find your place and then fill it to the glory of God. Don't blame others for your failure to do a job that God had for you to do. Jesus says: "Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest to your souls"

3. There is the path of personal hope. He who refuses to walk in the path of personal hope has no peace in his soul. If one

(See **WISDOM** on page 17)

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The foundational philosophy that under girds Contemporary Christian Music (CCM) and Contemporary Christian Worship (CCW) is the idea that music is neutral and that any style of music can be used in the service of a holy God. Consider the following examples:

“...we need to stop advocating one music style over against another. Our tradition, our style, our renderings have to do with ourselves, not with God.” —Anthony Gentes, *The Worship Thought*, July 2003.

“There is no such thing as ‘gospel music.’ Every style and form of music can become gospel, whether it’s jazz, pop, rock ‘n’ roll, or rap.” —Don Butler, *Gospel Music Association*

“God speaks through all different kinds of musical styles” —Bill Gaither

I have some questions to ask about this philosophy:

If all musical styles are neutral, *why is it that the movie “Text Painter” can use different styles of music to create different emotions?* This can be illustrated by the old silent movies. There were no words to the movies except

those on the screen, but the musicians (sometimes a lone pianist and sometimes an orchestra) could create feelings of fear, haste, happiness, sorrow, romance, anger, indignation, tension, uncertainty, merely by changing his style of music.

If all musical styles are neutral, *why can an orchestra create different feelings by changing the style of the music?* Orchestra music ordinarily doesn’t have words; it is strictly music; but anyone who knows the power of music can testify that each style of music played by the orchestra creates different feelings and thoughts in the listeners.

Put a different way, if all musical styles are neutral, *why does a military march never sound like a romance ballad?*

If all musical styles are neutral, *why do taverns and night clubs not play traditional sacred music melodies?* Why do they always play a certain kind of music?

If all musical styles are neutral, *why did the old bluesmen believe that certain kinds of rhythms caused women to be morally loose?* For

example, Professor Longhair’s boogie-woogie piano music is said to have caused women to “jump and wriggle” in a lascivious manner. Robert Johnson, one of the pioneering bluesmen who died young because of his womanizing, said of his blues rhythms: “This sound affected most women in a way that I could never understand.” B.B. King, one of the biggest living names in the blues, said in his autobiography, “The women reacted with their bodies flowing to a rhythm coming out of my guitar...” Those are powerful statements about the effect of a specific kind of music and rhythm. Were the bluesmen confused about their music?

If all musical styles are neutral, *why do rock musicians never use other kind of music?*

If all musical styles are neutral, *why do rock musicians claim that their heavily syncopated rhythm is sexy?* Following are just a few of the many quotes we could give along these lines.

“Rock music is sex. The big beat matches the body’s rhythms” (Frank Zappa of the Mothers of Invention, *Life*, June 28, 1968).

“That’s what rock is all about—sex with a 100 megaton bomb, the beat!” (Gene Simmons of the rock group Kiss, interview, *Entertainment Tonight*, ABC, Dec. 10, 1987).

“Rock ‘n’ roll is 99% sex” (John Oates of the rock

duo Hall & Oates, *Circus*, Jan. 31, 1976).

“Rock ‘n’ roll is pagan and primitive, and very jungle, and that’s how it should be!” (Malcolm McLaren, punk rock manager, *Rock*, August 1983).

“The great strength of rock ‘n’ roll lies in its beat ... it is a music which is basically sexual, un-Puritan ... and a threat to established patterns and values” (Irwin Silber, *Marxist, Sing Out*, May 1965).

“Rock and roll aims for liberation and transcendence, *eroticizing the spiritual and spiritualizing the erotic*, because that is its ecumenical birthright” (Robert Palmer, *Rock & Roll an Unruly History*).

“Rock and roll is fun, it’s full of energy ... It’s naughty” (Tina Turner, cited in *Rock Facts, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum*).

