"Dinks" Have Double Incomes and No Kids

By G. Russell Evans
Norfolk, Virginia

The clever acronym “DINKS” appears in Pat Buchanan’s best selling book The Death of the West (Dunne Books, 2002). It stands for “Double Income No Kids,” meaning plenty of money for couples to live it up and no brats to tend to at five o’clock in the evening. It can also mean: Sleep in ’til 10:30 AM Saturdays, followed by a champagne lunch, lobster dinner and whatever pleasure the weekend has to offer.

The DINKS life of no kids can be a shallow one, adding nothing to the propagation of the race and family line, and contributing to the decline of Western civilization. DINKS will never know the joy and pride of bringing up sons and daughters, seeing them develop into productive citizens, educated and trained in the fields that make America special, and faithful to the old folks when the time comes.

Sinister Warning
Pat Buchanan’s subtitle is “How Dying Populations and Immigrant Invasions Imperil Our Country and Civilization”—a sinister warning, backed up by irrefutable documentation and impressive and historic examples. He calls it: “Depiction, not prediction.” It is a depiction with statistics of countries with slowly dying populations and others, including the

continued on page 308

Is It Scriptural for Women to Preach?

A Subject That Needs Restudy

By Roy Mason
(1894-1978)

Have Baptists decided to junk the teachings of the New Testament as their standard of faith and practice? Have they decided that they will take only those Scriptures that coincide with their preconceived views and opinions as authoritative, and throw away the rest? Have they decided to revise the Scriptures so as to make them suit the “trend of the times,” and the standards of this world?

It would seem that many of them have. I could illustrate this by a number of different incidents and I could mention a number of different things in which many Baptist churches have plainly departed from the teachings of the New Testament, but I have in mind just now to mention one matter as illustrative of the charges that I have just brought. The one matter I refer to is The Woman Question. Baptist churches in some sections ordain women to the ministry! The Southern Baptist Convention puts women up to speak (or preach, for it is one and the same thing). Some women missionaries on our Baptist foreign mission fields are carrying on a preaching ministry seen thusfar in our study, clearly predicts a time at the end of this age when the earth’s greatest powers will be united in a monstrous, cruel, godless, world dictatorship, finally bursting forth in a violent, though futile, attempt to destroy, not only the people of God, but the very Son of God Himself. In preparation for this final manifestation of power, as we have just seen, the very political and philosophical thought of modern man, in exalting power to a place of pre-eminence, forms a perfect background for the fulfillment of

continued on page 312

The Doctrine of Rewards

Part 2

By Milburn Cockrell
Mantachie, Mississippi

Thirteenth, there is special recognition for the earnest seeker: “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him” (Heb. 11:6). Here the idea is to seek God out diligently by faith. This includes prayer, Bible reading, meditation, church attendance, and Christian fellowship. The Greek word here means God has laid a charge upon Himself and takes it to be His job to render reward. To have this reward the seeker must be diligent; he must be earnest: “And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall seek me with all your heart” (Jer. 29:13).

Fourteenth, one of the greatest of all rewards will go to the dying martyr: “... be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life” (Rev. 2:10). The phrase “unto death” is found only two other places in the New Testament (Acts 22:4; Rev. 12:11). The thought is degree rather

continued on page 302

The Conflicts of Power at the End of this Age

III. The Increasing Accumulation of Power in These Days

By Wilbur M. Smith
Part 2
(1894-1977)

The New Testament, and especially the Book of Revelation, as we have

continued on page 313

The Church in the Wilderness

By Milburn Cockrell
Mantachie, Mississippi

“This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sinai, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us” (Acts 7:38).

In this message I want to compare Israel with the New Testament church. It is almost with reluctance I do this, for there are some who make Israel take the place of the church. I do not believe the church took the place of Israel, nor that all Israelites are now reproved by God. I do not believe that the Israelites were too hard for an omnipotent God to handle, and so God turned to the tender-hearted Gentiles. Such reasoning is both foolish and absurd.

There are a number of clear distinctions between Israel and the church (I Cor. 10:32). I want to point out some of these. First, Israel was one

continued on page 313

“Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth” (Psalms 60:4).
THE BEREA BAPTIST BANNER

April 5, 2002

THE REWARDS

First, the rewards to be given out by Christ are great: "After these things the word of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward" (Gen. 15:1). God is not only the Rewarder, but the Reward. To have God as the Reward is a great reward indeed. As an old writer said: "If He is thine, all is thine." What a reward it is to be able to enjoy God forever. Rewards must be great, if they are given out by our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Paul declared: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (I Cor. 2:9).

In the earthly life I doubt if we can comprehend the greatness of our rewards. We read in Psalm 19:11: "Moreover by them is thy servant warned, and in keeping of them shall I be greatly rewarded." The wages which the Lord pays are great. They are given to those who have a carefulness to know and observe the Bible. Our Lord taught: "But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be GREAT, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil" (Luke 6:35). Here Christ pronounced the reward of the righteous everlasting great.

Second, the rewards to be given out by Christ are sure: "Nowing that of which ye have heard, and considered, that ye might abound with hope" (I Thess. 1:3). If these rewards are to be given out by Christ Himself, what could be more sure? Not even a cup of cold water will be overlooked by Him. The passing out of rewards is not a matter of doubtful disputations. We can be sure that we will receive them, for He who cannot lie has promised to do this. In Jeremiah 31:16 it is written: "For thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord." Christian, these rewards will be given out by Christ!

Third, the rewards given out by Christ are varied: "Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour" (I Cor. 3:8). Some believers plant and some water, for all do not have the same abilities and opportunities. "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit" (I Cor. 12:4; cf. I Pet. 4:10). At the Judgment Seat of Christ our Lord will make a difference among believers, according to the different...

Continued on page 304
WHY I USE THE KJV

In my 44 years in the ministry I have used the KJV of the Bible, and so have the members of the churches I have pastored. I urged all church members to secure and study the KJV Bible. I do not recommend to them that they throw away their KJV and get new modern Bible versions. That this is so can be ascertained from any church where I have ever pastored, although there are rumors to the contrary being circulated by some brethren.

Some of my brethren use the KJV because they have read and studied books by a cursing Arminian preacher in Florida, or because they are afraid they will be called a liberal or modernist by the followers of this man. I, for one, marvel that some brethren follow a cursing Arminian preacher and are influenced by him. O u r K ing James Version says in James 1:26: “If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man’s religion is vain.”

Evidently, some brethren do not believe the KJV here and prefer a new version of some kind.

Some years ago I attended a Bible conference where one preacher got up and said in his message he was a follower of this cursing Arminian preacher in Florida. I immediately wrote him down as an ultradispensationalist, a universal church man, and an Arminian heretic. I did appreciate his honest confession. O ur churches need to be aware of such men so as to keep them out of their pulpits.

