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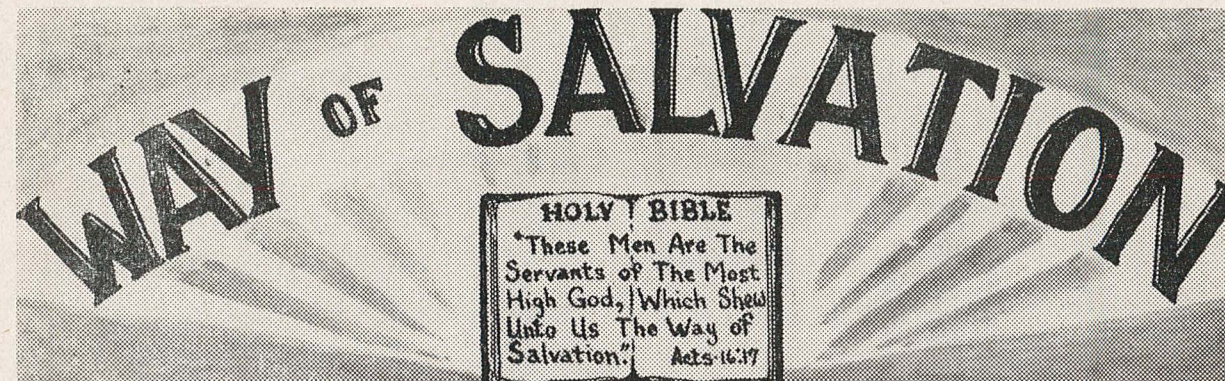
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Volume 3

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA — DECEMBER 1955

No. 5

FIVE NEW TESTAMENT BAPTISMS

E. V. SRYGLEY, JR.

At Least Five

In the New Testament are discussed at least five distinct baptisms.

A sixth baptism is mentioned in I Cor. 10:2 but that immersion occurred during the life of Moses.

Just One Today

In Eph. 4:5 Paul affirms there is one baptism. If there were only one baptism as late as Paul wrote Ephesians, it certainly follows that there is only one baptism that may be practiced in religion today with God's approval.

Therefore, though there are several baptisms discussed in the New Testament, only one may be practiced today. Hence, those who practice water baptism, fire baptism, and Holy Ghost baptism, are simply insisting on two baptisms too many.

By a process of elimination we may determine what the one baptism of today is.

Baptism of Suffering

Even after He had been baptized of John in Jordan, Jesus spoke of a baptism He was to experience, Matt. 20:22. That baptism was figurative and consisted in the immersing or overwhelming of Jesus in sorrow, suffering, and agony.

The baptism of Matt. 20:22 was fulfilled particularly in the suffering of Gethsemane and Calvary; hence, could not be the one baptism of Eph. 4:5.

John's Baptism

According to Mark 1:4 John the Baptist administered a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. However, judging from Acts 19:1-7, the baptism of John was not valid after the establishment of the church.

Hence, the baptism of John cannot be the one baptism of Eph. 4:5.

Baptism In Fire

John the Baptist said that Christ would baptize

with fire, Matt. 3:11. Holiness groups affirm that this baptism of fire occurs in connection with a so-called second work of grace, called sanctification.

Supposedly, the baptism of fire removes the imagined Adamic or in-bred or inherited sinful nature. It is apparent from the context of Matt. 3:11 that the baptism of fire does not have any connection with a so-called second work of grace.

In Matt. 3:12 John describes two classes of people with the terms "wheat" and "chaff." From Psalm 1 and other passages, it is evident that the chaff class is the ungodly class. John says also in Matt. 3:12 that the chaff will be burned up with fire. Hence, the ungodly will be destroyed by fire. Comparing Matt. 3:10 with John 15:6 it is evident that Matt. 3:10 has reference to the punishment of the wicked.

Hence, it is obvious that the fire of Matt. 3:10, 11, and 12 has reference to the fire of hell. The punishment is described figuratively as a baptism because in hell there will be an overwhelming or covering up of suffering.

Holy Ghost Baptism

In Matt. 3:11, Acts 1:5, etc., we read of a baptism of the Holy Ghost.

This baptism was never experienced by Christians generally. To the contrary, only the apostles and the family of Cornelius received this baptism, Acts 1:5; 2:1-4; 11:15, 16.