“Rock and roll was something that’s hardcore, rough and wild and sweaty and wet and just loose” (Patti Labelle, cited in *Rock Facts, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum*).

Rapper Missy Elliot’s 3rd album, “Miss E ... So Addictive,” is described as “a seductive cocktail of quirky rhythms and hypnotic beats.”

The blues music (predecessor to rock and

(See **FBIS** on page 22)

TOBACCO . . .

(Continued from page 5)


not like to retain God in their knowledge, many who claim to be Christians and yea, even preachers, foolishly try to justify their sin with such arguments as "I don't see anything wrong with it because it is legal," thereby showing that they are blind and cannot see afar off, since it is also legal to kill little babies in the womb, operate houses of prostitution, gambling casinos, and sell the liquid poison alcohol, thus reminding one of the parable "the sow has returned to her wallowing in the mire, and the dog has returned to his vomit."

And lo and behold, as if this evil was nothing in the sight of a holy God, it came to pass the lawyers did that which was exceedingly dumb and foolish, and did expose their greed and dishonesty greatly, insomuch that they began to file lawsuits against tobacco companies charging that they were responsible for those who

by their own free will chose to smoke, chew, and snuff it. Thus the lawyers filled their dishonest pockets with filthy lucre, teaching for doctrine lies which say that men are not responsible for their sins, and promoting the damning philosophy "I am not responsible for my actions, someone else made me do it."

And when the lawyers saw that they could make much money from this, and that the spiritually blind God-hating courts would back them in this wickedness, they waxed exceedingly bold and began to sue restaurants for making gluttons obese, and to prosecute law-abiding citizens who protect themselves against criminals, claiming violations of the criminal's rights.

Oh, that men would cease from their folly and sin and return to their father saying, "Father I have sinned and am no more worthy to be called thy son, wash me from my sin and help me to be holy and pure for I surely know thou would never defend such vile sin."

And even yet a gracious God did send many godly men to preach to them the gospel and to plead with them to repent and believe on Jesus Christ and be delivered from their sin. But they all, with one consent began to say, "Away with Him, we will not have this man to reign over us." 

WISDOM . . .

(Continued from page 15)

lives only for the joys and pleasures of this life and has no hope for the years to come, he lives to meet with a great disappointment when the shadow of death falls upon him. "Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness." To live without hope is to be fearful in this life and miserable in the life to come. But he who can look out across the centuries and say in his heart, "I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that I shall see him for myself and not another," possesseth a treasure on which there can be no price. The man without hope is a man without a country here or hereafter. It is the Christian hope that keeps the life strong and pure. "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (1 Jn. 3:3).


Our personal hope is in the return of Christ to this world to take over the earth which long has been controlled by Satan. He says "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (Jn. 14:2-3).

4. Last but not least, **there is the personal path of love.** All who walk in the path of peace. There can be no peace without love and where love reigns

supremely, peace thrives most graciously. Love and peace do not dwell in the same house with strife, bitterness, backbiting and destructive criticism. Love covers a multitude of sins, says the wise man. Therefore, those who walk in the path of love, live with God, for "God is love."

You do not know the measure of my love for God, neither do I know the measure of your love, but God knows. Our actions may determine our love for Him, the Master says: "By their fruits ye shall know them." Our walk of love reveals our Christian character.

There are two kinds of criticism: constructive and destructive. Constructive criticism is always second person, made to the individual concerning his faults: destructive criticism is always third person, made concerning the faults of the individual to others. Constructive criticism is always made in love, never in the spirit of bitterness.

"Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up; doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Love never faileth ... and now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love" (1 Cor. 13:4-8). 

Invisible Salary

The preacher who is pastor of an invisible church ought to be perfectly satisfied with an invisible salary. However, his creditors may view it differently.

GO . . .

(Continued from page 1)

No doubt you will ask — “What do you mean by go-ology?” Let us notice a few scriptures: “If ye love me, keep my commandments” (Jn. 14:15). Then “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mk. 16:15). Thus we see one of the Lord’s commandments was “Go ye,” hence we have derived the term of “Go-ology” or the Missionary Spirit.