I do not use the KJV because of the teachings of some cursing Arminian preacher. Neither do I use it because I am afraid the followers of this man in our group of Baptists will call me a liberal or Bible corrector. I used the KJV before I ever heard of this man. In fact the idea that this man teaches is not as old as I am. It is a merely novel theory never believed or taught by any Baptist before the modern era.

Brethren, here are the reasons I use the KJV. First, I believe it was made from the best Greek and Hebrew texts, which are the preserved Word of God. Neither is there a more literal Hebrew text preserved by the nation of Israel, and the Textus Receptus Greek text (or Byzantine text). This is the Greek text preserved from A.D. 452 to 1453 by the Greek Church, the Waldenses, and Albigenses.

All modern translations are based upon the reconstructed Greek text of Westcott and Hort, two Romanist-oriented scholars, whose purpose was to replace the Protestant and Baptist text with those of the Roman Church and thereby wean back Protestants to the Roman fold. These two men denied the blood atonement of Jesus Christ, exalted Mary worship and the Roman Mass, denied the Genesis record, and were ardent evolutionists and had universalist tendencies.

About 95 percent of all Greek manuscripts that we have are the Byzantine type. This means that the Westcott and Hort texts disagree with 95 percent of extant sources, including Scripture quotations from the writings of the early church fathers, who anointed the texts on which the Westcott and Hort reconstruction was based. The W & H texts came from Rome and Egypt, depicted as God’s enemies in Scripture, whereas the text of the KJV came from Syria and Greece, the areas of the initial outreach of Christianity.

All translations since 1611 have not been made entirely from the Textus Receptus. These did include some of the Textus Receptus but they largely depended on the Vaticanus and Sinaiticus. Codex Vaticanus was found in the pope’s library in A.D. 1481 and Codex Sinaiticus was taken from a waste basket on a Mt. Sinai monastery in 1859. Both of these manuscripts include the apocryphal books outside of the New Testament canon. This makes the new translation based largely on these texts essentially Roman Catholic translations. They resemble Jerome’s Latin Vulgate and the Rheims-Douai versions of 1582 authorized by the Roman Catholic Church at the infamous Council of Trent.

2. The KJV translators employed a method of word for word translation rather than the method of paraphrase of dynamic equivalent (a meaning for meaning). The idea of the KJV translators was to give us what the Bible writers really wrote instead of what some committee of liberal scholars thought they wrote. This practice was not followed by modern-day translators.

The KJV translators believed every word placed in the original text was exactly as God intended. Their regard for verbal inspiration is reflected in the use of italics in translations wherever words were added in English, which were not in the Hebrew and Greek manuscripts. This practice has not been followed by modern versions.

Personally, I look upon most modern versions (especially the New Testament) as new Bible versions. I say this because a translation of the Bible to be true to its name must be the writing down of the message into another language without changing its meaning. The natural man cannot understand the things of God (I Cor. 2:14), and he cannot be trusted to present his thoughts into correct English.

3. The KJV has been read and examined by some great minds since 1611, and wherein it has weak translations these have been pointed out by men like Henry, Pool, Trapp, Gill, Spurgeon, Pink, Graves, etc. This is not true of any of these modern versions. The examinations which have been made of these are limited, and they have resulted in unsatisfactory reports.

4. The KJV has been the Bible of my Baptist fathers. It is the one I have studied, memorized, and preached all my life. It was the one being preached from when I was converted to Christ. It was the Bible of the church which baptized me, and of the church and men who ordained me to the ministry. It is the Bible I have heard preached all my life. I have no plans to throw mine KJV away for some new version made by infidels from Catholic manuscripts.

5. I believe the KJV is a faithful translation of the preserved Word of God in the Hebrew and Greek manuscripts. It is the best we have for the English speaking world in this generation. As long as any translation follows the text of the Textus Receptus and the Masoretic Hebrew text, they are inspired. When they choose to do other wise, they are in error. This rule applies to the KJV as well as others. I believe that only the original autographs were perfect or inspired. God has preserved His Word in Hebrew and Greek, but no Romanist masse, denies the message comes down to us from inspired translators, and this includes the KJV.

Continued on page 304

The Purpose of the Death of Christ

XI. TO PUT AWAY SIN.

In Hebrew 9:26 it is written: “For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself” (Heb. 9:26). The words “put away” (athetesis) is elsewhere translated “disannulling.” It denotes absolution, or cancellation, or a setting aside.

Christ did away with sin by the sacrifice of Himself. He abolished all the debt we owed to the justice of God. Jesus paid it all. He did not make a down payment so we could take up installment payments. He paid a hundred percent, and we have nothing to pay.

John Gill’s comments on this verse tells us in what sense Christ put away sin: “...the filth of it, by His blood; the guilt of sin, by His atoning blood; and the curse of it, by His sufferings and death...this putting it away signified by His bearing, carrying, and taking it away; by removing it as far as the east is from the west; by finishing and making end of it...” (An Exposition of the New Testament, Vol. III, p. 441).

John Owen writes on this verse: “He appeared, He was ‘manifested in the flesh,’ that He might suffer and offer Himself to God. This He did to ‘put away sin,’ in its nature and effects, and in its root and fruits, in its guilty, power, and punishment, and that absolutely and universally with respect unto His church that is sanctified by His blood, and dedicated unto God” (p. 182).

The great and glorious truth of the gospel of grace is that Jesus Christ has made a complete atonement for all the sins of His people so that their condemnation is removed (Rom. 8:1). He puts sin out of God’s presence, out of His book or remembrance, so that it has no power over us. Only the sacrifice of the God-man could make this to be true. This Christ has done by providing a full pardon for the sins of a great multitude out of all nations. Christ not only put away sin from the justice of God, but He also destroyed sin in our hearts by progressive sanctification and final glorification. The final fruits of His death will make us completely holy as if we had never been sinners.

I believe the Bible. I believe that Christ really and truly put away the sins of His people. Sin is gone from the justice of God so far as the elect are concerned. It is no more. In the new covenant God says: “For I will...”
Cockrell's Corner

Continued from page 303
be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more” (Hb. 8:12).

I charge that Arminians do not believe Hebrews 9:26. They would say that this is true of the believing sinner, but it is not true of the unbelieving sinner. According to their theory, Christ put away the sins of those who by self-originating faith make up what is lacking in the atonement of Christ. Although Christ suffered and died for those who will never believe, He utterly failed to put away their sins. He made an attempt at doing so, but in their case He utterly failed. It was a bigger job than He could handle. Even though Christ suffered for the sins of those who die in unbelief, these unbelievers must also suffer for their sins. God made these people destroy themselves. The Father made Christ to suffer and die for them in vain, and then He made these unbelievers pay what Christ has already paid! This whole idea is an insult to the holiness and justice of God. Nothing could cast more aspersions on the sufferings and death of Christ than such foolishness. It has the Father making Jesus pay, and then has the Father refusing to accept what Christ paid in the case of those who die in unbelief. It has the Father requiring something of Christ and then refusing to accept what He required!