Inasmuch as the last case of Holy Spirit baptism occurred before Ephesians was written, it follows that baptism in the spirit is not the one baptism of Eph. 4:5.

Baptism In Water

Paul's own treatment of the subject shows that the one baptism of Eph. 4:5 is baptism in water.

This is affirmed because Paul, after saying there is one baptism, speaks of a washing of water in Eph. 5:26. Admittedly, the washing of water refers to water baptism.

Hence, the one baptism we must practice in religion is baptism in water.

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"NO ROOM"

Although the exact date of his birth is unknown, the greatest and most precious gift of all ages was presented to the world more than nineteen hundred years ago when God sent His "only begotten Son" to be born of the virgin Mary. When the time arrived for God's Son to be delivered, ". . . she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn." (Lk. 2:7.) How discouraging and disappointing it must have been to both Mary and Joseph to be turned away from the comforts of the inn on the very eve of the birth of the child Jesus! Christ came to make room for others, but found no room for himself. Although the prophets had foretold his arrival, no preparation was made to receive him. From his birth to this day the masses have made no room for Jesus in their affairs of life.



PERVIE NICHOLS

Jewish Nation Guilty

The Jewish prophets had declared His coming for centuries. (Isa. 9:6-9.) He was to be a descendant of David, of the tribe of Judah, born a Jew. But when he came "his own" people received him not. (Jno. 1:10-14.) Herod tried to kill him. (Matt. 2:16-21.) The Herodians, Pharisees, Saducees and Scribes combined their efforts to oppose him. "Many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him." (Jno. 6:66.) The very people he came to save cried "Away with this man . . . Crucify him, crucify him." (Lk. 23:18-21.) After his death they tried to prevent his resurrection. (Matt. 27:62-66.) Nor did their hatred cease here; they tried to destroy the church of Christ, persecuting its members, even unto death.

Hence, the nation of Israel had no room for the promised Messiah, the "Prince of Peace." To them he was but a "stone of stumbling," "a rock of offence." Likewise Jews today are guilty of rejecting Christ. They have no room for him and

his New Testament in their religion. Christ is simply crowded out of their worship and practice.

Denominations Guilty

The denominations have no room for Christ. Their human names in religion leave no room for His matchless name. (Acts 4:12; 11:26; 26:28; Jas. 2:7.) They prefer their human names to the divine name of Christ in spite of the fact that His is the **only name** in and through which one can glorify God. (1Pet. 4:14-16-R.V.) Their use of human creeds leave no room for the Will and Testament of the Lord. Their "mourner's bench" system, "decision card" and "prayer room" have crowded out Jesus' command to be baptized for the remission of sins. (Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21.) There is no room for Christ in their unscriptural work and worship, such as missionary societies, church suppers, and the use of mechanical instruments of music in worship. The Lord's plan for work and worship is found in the New Testament, but there is no scriptural authority for such activities. Jesus finds no room among those who thus go beyond His teaching. (2 Jno. 9.)

Members and Congregations Also Guilty

Some members of the Lord's church, and even whole congregations, have no room for Jesus. There was no room for Him in the church in Laodicea. (Rev. 3:13-20.) He was on the outside knocking for admittance. A lack of zeal, indifference, and lukewarmness had crowded Him out. Like that church, some today have shut Christ out of their hearts and affections. There is no room in their lives for church attendance, (but plenty of room for the worldly things which they want to do.) Some of those who do assemble contribute very little of their money. They have no purpose in their giving. But there can be scriptural giving without purpose. (1 Cor. 16:1, 2; 2 Cor. 9:7.) Although Christ would have it otherwise, there is no room for Him and His kingdom in the affections of many members of His church.

Parents and Children Often Guilty

There is no room for Jesus in many homes. The husband is wrapped up in commercial affairs, while the wife is wound up in society. Clubs, movies and parties occupy her time. If there are children, they are often left in the care of the maid. Many young people are so active in school affairs, the socials, ball games, etc., that they have no time for Christ and His church. In such homes there is no room for prayer nor Bible reading and meditation; thorns of pleasure and riches have crowded out the teachings of Christ. (Lk. 8:14.) But to crowd out His word is to shut out the Lord Himself. (Jno. 12:48.)