Of course, I realize this commandment which actually is a commission, was given *to the church*. I do not wish to go deeply into the subject of mission programs here, but it will suffice to say that it is wholly a *church commission*. It is to be conducted and carried on by and through the authority of the church and by that I mean the local, independent body. The commission was not given to an individual, association, fellowship, board, committee, convention, or any organization whatsoever except the church.

I believe first of all missionaries are, or should be, called of God; and secondly set apart by the church, then, thirdly they are sent forth of the church to fulfill the commission. The actual mission of the church through the missionary we note from the commission as stated: “Go ye therefore, and teach all

nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen” (Mt. 28:19-20). Now notice the things set forth in these verses:

1. To Evangelize the world. Make disciples for the Lord by preaching of the gospel. Baptize those made disciples. To teach the disciples to observe all things whatsoever the Lord has commanded.

2. To glorify God. “Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen” (Eph. 3:21). God is to be glorified *in the church*. Christ is the Agent *by whom* He is glorified. Church is the organism through which He is glorified.

Thus we see the work of missions rests heavily upon the church. But, dear friend, you are not exempt from the responsibility merely because the commission was given to the church and not to individuals. If you are not a church member, you are not obedient to the Lord in that respect and responsibility, as well as disobedience, rests upon you. As church members, the responsibility is upon you individually and collectively for as we have oft’ times heard, “What is everybody’s business is nobody’s

business!” Therefore the church is to evangelize the world and to glorify God. This work cannot be done except through individuals, yet the glory is to be in the church and through Christ Jesus. Christ is the Agent by whom the glorification is to be done, yet it is to all be *in the church*, not in some other organization, nor apart from the church either!

Our conclusion then, brings me to the central thought of my message. Since the responsibility rests upon each of us, the challenge as of old rings forth anew unto us as recorded: “Who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord” (1 Chr. 29:5)? Of

course, this call went forth for workers in the temple building, but it comes to us for workers in the kingdom building. It places upon you and me the responsibility of that missionary spirit, or Go-ology. Just as the aim of this text was the temple building, so should its aim be unto us — Christ — a life completely surrendered unto Him.

I want you to notice several things concerning this passage which clearly set forth the true missionary spirit and doctrine of go-ology:

1. “**Who then is willing ...**” It should be a *willing* service unto the Lord, not grudgingly or

(See GO on page 19)

“The Good Shepherd”

By Bernice Herrings

The Lord is my Shepherd, no want shall I know.
He supplieth my needs wherever I go,
In pastures of green the Lord lets me rest,
The one that I follow gives me the best.

And when I am troubled the waves rock and reel.
The waters are calm when he says, “Peace be still.”
He leads me in paths that are righteous I trod
My soul that was lost is restored by my God.

And when in death’s valley no evil I’ll fear
For God the good Shepherd I know will be near.
My table is full when no friends can be found.
It is proof to the world that He won’t let me down.

Each day of my life I will follow my Lord.
And goodness and mercy shall be my reward.

GO . . .

(Continued from page 18)

grumblingly — but willingly! Why? For Christ went willingly to Calvary for you and me. Oh, but, you say, did Christ want to die? He certainly did, dear reader. No, He was not happy to die, physically speaking, but as the only begotten Son of God, He yearned to shed His precious blood that sinful man might be reconciled unto God the Father. Just so, we should be willing to consecrate our service unto the Lord.

Yes, we should give willing service. But not only should we give willing service, we should *give consecrated service*.

2. “Who then is willing to **consecrate** . . .” To be a consecrated servant you don’t have to leave your regular work or vocation of life. Of course, if the Lord calls you to do some special service, you should; but you can be a consecrated servant wherever you are and whatever you do. You can be a consecrated servant of the Lord as a housewife, a merchant, a banker, doctor, lawyer, or whatever your position may be. I realize, however, that it may be a hard task to do so in many places in life; nevertheless it can be done, and the Lord will help you to do so if you only seek His guidance.