Do not require double payment, first at the hand of Christ, and then again at the hands of the unbelieving sinner. If Jesus Christ put away a person’s sins, then that person will not suffer for them. If the sinner suffers for his own sins, then any person ought to know that Christ did not put them away. Hence the Bible teaches an atonement limited to the elect of God. Please remember that the purpose of Christ’s death was to put away sin. Hebrews 9:26 does not say He made an attempt to put away sin; it says He actually put it away for all for whom He died. Jesus Christ is not a failure! The old prophet said of Him: “He shall not fail nor be discouraged” (Isa. 42:4).

Doctrine of Rewards

Continued from page 302
services performed (I Cor. 15:41-42). He shall assess each servant and his work. The criterion will be the servant’s labor, not his success. The penitent thief cannot expect to receive as much reward as will the laborious Paul.

Fourth, the recompenes to be handed out by Christ will be sufficient. “An hundredfold” (Mark 10:30) will be more than sufficient to reward us for our self-sacrificing. It will be enough to know our services have been accepted by Christ:

“Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. (II Cor. 5:9; Matt. 25:21). Every one will be satisfied with his own reward. The Scriptures know nothing of some servant complaining of his recompenes of reward.

Those faithful in a few things are to be given many things. Some of the saints will rule over 10 cities (Luke 19:17 and some over five cities (Luke 19:19). Some overcomers of the church age are to have “power over the nations” (Rev. 2:26). At least a few are to share the throne with Christ: “To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I have sat with my Father in his throne” (Rev. 3:21).

Eastern kings did not occupy a single-seat throne, but a large one where more than one person could sit. Christ is to share His millennial throne and its royalty with a few overcomers. Christ now shares His Father’s throne, and Christ is to share His millennial throne with some overcomers. Oh, to sit on His right and left hand in the kingdom (Matt. 20:20-23).

Fifth, the rewards given out by Christ are eternal: “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are not seen are eternal” (II Cor. 4:17-18).

Our afflictions are light and momentary. There awaits us an eternal weight of glory which far exceeds any of our sufferings on earth. No expression could be more exceeding and eternal than to sit on His right hand in the kingdom. “To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I have sat with my Father in his throne” (Rev. 3:21).

When we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are not seen are eternal” (II Cor. 4:17-18). Our afflictions are light and momentary. There awaits us an eternal weight of glory which far exceeds any of our sufferings on earth. No expression could be more exceeding and eternal than to sit on His right hand in the kingdom.

Fourth, the recompenes to be handed out by Christ will be sufficient. “An hundredfold” (Mark 10:30) will be more than sufficient to reward us for our self-sacrificing. It will be enough to know our services have been accepted by Christ:

Berea Baptist Broadcast

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATION</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>DIAL</th>
<th>WATTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WFTA, Tupelo, MS</td>
<td>Sunday 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>101.9</td>
<td>3,000 FM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WJOR, Saint Joseph, TN</td>
<td>Sunday 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>101.5</td>
<td>1,000 FM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WVSNA, Vernon, AL</td>
<td>Sunday 7:00 - 7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>1380</td>
<td>1,000 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WLZA, Starkville, MS</td>
<td>Sunday 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>710</td>
<td>2,500 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCNA, Myrtle, MS</td>
<td>Sunday 12:30 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>95.9</td>
<td>3,000 FM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCTT, Corinth, KY</td>
<td>Sunday 5:00 - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>5,000 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KARI, Blaine, WA</td>
<td>Saturday 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>5,000 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KORE, Springfield, OR</td>
<td>Sunday 8:00 - 8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>1050</td>
<td>5,000 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WDBS, Sutton, WV</td>
<td>Sunday 6:30 - 7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>971</td>
<td>50,000 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DXRA, Davao City, Philippines</td>
<td>Sunday 8:15 - 8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>783 Khz</td>
<td>10,000 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DWSS, Manila, Philippines</td>
<td>Sunday 5:30 - 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>1494</td>
<td>16,000 AM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Doctrine of Rewards

Continued from page 304

don in private, the rewards will be given out in public.

Third, our compensation for good works will be full: "The LORD recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the LORD God of Israel" (II Chron. 14:7). Whether you act as if you were "to come to trust" (Rom. 2:12). The God of the Bible is a God of rewards. The Hebrew word (shalem) translated "full" means "just or perfect." As Lange comments, the idea is a complete reward. Ruth's heroism and self-denial would receive a complete reward. She would miss nothing but would recover all. God's reward is always a full reward. All earthly rewards for the saints are partial, but in Heaven they will receive a full recompense.

When it comes to rewards for things like the kindness Ruth showed to her mother-in-law, we must ascribe these good works to God who works in us. Isaiah 26:12 says: "LORD, thou wilt ordain peace for us; for thou also hast wrought all our works in us." It is written in Philippians 2:13: "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." If we do all the good works we are required to do, we are still "unprofitable servants" (Luke 17:10). Man by nature is so depraved that he is "unto every good work reprobate" (Tit. 1:16). Our best works are stained and imperfect (Isa. 64:6). There is little proportion between them as the infinite weight of glory wherewith Christ is to reward them. In truth, rewards are not given us so much for our own inherent worth, but because of God's free grace. Who crowns H is own work in us.

Fourth, some rewards are in this present life: "But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life" (M ark 10:30). Note the words "in this life." Those things left for Christ will bring a hundredfold by new relationships with fellow-believers in this present age (Mark 3:31-35) and at the coming of Christ eternal life. What an encouragement to serve Christ! This truth is seen in other Scriptures. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33). "For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come" (I Tim. 4:8).

Daniel's self-denial was rewarded on earth when he was given heavenly wisdom. The same may be said of Joseph. Not all rewards are given out in Heaven at the Judgment Seat of Christ. We receive some rewards on earth in this life. In Daniel 14, the two prizes are given out when Christ comes for His saints: "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be" (Rev. 22:12). "My reward must mean the rewards Christ brings with Him" at the rapture and which are to come from Him. When He comes He will reward each believer for his services and sufferings. The singular "work" sums up a lifetime of service on earth.

Other verses teach this same truth. Our Lord declared: "And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed according to the resurrection of the just" (Luke 14:14). "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all also who love his appearing" (I Tim. 4:8). "See when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away" (I Pet. 5:4).