Since all are to be judged by the word of Christ (Jno. 12:48), we must either make room in our affairs for Him and His word, or else stand condemned at the judgment. Dear reader, be not deceived; **there will be no room in heaven for those who have no room for Jesus in their hearts and lives while here!**

If Christ Had Not Come

By GUS NICHOLS

One way to more fully appreciate what Christ means to us is to try to imagine what conditions would have prevailed in this old world if Christ had not come. (Jn. 15:22.) In spite of His coming, and His wonderful influence and teaching, the world is in a bad condition. **BUT WHAT WOULD IT HAVE BEEN HAD CHRIST NOT COME.** Take away every vestige of His influence and the power of His gospel, and the world would have long ago perished of its own internal rottenness and corruption. All the good that was in the world before Christ came, was here because of the expectancy of His coming. (Gal. 3:8; Rom. 1:1-4.) While the good that we now have is because of His mission into this world. Even the unconverted of our nation are made better through the influence of those who are either converted, or are themselves under the influence of the gospel of Christ in some way.

NOT KNOW GOD

Christ came to show the world what God is like. For thousands of years mankind had had a poor conception of the nature and attributes of God. We did not know much about Him, nor what kind of a Being He is. We did not know much about His goodness, mercy and love, nor His justice and hatred for sin. But Christ came to reveal the Father to us—to show us what God is like, and said, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." (Jn. 14:9.) He was Emmanuel, or God with us. (Matt. 1:23.) To see the mercy, meekness, gentleness, goodness, and forgiving spirit of Christ, was to see the Father, for He was the exact image of the Father. (Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:15, 19.) Therefore, if Christ had not come, we would know very little about what kind of Being God really is.

HAD A CLOAK FOR SIN

Christ says, "If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin." (Jn. 15:22.) If Christ had not come, men might have some sort of a cloak for sinning, but now they have no such excuse. He came and condemned sin by word and deed. He condemned sin in the flesh, by living above sin. (Rom. 8:1-6.)

PROPHECIES FAILED

If Christ had not come the prophecies would have failed, for they foretold His coming. (Isa. 9:6-7; Mic. 5:2; Isa. 7:14; Gen. 49:10.) Even **THE TIME OF HIS COMING** was foretold. He was to come at a certain **TIME**, and did come when the "Fulness of time was come." (Gal. 4:4.) When He came in the first century A. D., He said "The time is fulfilled." (Mk. 1:13-15.) His kingdom was to be set up in the days of the Roman kings. (Dan. 2:39, 44.) These passed away in A. D. 476. Hence, if He had not come until now, it would be too late to fulfill the prophecies.

NO ATONEMENT

If Christ had not come we would be without an acceptable atonement for sin. Animal blood did not bring eternal forgiveness. (Heb. 10:1-4; 9:22.) But Christ came in a body of flesh to die for our sins, and to shed His blood for the remission of our sins. (Heb. 10:5-10; Matt. 26:28; Col. 1:14.)

NO SAVIOUR

If Christ had not come we would be without a Savior and Lord today. God sent Him down here to save the world. (1 Jn. 4:14; Jn. 3:17; Lk. 19:10; Jn. 12:47-48.) "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins." (Matt. 1:21; 1 Tim. 3:15.)

NO CHRISTIANITY

If Christ had not come we would be without Christianity; for before His coming there was "The Jews' religion." (Gal. 1:13-14.) They were under the old law. (Rom. 6:14; 7:6; Col. 2:14; Eph. 2:14-16.) Christianity is a new religion, and could not have been established without the coming of Christ into the world.

NO GOSPEL

If Christ had not come we would have no gospel in fact, for He had to come and die, be buried and raised again. **THAT THE GOSPEL MIGHT BECOME A FACT.** (1 Cor. 15:1-4.) The gospel of Christ was only **IN PROMISE** in the old Testament scriptures. (Rom. 1:1-4.) The "Gospel of Christ" is the "Power of God unto salvation." (Rom. 1:16.) We would not have this gospel without His coming. (Lk. 2:8-20.)

NO NEW TESTAMENT

If Christ had not come we would have no New Testament, for He is "The mediator of the New Testament." (Heb. 9:15; Heb. 8:6.) The law of Moses would be the only law from God, if Christ had not come and made a new and better covenant. (Jn. 1:17.)