During the recent war, we heard much of being “All Out For War” and “All Out For Victory” Our

country was certainly all out for war and victory too, both individually and as a whole. If you weren’t “all out for war and victory,” you weren’t a good citizen, you were a slacker, and disloyal. Just so, friends, we need to be, “All Out For God!” If we, as Christians, were half as conscientious and loyal, or worked even half as hard for God as most of us did during the war for our country, we would certainly be seeing far more accomplished in every phase of the Lord’s work!

During war, many of our men were even called upon to sacrifice their lives for our country, and I am confident they did so willingly. However, the Lord isn’t asking us to *die* for Him — but He does ask us to *Live* for Him! We read, “I beseech 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). Is your life a *living sacrifice*? Is it given up to consecrated service?

We are not called upon for willing and consecrated service alone, the call also specifies, personal service.

3. “**Who then is willing to consecrate his service** . . .” The Lord wants *personal* service and *personal* sacrifice. Neither does He expect that some few carry all the burden. Each of us has his place to fill and no one else can fill

it — no one else can do your work for you. Oh, you say, but someone else can go, but I can’t. Or perhaps you just can’t do anything! Bro. So-and-so can preach. Sis. What’sersname can sing; everyone else can do something, but I just can’t do anything. What a pity! How tragic! But again, let me repeat, you have your place to fill and no one else can fill it for you. Maybe you can’t preach, maybe you can’t sing, or testify, or pray in public, or teach a class; but you still can do something. Brother, Sister, you certainly can live your life for Christ for we all have lives to live and it is up to us what we make of them. You can live for Christ or live for Satan — which are you doing? You must do one or the other for you certainly cannot do both at the same time!

What if you can’t preach? You can hand out gospel tracts, that’s preaching. You can speak a word to a lost soul. You can support the man who is preaching. If you can’t sing, you can “make a joyful noise unto the Lord.” If you can’t teach, you can encourage and help the teacher. If you can’t pray in public, you can surely pray at home. You can serve the Lord with your life, your presence, your time, and your means.

What of the servants who received the talents? Did all have the same amount? No! “And unto one he gave five talents, to

another two, and to another one; to every man *according to his several ability*” (Mt. 25:15). The man with one talent was just as accountable as the other with five, for they were given “to every man according to his several ability.” Possibly your ability may only allow for one talent, but it is up to you to use it. The Lord supplies the talent according to your ability. The individual with one talent can accomplish just as much as the individual with five, in accordance with his ability! What are you doing with your talent? Are you giving your best to the Master?

Again, the call is for **Immediate** service.

4. “Who then is willing to consecrate his service **this day** . . .” The fields are white unto harvest and the laborers are few, thus the need is *now*! The need is urgent. The plan for redemption is already complete — men must be informed of that fact. For, “behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”

Last of all, the call is for service **unto the Lord**.

5. “Who then is willing to consecrate his service **this day unto the Lord**.” “I can of mine own self do nothing” (Jn. 5:30). But, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” I trust we may one and all say wholeheartedly just now:

(See **GO** on page 20)



Pennies From Heaven

You always hear the usual stories of pennies on the sidewalk being good luck, gifts from angels, etc. This is the first time I've ever heard this twist on the story. Gives you something to think about.

Several years ago, a friend of mine and her husband were invited to spend the weekend at the husband's employer's home. My friend, Arlene, was nervous about the weekend. The boss was very wealthy, with a fine home on the water-way, and cars costing more than her house.

The first day and evening went well, and Arlene was delighted to have this rare glimpse into how the very wealthy live. The husband's employer was quite generous as a host, and took them to the finest restaurants. Arlene knew she would never have the opportunity indulge in this kind of extravagance again, so was enjoying herself immensely.

As the three of them were about to enter an exclusive restaurant that evening, the boss was walking slightly ahead of Arlene and her husband.