Sixth, these rewards are to be enjoyed in the millennial reign of Christ: "He said therefore, A certain nobleman when into a far country went to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, O cupy till I come. . . And it came to pass, that when Christ comes with His saints they will enjoy their rewards especially in the millennial kingdom. They are destined to enjoy them through eternity. We are to possess an "eternal weight of glory" (II Cor. 4:7), and we are to shine "as the stars for ever and ever" (Dan. 12:3). Our inheritance is "incorruptible, and undefiled," and it "fadeth not away" (I Pet. 1:4). At the Lord's right hand there are pleasures for evermore (Ps. 16:11). The crowns given out at the judgment Seat of Christ are crowns "that fadeth not away" (Rev. 2:10)."
Conflict of Power

Continued from page 305

200,000,000 are now living in North America. Consequently, the power of mass population has developed enormously in modern times.

2. Military power

Nations today, however, measure their power not so much by the mass of people living within their boundaries as by the number that can be immediately commanded for military service, and, of course, by military equipment. This, too, has shown a great acceleration in the last three hundred years. Dr. Quincy Wright of the University of Chicago, outstanding authority in the Western World today on the history of war, estimates that in the sixteenth century, armies seldom exceeded 20,000 to 30,000. In the seventeenth century, armies rarely exceeded 50,000 to 60,000, and when about 3 in every 1,000 of the population was included, it approximated the army, approximately the same as in the Roman Empire. In the eighteenth century, individual armies sometimes numbered as many as 90,000; Napoleon always had 200,000, and at times he may have had a million men, or five per cent of the French people, mobilized. Before the nineteenth century was over, however, the eight great powers averaged 500,000 men each in the army and navy. At the time of World War I, these individual armies averaged about 600,000, or about 5 to every 1,000 of the population, and for their maintenance one-third of the national budgets of these respective countries was demanded. In 1937, the world as a whole had 8,000,000 men in standing armies—France as many as 19 for every 1,000 population. It is estimated today that the army man power of the world is 16,379,000.

In the middle of the eighteenth century two field guns were generally counted for each 1,000 men; in the second World War 20 guns were assigned to each 1,000 men, and in some of the offensives of 1917, there were 300 guns to a mile. Up to the middle of the nineteenth century, all military maneuvering was at a marching pace. Today most armies are mechanized, able to travel 50 times as fast, and, if necessary, for many more hours. Bombing, too, has now become a terrific factor. In 1943, 180,000 tons of bombs were dropped on Germany by Great Britain and America alone, and in the following year over 100,000 tons were dropped in one month; in 1850, 5,000 tons were dropped in forty minutes. In 1850 the number of bullets fired by a smooth bore muzzle-loader by 1,000 men in one minute was 500, and their range about 300 yards. Today we have machine guns which fire 1,000 rounds a minute, making 1,000,000 for 1,000 men, with a range of nearly 4,000 yards. Besides, we now have pilotless planes, flying bombs, and long-range rockets. In addition to all this, we have submarines, airplanes and tanks. This subject will be dealt with further in the next chapter.

3. Power from natural resources

From the earliest times, men have used flowing water and wind for the development of power. Coal also may have been used for some purposes by the Romans, but only in a very limited way. But in 1769, when Watt applied for a patent for the steam engine, man really began to use in great quantities the latent energies buried in the earth. First, the use of coal phenomenally progressed; by the middle of the nineteenth century trains were crossing America and Europe, and vast loads of merchandise and thousands of people could now be swiftly carried without the use of horse and carriage. Soon electricity burst upon the world, and steam was made to turn vast turbines. These in turn produced electric currents, which not only gave power but also transmitted the power hundreds of miles over wires and cables, for use in any locality man determined. About the same time, men began to use petroleum and natural gas, which though known from early times, were not harnessed for light and heat until about 1860, and not for power until near the end of the nineteenth century. It has been estimated that today a man with an automobile at his disposal, with his home and barns furnished with electric current, and with his farm machinery mechanized, can do the work on any farm that a hundred years ago would have taken sixty men to complete. Thus the power of man is being infinitely multiplied.

4. Atomic power

In the last ten years man has tapped another source of energy, dreamed of by the ancients, sought out by scientists for over one hundred years, and at last made available—the awful power which man has acquired through the release of energy in splitting the nuclei of atoms, especially for the atomic bomb in the fission of the atoms of uranium. Q R: The enormous amount of energy released in the fission of the atoms of one pound of U-235 (an isotope of uranium) has been clearly set out by Dr. Selig Hecht of Columbia University in his new authoritative work, Explaining the Atom: “If a chain reaction could become established and all the atoms in the pound of U-235 be fissioned, the energy produced would be over 400 billion ergs, or in common units, 12,000,000 kilowatt-hours. If this energy were released slowly, under control, it would furnish the electric current that keeps 12 million 100-watt lamps going for a 10-hour day, or about enough to illuminate all the homes in New England for an evening. If however, it were released quickly, say in a fraction of a second, it would have the explosive force of about 10,000 tons of TNT. Since there are 2,000 pounds in a ton, this is a factor of 20,000,000 and indicates that, pound for pound, U-235 could yield an explosive force 20,000,000 times more powerful than TNT. If only 10 per cent of the atoms in a pound of U-235 were to fission, it would be 2,000,000 times as powerful as TNT; or even if only 1 per cent of the atoms in the pound of U-235 were to fission, it would still be equivalent to 200,000 times the explosive force of TNT. Clearly a net order of explosive force was possible, and the sleep of those who made these calculations was not an easy one.

“The temperature existing in the atomic blast can be calculated. The total energy given off when an atom of uranium is split is 200,000,000 electron volts, and 1 electron volt is equal to 10,000 degrees centigrade. The temperature of the atom at the instant of disintegration before its energy has been divided between radiation and the kinetic energy of the ejected particles would be 2,000,000,000,000 degrees. For a conservative figure, it can be estimated that only 1 per cent of this energy appeared in the form of radiation, and that the radiation which came out of each atom burst in the form of 2 quanta. Under these conditions, the temperature of the radiation would be of the order of 10,000,000,000 degrees.”

5. Other destructive agencies

In the U. N. World, for November, 1947 (p. 13), Rear Admiral Ellis M. Zacharias, U.S.N. (Ret.), Wartime Deputy Chief of Naval Intelligence, in an article entitled, “Absolute Weapons—More Deadly than the Atom,” warns us: “There are today in the arsenals of several of the great powers other absolute weapons, chemical, biological, and climatological, more devastating than the atom. They are capable of exterminating the last vestige of human, animal, and even vegetable life from the face of the earth. This is not a prediction of horrors to come. These weapons exist. They are being manufactured now right, while you are reading these words [all the italics his].