NO CHURCH OF CHRIST

If Christ had not come there would be no church of Christ. But having come, He said, "I will build my church." (Matt. 16:18.) Paul said, "The churches of Christ salute you." (Rom. 16:16.) He gave Himself for the church. (Eph. 5:25-26.) He had to come in a body of flesh that He might purchase the church with His blood. Acts 20:28.)

NO LORD'S SUPPER

There could have been no Lord's supper without the coming of Christ. He came and instituted the supper as a memorial of His sufferings in the flesh. (Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:20-34.) Hence, without His coming there would have been no congregations of the saints, nor any congregational worship. (Acts 20:7.)

NO FIRST DAY OBSERVANCE

Had Christ not come there would be no scriptural observance of the first day of each week. (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Heb. 10:25; Acts 2:42.) Christ was raised on the first day of the week. (Mk. 16:9; Lk. 24:1-47.) The church was established on this day. (Levit. 23:15-16; Acts 2:1-4; 11:15.) Before the coming of Christ they observed the sabbath of the law, or Saturday, the seventh day of the week. (Ex. 20:10; Deut. 5:14-15; Mt. 12.) We now have the "Lord's Day." (Rev. 1:10.)

NO RESURRECTION

Without the coming of Christ the graves would forever hold their dead. Hence He said He is the resurrection and the life. (Jn. 11.) In a word, we would be without God and without hope. (Col. 1:27.) Thanks to God for the gift of His Son. (2 Cor. 9:15.)

Did You Read The Article In Time

By M. NORVEL YOUNG

Did you read the interesting lead article in *Time* magazine, October 24 issue, about Joe Moore, a Christian who had been chosen as the star farmer of the nation? If you did, you were glad to know of the success of this fellow Christian, but you were disappointed to see *Time* explain to its readers that the church of Christ was started by Thomas and Alexander Campbell in 1809 and that members of the church were commonly called Campbellites.

What can we do to let readers of national magazines know the truth about the church and the Lord and the plea to restore New Testament Christianity in our age? One thing we can do is to help pay for such articles as the one which appears in the November issue of *Coronet* on pages 102 and 103 in the center of the magazine. This article on "What is the church of Christ?" is the first religious advertisement ever carried in this secular magazine. *Coronet* claims that 10,000,000 people will see this issue. It is one way in which we can let the nation know the truth. It is one way we can use our influence as Christians to interest those who have never attended a service or heard a gospel sermon. If you would like to help, be sure to call the attention of your friends to this article in *Coronet*, and then send a gift to help put other such articles before millions.

Send your gift to Dr. Truman Peek, treasurer, Gospel Press, 2102 Jackson St., Dallas, Texas. Watch for the second article in January *Coronet* on the theme: "Let's Make the Bible Our 'Ruler' in Religion!"

ARE YOU SEEKING THE WRONG THING?

By Granville W. Tyler

An answer to the Lord's question, "What seek ye?" will help us to understand our feelings and actions toward religious matters. Jesus said, "Seek and ye shall find," but He did not mean that one might find spiritual things by seeking material things.

1. **SOME SEEK PLEASURE:** — "Eat, drink and be merry" seems to be the philosophy of many in our day. It seems that the time is here when men are "lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God." Tragic accidents, ruined health, broken homes and mounting lists of major crimes result from pleasure seeking. Those who are reaching the lost, strengthening the church and honoring God are not among those bent on having a good time regardless. We, like Moses, should choose to share ill treatment with the people of God rather than enjoy the pleasure of sin for a season.

2. **MANY SEEK POPULARITY:** — Uppermost in the minds of many people is the question, What will people think? rather than What does God want? The fear of being criticized and ostracized keeps many good citizens from obeying God's truth. Some claiming to be Christians refrain from telling

Fair-Minded Study

We read recently that a Catholic Archbishop had asked non-Catholics to give the Catholic doctrines a fair-minded study. He stated that many "grateful souls . . . came to know the Catholic church as it really is and not as it is often described by those who know it not."