He stopped suddenly, looking down on the pavement for a long, silent moment. Arlene wondered if she was supposed to pass him. There was nothing on the ground except a single darkened penny that someone had dropped, and a few cigarette butts. Still silent, the man reached down and picked up the penny.

He held it up and smiled, then put it in his pocket as if he had found a great treasure. How absurd! What need did this man have for a single penny? Why would he even take the time to stop and pick it up?

Throughout dinner, the entire scene nagged at her. Finally, she could stand it no longer. She causally mentioned that her daughter once had a coin collection, and asked if the penny he had found had been of some value. A smile crept across the man's face as he reached into his pocket for the penny and held it out for her to see. She had seen many pennies before. What was the point of this?

"Look at it," he said. "Read what it says."

She read the words

"United States of America."

"No, not that, read further."

"One cent?"

"No, keep reading."

"In God we trust?"

"Yes!"

"And?"

"And if I trust in God, the name of God is holy, even on a coin. Whenever I find a coin I see that inscription. It is written on every single United States coin, but we never seem to notice it! God drops a message right in front of me telling me to trust Him. Who am I to pass it by? When I see a coin, I pray. I stop to see if my trust is in God at that moment. I pick the coin up as a response to God that I do trust in Him. For a short time, at least, I cherish it as if it were gold. I think it is God's way of starting a conversation with me. Lucky for me, God is patient and pennies are plentiful!

When I was out shopping today, I found a penny on the sidewalk. I stopped and picked it up, and realized that I had been worrying and fretting in my mind about things I can not change. I read the words, "In God We Trust," and had to laugh. Yes, God, I get the message.

It seems that I have been finding an inordinate number of pennies in the last few months, but then, pennies are plentiful! And God is patient ...

GO . . .

(Continued from page 19)

Take my life, and let it be,
Consecrated Lord, to
Thee;
Take my hands and let
them move
At the impulse of Thy
love.

Take my feet, and let them
be
Swift and beautiful for
Thee;

Take my voice, and let me
sing
Always, only of my King.
Take my silver and my
gold.

Not a mite would I
withhold;

Take my moments and my
days,
Let them flow in ceaseless
praise.

Take my will and make it
thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine
own,

It shall be Thy royal
throne.

Lord, I give my life to
Thee,

Thine forevermore to be;
Lord, I give my life to
Thee,

Thine forevermore to be."

May God bless you in my prayer. I trust we will all study more of the doctrine of Go-ology and truly go forth with hearts overflowing with the Christian spirit of love and compassion.



TULGA . . .

(Continued from page 1)

called Christian regardless of beliefs, conduct or religious experience. False professors are even more acceptable in the modern church than true professors. But Jesus says, "Depart from me, ye that work iniquity; I never knew you."

2. *The warning against false prophets.* "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits" (Mt. 7:15-16). The church of our day, having abandoned the authority of the Scriptures, and having no concern for the purity of the church, has lost its ability to identify false prophets, so it has come to pass (as in ancient times) that false prophets are more popular than true prophets and more widely accepted. Jesus said they would deceive many (Mt. 24:11) and this has come to pass. The broad way leading to hell is thronged, with the false prophets and false teachers leading the procession.

3. *The warning against false doctrines.* "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith" (1 Tim. 4:1). "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine" (2 Tim. 4:3-4). Our present age is a vivid fulfillment of these warnings. Our great de-

nominations are filled with men who have departed from the faith and have risen to high places in religious circles. Our seminaries are filled with men who deny the faith of the Scriptures and create a type of ministry who will follow in their footsteps and infect the churches with their apostasies. Our pulpits are filled with men who are more interested in scratching itching ears than bearing the message of God to a sinful world. Our great denominations are not only filled with men who deny sound doctrine, but *who cannot endure sound doctrine in others.*

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

4. *The warning against heresy.* "Damnable heresies" (2 Pet. 2:1). "A man that is an heretic after the first and second admonition reject" (Tit. 3:10). This does not mean that he is to be appointed to a leading denominational position, nor given a leading pastorate or appointed to a

faculty position in a seminary, as many denominations do, but he is to be rejected and refused religious fellowship. The Christian attitude toward a heretic is a loving and prayerful concern, but he is not to approve, support or fellowship with him in heresy.