Funnybone

..."A time to laugh..." (Ecc 3:4).

A family church the other Sunday little Jimmie Johnson told Pastor Brown, “When I grow up and get a job, I’m going to give you some money.”

“Well, thank you,” the pastor replied, “by why?”

“Because my daddy says you’re the poorest preacher we’ve ever had.”

Sister Johnson invited a number of people from the Possumtrot Baptist Church home for Sunday dinner. She turned to little Jimmie and said, “Would you like to ask the blessing?”

“I wouldn’t know what to say,” Jimmie replied.


“Just say what you hear mommy say,” sister Johnson answered. “Because my daddy says you’re the poorest preacher we’ve ever had.”

Sister Johnson bowed his head and said, “Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?”

“Because my daddy says you’re the poorest preacher we’ve ever had.”

Little Jimmie Johnson and his older sister sat together in church on Sunday morning, seeing their parents were home with the “flu.” Jimmie giggled and talked loud during the service.

Finally, his big sister had had enough. She looked at him and said, “You are not supposed to act this way in church.”

“Why? Who is going to stop me?” Jimmie answered.

His older sister pointed to the back of the church and said, “See those two big men standing at the back door? They’re hushers.”

“Because my daddy says you’re the poorest preacher we’ve ever had.”

“Why? Who is going to stop me?” Jimmie answered.

“Because my daddy says you’re the poorest preacher we’ve ever had.”

Pastor Brown’s youngest daughter asked him, “Daddy, did you see the stork when he dumped me out of the suitcase?”

The good pastor thought a moment and then said, “No, I did not, but I did get his bill in the mail.”

*continued on page 307*
6. The hydrogen bomb

Without going into details, it may simply be said that the hydrogen bomb does, on a small scale, what the sun continually does (from which comes its vast energy, the source of almost all energy in this solar universe), namely, builds up atoms of hydrogen, the lightest and simplest element, into atoms of helium gas. Theoretically, there is no limit to the power of such an infernal device; practically it is estimated it will be from 10 to 100 times more powerful than the atomic bomb. As M. William L. Lawrence has put it, "When detonated, the explosion of the bomb) would release tremendous quantities of neutrons, the most penetrating particles in nature. These in turn would enter into the nuclei of the incorporated element and make them intensely radioactive. If an element such as cobalt were chosen, it would be transmuted into a radioactive element about 320 times as powerful in its radioactivity as radium. This deadly radioactive cobalt would be scattered into the atmosphere and carried by the westerly winds all over the surface of the earth. Any living thing inhaling it, or even touched by it, would be doomed to certain death." Mr. Lawrence is here reporting the frank statements of some of the outstanding physicists of America, in a broadcast from Chicago, on Sunday, February 26, 1950 (see the New York Times, February 27, 1950). The Book of Revelation takes on a profound significance in days such as these. (To be continued)
The EURO:

Continued from page 307

be without its flaws and weaknesses for it is made prophetically of “iron and clay.” Clay cannot fuse with iron, and if the two are mixed, the iron is weakened. The weakness of this revived empire is fundamental for it has forsaken God for the temporal strength of money. “They shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay” (Dan. 2:43b).

This international European union will be one of the most evil, if not arguably THE most evil, of all nations ever to be established on the face of God’s created planet earth. Money twists the motives of its lovers and is the basest drive of the ungodly. The more parties involved in evil money ventures the merrier. God’s Word confirms this with this Proverb:

“My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not. If they say, Come with us; let us lay wait for blood; let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause: Let us swallow them up as the grave; and the pit: We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil: Cast in thy lot among these wicked kingdom. The Lord will not allow the precious blood of his elect, God will bring it to its howling ruin. To the full, yet very short course, then God of Heaven will allow the evil time (Dan. 2:43-45).

Chapter eighteen of Revelation describes, in no uncertain terms, the result of Christ’s breaking “in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold.” Space will not be allotted here to record the entire eighteenth chapter of Revelation, but one can read of the certainly of John’s prophecy of the dreadful demise of these wicked kingdoms. (Footnotes)

1 The Associated Press; Dateline: Paris; “It’s Pocket Change - New year brings in the euro as 12 nations give up old money”; Winston-Salem Journal; Winston-Salem, N.C.;; Wednesday, January 1, 2002.; Page A2; Column 2
2 Regnier, Pat; “Follow the money – A 12-nation currency switchover creates a continent of 300 million tourists”; Time Magazine; January 14, 2002.; Page 8; Column 1.

“Dinks” Have Double

Continued from page 302

United States and Britain, turning into Third World countries because of runaway immigration.

President Bush seemed to say as much in his inaugural address, “And sometimes our differences run so deep, it seems we share a continent, but not a country.” The President should think about that instead of being so buddy-buddy with his pal, Mexican President Vincente Fox, about amnesty for three million Mexican illegals now in the United States.

On the other hand, there was President Clinton in 1998, telling cheering students at Portland State University that “diversity” will make a better America when we all are minorities, i.e., a conglomeration of people with nothing in common, but history, language, culture or ancestors, drifting to world government and dilution of our sovereignty.

WHAT’S HAPPENING?

In 1969, 94 percent of Americans could trace their ancestors to Europe. Today, it is only 72 percent and, unchecked, will be 50 percent by the year 2050. Then, we will be the first nation in history to turn its majority indigenous population into a minority.

California, our largest state, is already 52 percent Third World, and Texas, our second largest, is now almost 50 percent Third World, and increasing rapidly. Moreover, on March 1st, Texas became the first state to hold a general election in Spanish—evidence of growing political clout,” boasted the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials.

Are we leaders concerned about this alarming influx? Hardly. Politicians want more immigration for more votes for their side. Industry wants it for cheap labor. Labor unions want it for more members, more dues, more political clout. Educators want it for more student grants and diversify. None care about diluting the American heritage into a Third World culture. This is greed on all sides.

In London, England, ethnic minorities are 14 percent of the population, and will be 50- percent in the year 2010 at the present rate. British birth rates are dropping three percent per year, the lowest since records began in 1924. To maintain a population, a birth rate of 2.1 per woman is required.

Population are shrinking in 17 European countries, including Italy, Germany, Spain, Russia and Portugal. As for Germany, feared for its roles in two world wars, the population will be halved by the year 2100 at the present rate, and its war-making potential drastically reduced.

WHAT’S SO MANY DINKS?

Mr. Buchanan lists six factors that contribute to the DINKS lifestyle and why today’s culture mocks “the old idea that the good life for a woman means a husband and a houseful of kids.” He says that powerful collateral forces are “pulling American women away from the maternity ward forever.” Here are the six factors:

1. The New Economy. Professor James K. Mort of Smearthorne calls the move of men from the farm to the factory the greatest movement of the second half of the 19th century—and the greatest in the 20th century was the movement of women from the home to the office.