We certainly would commend the letter of this request. We should all be fair-minded in trying to see all religious groups exactly as they are but, by the same token, we believe that we would have the right to ask that other religious groups, such as the Catholics, see the church of the Lord exactly as it is. Therefore, it is rather difficult for us to understand this request by a Catholic Archbishop, when they refuse to allow their members to even consider the teachings of others. In the *Question Box* edited by Catholic Priest Bertrand L. Conway and carrying the Imprimatur of Patrick Cardinal Hayes, Archbishop of New York, and James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, on pages 218 and 219 there is stated: "A Catholic would violate Catholic principles by attending services in a Protestant church . . . Catholicism is essentially a religion based on divine, infallible teaching; a Catholic is logically a possessor of the truth . . . He can never admit that other churches, liberal or orthodox, may possibly be right."

"Thou therefore that teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? Thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost not steal?" (Romans 2:21).

We could not help but also ask if the Catholic church could not best be studied in those countries, such as Italy, where Catholicism is the predominant religion. If this be logical, and it seems it should be, we are sure that there are many in our nation who have never seen Catholicism as it actually is for they have never seen it at work where it is in the majority.

—Editorial, Christian Chronicle

the story of the cross, others engage in sinful practices simply because of what people think. The price of popularity is too high when one must hinder the truth, hurt the church, and dishonor God to have it. It will be a sad day for the cause of Christ when it can be said of church members, "They loved the glory that is of men more than the glory that is of God."

3. **OTHERS SEEK MATERIAL POSSESSIONS:** — Judas betrayed Christ for thirty pieces of silver, some are betraying his cause in an effort to get and keep money. Many intelligent people are so busily engaged securing the material things of life that they have no time for things pertaining to eternal life. Jesus admonished his disciples not to lay up their treasures on the earth, but to lay them up in heaven, then He adds, "For where thy treasure is there will thy heart be also." Our Lord had it right when He said, "Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

Reconciliation

By C. L. KYSOR

Teeming millions are on the broad way, the way of destruction. These need to be reconciled to God. Hence, the necessity of Reconciliation.

Reconciliation In the Church

In God's word we read "For He is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; having abolished in His flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in Himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that He might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having the enmity thereby; And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh." (Eph. 2:14-17.)

In this passage, the Holy Spirit, through Paul, speaks of the one New man. This one New Man is none other than the church we read about in the New Testament. This one New Man is alluded to in verse 16, "as the one body," in which both Jew and Gentile are to be reconciled to God.

The apostle Paul, the same writer by the Holy Spirit, speaks of this one body in Eph. 4:4, informing us that there is one body. And in I Cor. 12:20 Paul says, "But now are they many members, yet but one body." The writer also says that this one body is the church. (Eph. 1:22, 23). Dear reader, if you and I, and all others, want to go to heaven we must be in the church we read about in the New Testament.

It is useless to think of going to heaven without being reconciled to God. But both Jew and Gentile are reconciled to God in the "one body," the church. (Eph. 2:16; 1:22-23; Col. 1:8.) To be reconciled to God is to be saved from past or alien sins. But the Lord adds all the saved to his church. (Acts 2:41-47.) "He is the saviour of the body" (Eph. 5:23-25). But the body is the church. (Eph. 1:22-23.) Therefore, one must be in the church of our Lord in order to be reconciled to God.

The church of Christ is composed of lively stones, men and women. (I Pet. 2:5; Acts 8:12.) If you and I are not lively stones in the building of God, the church, we are not numbered with the saved. When Jesus comes to claim His own, if you and I do not belong to Him, we have not obeyed His voice, then we will find ourselves on the left hand of the Son of God. (Matt. 25:31-46.) And His words to us will be, "Depart ye cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his angels." Those on His left hand will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

The prophet David said, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." (Psa. 127:1.) The Lord build but one church (Eph. 4:4; Matt. 16:18; Col. 1:18; I Cor. 12:20.) The Lord Jesus

THE GRACE OF GOD AND THE OBEDIENT

J. W. EVANS

God, in his infinite mercy, has provided the way of salvation through the blood of his own dear Son. He offers this salvation freely to all, without respect of persons; but he does not force it upon those who do not care. Rather, he offers salvation to all who will come on his simple terms, realizing that the merit is in the divine gift, not the human acceptance.

God, has provided one way for all who would accept his free grace. This way is dependent, not upon works of merit, but upon "the obedience of faith" (Romans 16:26). This obedience of faith claims no merit for the doer, but rather expresses his utter dependence upon the grace of God. Even baptism, the final act of submission which the believing, penitent undergoes in becoming a child of God, is not a mere washing of the body but an earnest request to God for pardon. God is not obligated to us by our baptism, but He has promised to treat us all equally. Trusting in His promise, we show forth the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our dependence upon these things for our salvation, when we submit to baptism.