This is a day when there is no distinction between heresy and orthodoxy in the great denominations, and even many fundamental people, in the name of love, will enter into full fellowship with heresy. This is contrary to the plain statements of the Word of God (2 Jn. 9-10).

5. *The warning against apostasy.* "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, *giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils*" (1

Tim. 4:1). The Scriptures do not connect apostasy with intellectual doubt or the inability to believe, but finds the source of apostasy in Satan, and attributes apostasy to the seduction of evil spirits. Apostasy in our day hides behind an intellectual front to conceal its Satanic character.

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

Don't—But—Do

Don't Come to church because someone urges; but **Do Come** because others care and you respect their care and concern for you.

Don't Come to church to give your money! **Do Come** and give your money because you are a good steward of the Lord.

Don't Come to church to say your prayers; but **Do Come**

because there is prayer in your heart and you want the fellowship of praying people.

Don't Come to church to hear the pastor preach; but **Do Come** to witness for yourself and your belief in the Lord and His cause.

Don't Come to church to see if the people are friendly; but **Do Come** to worship God.

SEARS . . .


(Continued from page 7)

senseless roaring of a P.A. system is ridiculous beyond words. Its only ministry is *noise*, not even good sounding noise.

Shallow Heretical Lyrics. The words of most of this contemporary music used in our churches are shallow, unscriptural, and even heretical. Someone recently said, "Weak preaching always goes along with worldly music." That, I believe, is the truth. Just as years ago we preachers lifted up our voices against modernism as depicted by the National Council and World Council of Churches, so today we preachers need to "rise up like a tomcat spitting tobacco juice in a bull dog's eye" and start preaching against the modernistic evil of most contemporary and all rock music in our churches.

The Responsibility of Pastors To Oversee The Church's Music Program. We used to say that the musical program of the church prepared the way for the pastor's sermon. I believe God holds the preacher responsible for what goes on the platform of his church. Possibly we need to tie a knot in the tail of some of our song leaders. Some of them have gone far too worldly in their musical programs. Let's get back to the old time gospel hymns and singing that stirs the heart, brings

glory to God, and draws us closer to Him. The old-time hymns like "Rock of Ages," "The Old Rugged Cross," "Throw Out the Lifeline" and "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder" are still relevant in this dark Laodicean age.


"Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for yours souls." (Jer. 6:16). 

RECTOR . . .

(Continued from page 6)

Christ — that's His body's business. An Association of Baptists has no authority to witness for Christ — that's His church's business. [The same is true of every other organization such as Fellowships, etc. — Editor]. The church's authority to bind, to loose, to witness, to baptize, and to teach is set forth in Matthew. (Mt. 16:19; 18:18; 28:19-20).

We challenge the reader to give us scriptural evidence of any other group ever receiving authority to speak for heaven, and remember that the execution of this authority is limited to two functions — executive and judicial. All legislative function for the church is denied. We Baptists have long rightly laid the lash of truth on the sore backs of Pedo-Baptists for practicing legislative function in their so-called church life — and by the

way, aren't we Baptists doing some legislation for the Lord when we set up assemblies and boards and grant them authority to act for our churches? 

CCM . . .

(Continued from page 16)

roll that was played in Gayoso brothels in Memphis, Tennessee, in the early part of the 20th century is described as "sexually syncopated sounds" (Larry Nager, Memphis Beat: The lives and Times of America's Musical Crossroads).

Why do these secular rock lovers describe the heavily syncopated rock rhythms as sexy, primitive, seductive, and hypnotic? What do they know, or what are they admitting, that the Contemporary Christian Music crowd denies?