Industries offer pay and benefits to lure talented women who compete with men in the market place. Many choose careers or one-time motherhood and love the work challenge. They stay.

With women working, poor families get richer; their houses begin to downsize, and as nations get richer, history shows, they begin to die. Meanwhile, poor families are growing. Jesus said: “Blessed are the low: for they shall inherit the earth” (Matt. 5:5).

2. End of the “Family Wage.” Before the sweeping Civil Rights Act of 1964, brainchild of President Lyndon B. Johnson, employers paid fathers a “family wage” so wives and children wouldn’t have to work, a matter of “simple justice.”

But, earlier feminists Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony opposed abortion as disgusting and degrading—a burden to a woman’s conscience in life and to her soul in death.

Modern feminists would like to abolish marriage altogether. Here are a few of them: Gloria Steinmen, Andrea Dworkin, Robin Morgan, Valerie Solanis, Nancy Lehmann, Helen Sullinger, Vivian Gornick, Christina Sommers and Catherine MacKinnon. MacKinnon says, “Feminists want to kill the indistinguishability of prostitution, marriage and sexual harassment.”

Continued on page 309
"Dinks" Have Double

Continued from page 308

adds Sheila Cronin, "Freedom for women cannot be won without the abolition of marriage."

Feminists have had successes: A 10-fold increase in unmarried couples living together since 1970. Husband-wife families are now only one in four. Singles living alone are now 26 percent.

In her book Empty Harts and Empty Homes, British author Katarina Runske addressed the feminists' antimarriage rhetoric as a "Darwinism blind alley," warning, "(A)n immediate consequence of feminism is...an irreversible decline in the birth rate. Nations pursue feminist policies at their own peril."

5. The Popular Culture "puts the joys of sex far above the happiness of motherhood." Indeed, sex, career, and the single woman dominate in advertisement and entertainment. Marriage and family are down-played and the DINKS are helping.

Anthropologist Julian D. Unwin says society can choose either great energy or sexual freedom, but "it cannot do both for more than one generation." Tom Brokaw's so-called Greatest Generation chose energy for the Depression and World War II—and gave us an American of "unrivaled preeminence." Baby boomers chose "sexual freedom." In due time, we shall see who is right!

Columnist Jenkin Lloyd Jones wrote, "Great civilizations and animal standards of behavior coexist only for short periods."

6. The Collapse of the Moral Order. In the 1950s, divorce, "shacking up" and abortion were scandals. Today, "shacking up" is just a "relationship," half of all marriages end in divorce and abortion is a "fallback" position, and women and daughters will vote against any politician or party that threatens to take it away.

Belgian author Ron Lesthaeghe has noted the West's shift away from Christian values toward a militant "secular individualism" focused on self.

Pope John Paul VI's 1968 encyclical against contraception brought on four consequences of man's use of contraceptives, all predicted by the Pope: (1) Widespread infidelity and lowered morals. (2) Less respect for women. (3) Mise by public authorities in ignoring moral exigencies. (4) Dehumanization of the race by treating people as objects, and unborn children as a disease to prevent.

These predictions came true, with the explosions of pornography, promiscuity and divorce—not unlike pagan Rome when unwanted babies were simply tossed on the dung-heap. In this case, the feminists got more than they bargained for: They got selfish men who benefited from contraceptives and abortion; they used women and then, tossed them aside.

BUCHANAN FOR PRESIDENT!

Pat Buchanan has written a powerful book, full of unshakeable documentation, historic backup and well-chosen anecdotes. Critics have called him "alarmist," probably without considering the whole book, but any thoughtful reader, within a few pages, will see that Pat gets to the heart of an extremely serious crisis that is closing in on our nation while our leaders are fiddling.

Pat ran for President twice. He would have made a great President, but will never be elected. Modern voters want peace, prosperity, fat pocketbooks and promises of goodies galore rather than character, smartness and dedication. They proved that in 1996 with Bill Clinton.

Our Founding Fathers gave us a Christian nation. George Washington told us from the beginning, "(R)eligion and morality are indispensable supports." John Adams agreed, "Our Constitution is made only for a moral and religious people."

Pat Buchanan reminds us that Western Man is casting off Christianity and now believes he can go-it-alone, since he knows virtually everything there is to know. For example, Western Man knows how to prevent war, how to prolong life, how to create peace and world government. Western Man, therefore, knows it all and no longer needs God.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE

Whitaker Chambers in his famous book Witness wrote, "History is cluttered with the wreckage of nations that became indifferent to God, and died." and Jim Nelson Black, "Civilization arises from religion, and when the traditional religious beliefs of a nation are eroded, the nation dies."

Pat Buchanan has underscored our weaknesses. America today has leaders who can use this road map and lead us back. Analyst William Rusher thinks the loss of religious faith can be reversed when science acknowledges, as it is now doing, that science is incapable of answering the truly ultimate questions about the nature and origins of the universe. Mr. Rusher is talking about the God of Creation. A powerful surging revival of religious faith and morality can give us the kind of America our Founding
I certainly do not believe it is unchristian to invite or have black people attend or even unite with a white church.

I do not believe we should ever let race itself be a determining factor in church membership.

We are commissioned by the Lord as New Testament Churches to make disciples of all nations and baptize those disciples and teach those disciples to observe all the Lord has commanded (Matt. 28:18-20). How can this be possible if we separate or discriminate against any race?

We must encourage all disciples to seek the Lord’s will in finding a true scriptural Baptist church and unite with the one the Lord leads them to become a member of.

I do not mean to say that race would never play a part in which church one should attend, because it may be that one would be more comfortable in a true church of the same race if indeed it be a true church.

I believe the Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is the deciding factor in what church one should belong to and attend (I Cor. 12:13). In Acts 2:1-21, 37-47 we find fifteen or more different nationalities that were led by the Holy Spirit to be baptized into the first Baptist church, and the Lord showed His approval by baptizing them in the Holy Spirit.

Race has nothing to do with biblical salvation and church membership. Race is a personal matter and must be dealt with individually as prescribed by the Scriptures (Matt. 7:12; Luke 6:31).

I would think that it would be wrong not to encourage black people to come to church. There is no difference between a lost black man and a lost white man. Both need to be saved. “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23). If we are to preach the gospel to them knowing that some will be saved, we should have no problem fellowshiping with them in the church.

“We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death” (I John 3:14).

I certainly do not believe it is unchristian to invite or have black people attend or even unite with a white church.

I do not believe we should ever let race itself be a determining factor in church membership.