—Gospel Mirror.

Christ Himself is the foundation. (I Cor. 3:11.) All other churches are founded upon the sand, and are doomed to come to naught. (Rev. 18:1-6.)

Word of Reconciliation

The words of reconciliation have been committed into the hands of earthen vessels. Paul said "that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we pray you in Christ's stead, be reconciled to God." (2 Cor. 5:19-20.) The words of reconciliation were given to us through the apostles of Christ, through the writings of those inspired men, recorded in the New Testament.

The word of reconciliation instructs the alien sinner to (1) hear the gospel of Christ (Matt. 7:21-27; Acts 3:22-23), (2) believe the gospel (Mk. 16:16-16), (3) repent of all sins (Lk. 13:3; Acts 17:30), (4) confess faith in Christ (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32) and (5) be "buried with Christ by baptism" "for the remission of sins." (Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16; Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12.)

When one obeys these commands he is then made free from past sin (Rom. 6:17-18), and has been reconciled to God in the "one body." If he then adds to his faith the things mentioned by Peter (2 Pet. 1:5-11), and continues faithfully to the end of life's short day, a crown of life will await him in the sweet bye and bye. (Rev. 2:10.)

News Bits

MEETINGS: The meeting recently conducted by the South Side church, Macon, Ga., with Lawrence Hazelip of Valdosta, Ga., preaching, resulted in nine baptisms and four restorations . . . V. P. Black states that the church of Christ in Plateau, Ala., is planning a series of 33 lessons (six services per day) January 29-February 3. At least 27 different preachers will participate. The general theme will be THE BIBLE SCHOOL. The church there conducted a similar series last winter on GIVING, the results of which were beyond their expectations.

AN APPEAL

"The church of Christ in Barnesville, Ga., needs a preacher. The membership includes five adults and one young boy. Barnesville is a town of 4,200 population and is located 60 miles south of Atlanta on U. S. Highway 41.

"Our lot is paid for and we are paying for our building, which was erected in the winter of 1953. It has an ample auditorium, and an apartment of three rooms and bath, which may be used for a preachers living quarters. One room has been completed in the basement. Large doors make it possible to use a part of the basement as a garage.

"We are very anxious to secure a preacher, but our small membership makes it impossible to support him in addition to making payments on the building. Will someone help us? Address all correspondence to: J. T. Cooper, 105 Rogers Ave., Barnesville, Ga."

(Note: I am familiar with the church in Barnesville, Ga. It has had a very difficult struggle. I sincerely believe those brethren are worthy of any help given them. Any child of God making a contribution to that work will be helping to carry a heavy burden. Editor.)

DECEMBER DEADLINE

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The Saddest Path

The saddest road to hell is the one that looks so much like the right way as to appear safe, but is yet wrong. It leads one on in happy anticipation of heavenly rest and joy, only to dash him down upon the rocks of disappointment just beyond the precipice of realization.

It is sad because people, good people, spend so much time, energy and work on the way, thinking of heaven and hoping to go there, only to be disappointed at the end. Our hearts ache when we see so many people like those of whom Paul spoke. "I bear them witness, they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge." It is pathetic that so many, many people who are good citizens, excellent neighbors, just fine people in nearly every way you can think of, but have never seriously compared what they believe, how they worship, what church they support, and what name they wear with the Bible.

It is hard to see a person go on to eternity who has never made any effort to go to heaven, and to regret to see him go, because he never awoke to the need of the Savior and the means of being saved.

But how much more tenderness in our hearts we find for those who want to be saved, are exceedingly religious, are sacrificing much time and effort, and pouring their very lives into the work of their various churches, only to be disappointed! If only men and women would go to the Bible, read it to find whether their churches are found therein, and whether their worship is all authorized of God! O God, that men would see!

Good men walk and worship in human churches, and are supporting human doctrines they think are divine, and it all seems right. "But there is a way that seemeth right to a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Proverbs 14:12.