If all musical styles are neutral, *why does one of the foremost experts in drumming claim that certain rhythms can alter the state of one's consciousness?* Mickey Hart, drummer for the Grateful Dead, has traveled the world researching the power of drums. In his book *Drumming at the Edge of Magic* he observes: "Everywhere you look on the planet people are *using drums to alter consciousness*. . . I've discovered, along with many others, the extraordinary power of music, particularly percussion, to influence the human mind and body. . .

there have been many times when I've felt as if the drum has carried me to an open door into another world."

If all musical styles are neutral, *why would a voodoo priestess say that her gods respond to certain rhythms?* "The rhythm is more important than the meaning of the words. Our gods respond to rhythm above all else" (a Macumba priestess in Brazil, quoted in *African Rhythm & Sensibility*).

If all musical styles are neutral, why did the 1960s LSD-New Age guru Timothy Leary say, "Don't listen to the words, it's the music that has its own message" (Leary, *Politics of Ecstasy*). What did he mean by that?

If all musical styles are neutral, *why did Jimi Hendrix, one of the foremost experts in rock guitaring, claim that certain music creates a certain atmosphere?* "Atmospheres are going to come through music, because the music is a spiritual thing of its own" (Jimi Hendrix, rock star, *Life*, Oct. 3, 1969).

If all musical styles are neutral, *why did rock and roll historian Robert Palmer say that the (im)moral influence of rock and roll inheres in the rhythm?* "I believe in the transformative power of rock and roll . . . this transformative power inheres

(See **CCM** on page 24)

BODY . . .

(Continued from page 4)

an average, lived twenty-six years longer than the other.

Well — here are Dr. Pearl's findings: The long-lived individuals came from longer-lived parents, and they had fewer brothers and sisters than members of the short-lived group. This is no new discovery of course, as it is generally known that the biggest factor in long life is heredity. That is, if your parents, and grandparents — your known ancestry — lived to a good old age, your chances for long life are greatly improved.

Those who lived longest had lower blood pressures, and also slower pulses by an average of four beats a minute. The advantage of moderate blood pressure and slowly beating heart may easily be understood. A person with normal blood pressure is not likely to suffer from a ruptured blood vessel in the brain, and the absence of increased blood pressure reveals other desirable factors which we shall discuss later on. A heart which does not beat too rapidly has a little more rest in between beats, and when you think of this pump, beating 40,000,000 times yearly, without rest except between contractions — and this is very insignificant — one can understand what a factor this is. If your heart is a

“slow” heart, do not worry.

The long-lived people were thinner in relation to their height, and weighed an average of six pounds less. Without advising any drastic attempts at weight reduction, it is always well to watch this item. Do not indulge that appetite for carbohydrates — a great American habit; eliminate largely the delicious pies and cakes, the over supply of bread, and the other foods which will inevitably put on weight. You know what the best reducing exercise is, do you not? A vigorous shaking of the head from side to side when you are asked to accept a second helping!

Long-lived persons had smaller chests and more slender waists. The big barrel-chested individual is apt sometimes to congratulate himself on fancied superiority. There is no reason for this complacency, and this ought to be good news to those who may have longed for greater size all around.

Heavy physical labor up to the age of forty has no appreciable effect. After forty it considerably impairs life expectancy. So remember this, you who have reached this age, and do not be foolish enough to think you can with safety do the same things you could at twenty. Many people make a desperate effort about this time to fool themselves and others into thinking they are “just as strong as they were in

younger days.” If you carry out that idea, someday a sudden catastrophe will overtake you. *Slow Down!*

According to Dr. Pearl, the *moderate* use of alcohol has no measurable effect on human longevity. Any excessive indulgence, “definitely and considerably impairs life expectation.” And what about tobacco, the smoking of which by men and women is now the great American pastime? Will you listen to this, please, you who laugh at all warnings about tobacco? He says: “Smoking is associated with definite impairment of longevity. This impairment is in proportion to the habitual amount of tobacco usage by smoking, being *great* for heavy smokers, and less for moderate smokers.” But even this latter class — and they seem to be greatly in the minority, if my observation is accurate, may expect lives “definitely shorter than those of total abstainers.”