We are commissioned by the Lord as New Testament Churches to make disciples of all nations and baptize those disciples and teach those disciples to observe all the Lord has commanded (Matt. 28:18-20). How can this be possible if we separate or discriminate against any race?

We must encourage all disciples to seek the Lord’s will in finding a true scriptural Baptist church and unite with the one the Lord leads them to become a member of.

I do not mean to say that race would never play a part in which church one should attend, because it may be that one would be more comfortable in a true church of the same race if indeed it be a true church.

I believe the Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is the deciding factor in what church one should belong to and attend (I Cor. 12:13). In Acts 2:1-21, 37-47 we find fifteen or more different nationalities that were led by the Holy Spirit to be baptized into the first Baptist church, and the Lord showed His approval by baptizing them in the Holy Spirit.

Race has nothing to do with biblical salvation and church membership. Race is a personal matter and must be dealt with individually as prescribed by the Scriptures (Matt. 7:12; Luke 6:31).
Who are the "lost tribes" of Israel? Why do we call them "lost tribes?" -- Maine

The so-called ten lost tribes resulted from Solomon's son, Rehoboam's acceptance of unwise and egotistical counsel. This resulted in ten tribes refusing to take part in the coronation of Rehoboam and followed Jeroboam in the forming of the Northern Kingdom, called Israel and sometimes Ephraim.

The followers of Rehoboam were basically the tribe of Judah augmented by some of the Benjaminites. They were known as the Southern Kingdom or tribe of Judah. Jeroboam led Israel (the ten lost tribes) into totidolatrous worship of the golden calves at Bethel and Dan.

In 11 Kings 13-17 we see the fall of Israel which really brought about the idea of the ten tribes losing their identity.

Assyria launched a siege upon Samaria, the capital of Israel, for about three years and Samaria fell about 722 B.C. This was the end of the ten tribes as a kingdom and resulted in their dispersion in many parts of the world.

My personal opinion is that they were never really lost in the sense of ceasing to exist, but only in the minds of those who deny the restoration of Israel as prophesied in Ezekiel 37 and other related prophesies in the Old Testament.

There have been those who claimed to be a part of those ten tribes, but they had no credible evidence to prove it. Herbert W. Armstrong claimed that the British descended from these tribes and the throne of England was the throne of David, which is in direct conflict with the Scriptures.

The Bible is very plain that the throne of David is the throne that Christ will reign from (Luke 1:32-33). Christ descended from the tribe of Judah, not the other ten tribes. When Christ sits on His throne He will rule over all twelve tribes and the rest of the world.
Is It Scriptural for
Continued from page 301
before mixed audiences of men and women.
W. M. U. secretaries in some states, like Florida for instance, fill the pulpits of churches whenever and wherever there is opportunity.

Now if women ought to preach, lead in public prayer before mixed audiences, teach men, or take the place in church leadership that the Scriptures assign to men. Anybody who is so devoid of the power to understand the plain simple language of the Bible on these matters is not capable of disagreeing with the Scriptures.

How am I so absolutely certain that a woman should not preach, or exercise a public ministry as indicated above? I answer just as briefly and to the point as possible.

1—Because Jesus included no women among the preachers that He chose to follow Him, or among the twelve or the seventy whom He sent out.

2—Because there is no record in the New Testament of a woman preacher in all the New Testament. Personal, private witnessing is all that can be made out of the testimony of the women concerning Christ's resurrection, Philip's daughters, etc. Now, if consistency in a single case is a reason for casting doubt on the qualifications laid down in the Scriptures for bishops (or preachers) certainly preclude the female of the species. I Timothy 3:2 says that a preacher is to be "husband of one wife." Unb women can measure up to that qualification they are debarred!

3—Because the word of God says plainly that women are not to teach men or to usurp authority over them. I Timothy 2:11-12, "Let the women learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression." It takes a moron to misunderstand such a passage. (That of course has no bearing on women praying privately or in the presence of a group of women.)

5—Because the word of God says plainly that women are not to teach men or to usurp authority over them. I Timothy 2:11-12, "Let the women learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression." It takes a moron to misunderstand such a passage. (That of course has no bearing on women praying privately or in the presence of a group of women.)

6—Because the word of God says plainly that it is not permitted unto us to speak, (in the sense that we are discussing) in the church. I Corinthians 14:34, "Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak."

This 14th chapter of I Corinthians is perfectly clear. Note the following things:

(1) A mixed public assembly is referred to for verse 23 says, "If therefore the whole church be come together into one place." (2) The kind of "silence" that is enjoined is made clear, for Paul is discussing prophesying, (v. 29) exposition of doctrine (v. 26) interpretation (v. 26). etc.

(3) That Paul is not merely meeting a "local" situation, but is laying down a teaching that applies to all churches everywhere for verse 34 he says, "churches." In verse 33 he speaks of "all the churches."

(4) That Paul is not speaking as a "crabbed old bachelor" (as some charge) but as the inspired spokesman of God, is made clear, for in verse 37 he says, "The things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord." (5) I have said that it takes a moron to misunderstand these Scriptures. Paul puts it in about the same way for in verse 38 he virtually calls the person who won't be instructed along this line "ignorant."

7—A seventh reason why a woman should not exercise such a public ministry as mentioned above is the fact that the one in which a woman is described as teaching a church is an instance that is condemned by the Word of God. Revelation 2:20 says: "... I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants—".

What does this say:

(1) It says that the church at Thyatira had a woman in it that called herself a prophetess. (God's Word does not recognize her as such.)

(2) It says that she taught the people of that church and led them astray.

(3) It says that the Lord Jesus held it against that church for permitting such a thing. I could give plenty more reasons for my position on this question if space were available, but until some one is able to show that these Scriptures quoted mean something else than they say so plainly, there will be no need of going any further.
The Church in the

nation; the churches have in them people from many nations. Second, Israel as a nation could inflict the death penalty. The church has no such power. Third, the officers of Israel were civil as well as religious. The church is separate from the state (Matt. 22:21). Fourth, Israel was instructed to kill their enemies (Deut. 7:1-2), but the church is to love and bless her enemies (Matt. 5:44; Rom. 12:19-21). Fifth, in Israel only the men were priests unto God. In the church, men and women, as well as all priests unto God. Sixth, Israel was the unfaithful wife of Jehovah (Isa. 54:5; Hos. 2). The New Testament church is the virgin bride of Jesus Christ (I Cor. 11:2). Seventh, the worshipers in Israel could only bring their offering to the door of the tabernacle or temple (Lev. 17:8-9; Num. 3:10; Luke 1:10). The members of New Testament churches can “enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus” (Heb. 10:19-20). Eighth, Israel was the house of M. oses, while the New Testament church is the house of Christ (Heb. 3:6). While there are distinctions between Israel and the church, there are many ways they were alike. In this message I want to show how Israel was a type of the gospel church. ITS ORIGIN

The Israelites were in Egypt and slaves to Pharaoh (Ex. 1). The members of the church are at one time slaves of Satan (I Tim. 2:26), but by grace they have been taken “from the power of Satan unto God” (Acts 26:18), and now they stand in the liberty of Christ (I Cor. 7:22; Gal. 5:1).