We plead with men not to gullibly believe what we say or what anyone else might say about religious matters, but to "Search the scriptures, whether these things are so." If it is Bible teaching, accept it, regardless of who might have it; if it is not, . . . reject it.

"The simple believeth every word; but the prudent man looketh well to his going." Proverbs 14:15.

"Stand ye in the ways and see: ask for the old paths, where is the good way; and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls: but they said, We will not walk therein.

"And I set watchmen over you, saying, Harken to the sound of the trumpet; but they said, We will not hearken.

"Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregations, what is among them. Hear, O earth: behold I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, and as for my law, they have rejected it." Jer. 6:16-20.

"In vain do they worship me, teaching for their doctrines the commandments of men." Matt. 15:9.

"Try your own selves, whether ye are in the faith; prove your own selves." II Corinthians 13:5.

—Sel.

SERMON OUTLINE

MANY CALLED, FEW CHOSEN

By Clovis Caudle

I. MANY CALLED. (Matt. 1:16; 22:1-14; Mk. 16:15)

1. Many make fun, mock and rail at invitation of Lord.
2. Many accept—many refuse, many fall away.

II. FEW CHOSEN. (Relate parable of sower—Matt. 13:21)

- Because:
1. Word did not take root. (Matt. 13:21)
 2. Care of world, deceitfulness of riches choked out the word. (Matt. 13:22)
 3. Jealousy of progress of brother.
 4. Desire of popularity.
 5. Indifference. (Matt. 22:5)
 6. Lack of preparation. (Matt. 22:12)

III. HOW CALLED?

1. Not in mysterious, miraculous way, but
2. By word of God. (2 Thess. 2:14)
3. Examples:
 - a. Abraham: Heard Believed, Obeyed. (Gen. 12:1-4; Heb. 11:8)
 - b. Noah: Heard, Believed, Obeyed. (Gen. 6:13; Heb. 11:7; Gen. 7:5)
 - c. Paul: Heard, Believed, Obeyed. (Acts 22:7, 8; 22:10, 11; 9:6-8)

IV. HOW WE ARE CALLED TODAY.

1. By Hearing—Rom. 10:17
2. By Believing—Rom. 10:10
3. By Obeying—1 Pet. 1:22; Jn. 17:17

ONE ANGLE OF THE LIQUOR QUESTION

To impress the patrons with the folly of patronizing the dram shops, a major casualty insurance company mails to each one a copy of Safety Bulletin No. 5 of the Illinois Steel Company. Under the caption, Submarine Attack on Booze, it reads as follows:

"For the married man who cannot get along without drinks, the following is suggested as a means of freedom from bondage to saloons:

"Start a saloon in your own home. Be the only customer (you'll have no license to pay). Go to your wife and give her two dollars to buy a gallon of whiskey, and remember there are sixty-nine drinks in a gallon. Buy your drinks from no one but your wife, and by the time that the first gallon is gone she will have eight dollars to put into the bank and two dollars to start business again.

"Should you live ten years and continue to buy booze from her, and then die with snakes in your boots, she will have money enough to bury you decently, educate your children, buy a house and lot, and marry a decent man, and quit thinking about you entirely."—Sel.

The Second Coming of Christ

By Pat Kirkland

Many people of our day do not think that there will be a judgment. But we know that this is not so. The Bible tells us that Christ is coming. When we read in the Bible we know it is the truth. We find in (John 8:32) "And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." Christ speaks the truth. He said 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." (I Thessalonians 4:16-18) "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." So we see that Christ is sure to come.

It will be a sad day for those who have not obeyed the Gospel at the Judgment and lived the Christian life the remainder of their days: For Christ is coming to separate His sheep from the goats. (Matt. 25:31-34.) When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory: And before Him shall be gathered all nations and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." The forty-first verse says "Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

Christ Is Coming Without a Doubt. (Jude verses 15 and 16) To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him. These are murderers, complainers walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage. In Matt. 25, we have the record of the Ten Virgins. Five were wise and five were foolish. The five wise ones had their oil and they were let in. The five foolish carried no oil and they were cast out.

The Same Will Happen To Us Today If We Do Not Obey the Gospel. We must repent (Luke 13:3). We must confess (Rom. 10:10). For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. We must be baptized (I Pet. 3:21; Acts 3:19; Acts 2:38). Friends, won't you obey the Gospel and be ready when the Lord comes?