Our women who are now trying to outdo the men in this smoke-blowing, smoke-inhaling exercise, may not listen, to calm and sensible words of advice, — but, they will inevitably pay the price.

We are thinking of longevity in relation to this brief span of earth life. This kindergarten stage is so brief and so relatively unimportant as far as length of time goes, that it is a real calamity to see millions

paying great attention to it, and giving no thought, apparently, to the vast eternity which lies ahead for each of us. Where are you going to spend it? You are not concerned — you tell me? — and yet you call yourself intelligent?

Speaking for myself — I am mightily concerned with my future abode, and have made ample preparations for a “home over there.” Am I foolish to do that? You cannot be sincere and say that I am. You might doubt my ability to be sure of a real “mansion” fully equipped, rent-free, and with magnificent surroundings, to last for eternity, but this is not merely my credulous hope. Jesus Christ Himself gave a very definite promise about it, and I would not dare to disbelieve His unequivocal declaration. Here it is in John 14:1-3:

“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

Unless you call Christ a liar, here is a wonderful promise addressed to some whom He calls “you.” Who are these? Does that include everyone on earth, so that no one need worry

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CCM . . .

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not so much in the words of songs or the stances of the stars, but in the music itself—in the *sound*, and above all, in the *beat*” (Robert Palmer, *Rock & Roll an Unruly History*).


If all musical styles are neutral, *why does the Bible specify that believers should sing a certain kind of music?* “Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Ephesians 5:19). The word “spiritual” means set apart for God, different from the things of the world. A

tavern or nightclub owner would never play psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs over the music system, even if the words were not included. It would create the wrong atmosphere. Why, then, should believers use the same music that tavern owners use to entertain and lull or stir the drinking crowd to their lascivious pleasures?

Finally, if all music styles are neutral, *why not use traditional sacred music so you don’t offend the many saints of God who have deep convictions against rock?*

I close with the testimony of a man who left the contemporary music

scene after having led contemporary worship teams in two churches:

“I am now convinced that God will not accept our worship when it is offered with music styles that are also used by pagans for their immoral practices. If I am wrong, why was he so harsh in judging Israel when they sacrificed to him using the pagan high places and rituals? He is a jealous God. If you grasp this principle alone, it will change for ever the way you lead a worship service. . . . The true heart of worship is the heart that bows before God and submits to his Word, no more and no less” (Dan Lucarini, *Confessions of a Former Worship Leader*, p. 57). 

BODY . . .

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about getting a mansion? Not at all. He is speaking only to His disciples — to those who have accepted Him as Savior and Lord.

How about this, my friend? Do you think you can go on repudiating Him, by refusing to yield to Him your life and your allegiance, and still hope for eternal life? Impossible! The alternative to a mansion and eternal life, is eternal death and conscious suffering. That is the only way God could be true to Himself and to the sacrifice of His Son. You see, you *must* make a decision one way or the other. Simply to drift into eternity is to be


lost. Why not meet the issue without evasion *now* and tell Him you are taking Him as Savior and Partner? HE’S WONDERFUL!

[Next month: “The House We Live In.”]

DEAD . . .

(Continued from page 2)

This act on our part confirms the truth of the resurrection of our Lord. Then, in verses 30-32 Paul said he risked his life “daily” and constantly exposed himself to many dangers, but if there be no after life, and rewards through being resurrected, what then is the use? This, then, is his argument to the skeptics at Corinth.

If Christ be not raised, then neither His baptism nor our baptism has any meaning at all. It is found to be a false symbol. This, then, is Paul’s way of reasoning with the doubters in the church at Corinth concerning the doctrine of resurrection. 

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, 50 to 100
(depending on your weight)
- 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

Love Answers All

Where there is love
There must be faith,
And where there’s faith
There’s peace indeed.

Where there is peace
There must be God—
And where there’s God
There is no need.