Both Israel and the church are the objects of God’s sovereign election. Israel was God’s elect of the first estate (I Cor. 2:17). The LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth” (Deut. 7:6). He separated Israel from all other nations: “...that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a foundation of the world...” (Deut. 4:8). The nation of Israel was redeemed by the blood of the Passover lamb (Ex. 12). The members of the New Testament church are redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ: “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, even the remission of sins past” (Eph. 1:7).

The nation of Israel was of God’s making. Jehovah told Abraham: “I will make of thee a great nation” (Gen. 12:2). The church is “an holy temple” (I Peter 2:5). The apostle Paul told the Corinthian church: “Ye are God’s building” (I Cor. 3:9). In order to establish the nation of Israel God used a divinely appointed person, M. ose (Ex. 18:13-26; Heb. 3:2-3, 5). In order to establish the church God used a divinely appointed person, Jesus Christ (Heb. 3:1-6). This is why Jesus said: “I will build my church” (Matt. 16:18).

ITS NATURE

The nation of Israel was real and visible. In my text Stephens speaks of the gathering of Israel before M. ose to Sinai for the purpose of receiving the law from God. The Greek word ekklesia translated “church” has the common meaning of “assembly” or “congregation.” This is the same Greek word in the Septuagint version which is translated the “congregation” of Israel (I Chron. 13:2). The basic idea is that Israel was a congregation with rituals and laws.

Or the Greek word ekklesia is the word translated over 100 times in our New Testament “church.” As the congregation of Israel was a real gathering of people with rituals and laws, even so the New Testament church is a real gathering of people with rituals and laws. Since the Holy Spirit used the same word (ekklesia) to describe both the congregation of Israel and the church, then they both must be visible assemblies. Both have rituals and laws, although those of the church differ from those of Israel. ITS POSITION

For some 40 years Israel was in the wilderness. This is why she was called “the church in the wilderness” in my text. Moses said that Israel traveled in “great and terrible wilderness” (Deut. 1:19). A wilderness is a waste, wild, and barren place. Even after they reached Canaan, they still lived in a world that Satan made “a wilderness” (Isa. 14:17).

The New Testament church is in the wilderness of this world, but she is not a part of it. Jesus said: “If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love its own: but because ye are not of the world, but because ye are not of the world, therefore the world hateth you” (John 15:18-19).

...the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world” (John 17:14).

The wilderness was unknown to the Israelites, and they needed a guide to direct them toward Canaan. To remedy this situation the Lord gave them the pillar of cloud and fire: “And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them by the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night: He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people” (Ex. 13:21-22). The church is in a world barren of grace and holiness. In this wilderness the church might lose her way. To remedy this, the Lord has given her a Guide, the Holy Spirit. This Holy Spirit is to abide with her “for ever” (John 14:16).

Israel had to remain in the wilderness until God brought her into Canaan. The church must remain in the wilderness of this world until the Bridegroom returns and takes her up to Heaven (John 14:1-3). Well did Solomon ask of the church: “Who is this that cometh up from the wilderness, leaning upon her beloved?” (S. of S. 8:5).

ITS PRIVILEGES

First, the nation of Israel had the divine oracles. “I have given them thy word” (Deut. 4:16). The Israelites had a code and revelation from God about what He wanted men and women to know about Himself and what He expected of them. They were the custodians of the communication of H. eaven. Psalm 147:19-20 says: “He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel. He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them.” The New Testament churches are the custodians of the communication of H. eaven. To the church Jesus said: “If I have given unto them the works of my Father, and they have received them...” (John 17:8). "I have given them thy word"
The Church in the
Continued from page 313

(John 17:14). These churches have the “oracles of God” (Heb. 5:12). This is why Peter said: “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God…” (1 Pet. 4:11). The saints in the New Testament churches have the true system of faith, which was once for all time delivered (Jude 3; Eph. 4:5). This is why Paul told Timothy about “the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth” (1 Tim. 3:15). The church is the only institution on earth with a divine commission to preach the gospel and to teach all things which Christ commanded (Matt. 28:19-20). The church is even a lesson book to the angels: “To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God” (Eph. 3:10).

Fourth, the divine ordinances were entrusted to the nation of Israel during the old dispensation. After instituting the Passover Supper, the Lord told them: “And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and thy sons forever” (Ex. 12:24). In Chronicles 33:8 mentions how they received “the ordinances by the hand of Moses” (cf. Neh. 10:32). Ezekiel 12:20 tells how they were to keep these ordinances.

In this dispensation the church has the ordinances. Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are church ordinances to be observed until Jesus returns. Just as the Israelites were “all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea” (1 Cor. 10:2), all the members of the church are baptized in water unto Jesus Christ. In I Corinthians 12:13 it is written: “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body…” “For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Gal. 3:27).

ITS BUSINESS

First, the Israelites were the witnesses for Jehovah in the Old dispensation: “Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen. . .therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God” (Isa. 43:10, 12). In the New Testament dispensation the churches are the Lord’s witnesses. “And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things” (Luke 24:47-48). “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:8). Peter and John, two members of the Jerusalem church, and speaking of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, said: “And we are witnesses of these things” (Acts 5:32).

Second, the Israelites had to over come many adversaries on the way to Canaan in the wilderness. “But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thou enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries” (Ex. 23:22). Like Israel of old, the churches have “many adversaries” (I Cor. 16:19; cf. 6:10-17). To the Philippian church Paul said: “And in nothing be terrified by our adversaries. . .” (Phil. 1:28). On the way to Heaven a member of the church must fight “The good fight of faith” (I Tim. 6:12) and “endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ” (II Tim. 2:3).

ITS IMPERFECTION AND ITS DISCIPLINE

Israel was imperfect in its obedience to God. They were guilty of many sins—disobedient to their leaders, hangering after Egypt, immoralities, and apostasy from Jehovah. For these, many imperfections they were chastened by God. In doing this He had kept His promise. In Leviticus 26:27-28 He warned: “And if ye will not for all this hearken unto me, but walk contrary unto me; then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times seven years for your sins.” This chastisement resulted in the seventy years of Babylonian Captivity. “And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came against the city, and his servants did besiege it. . .And he carried away all Jerusalem, and all the princes, and all the mighty men of valor, even ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and smiths: none remained, save the poorest sort of the people of the land” (II Kings 24:10, 14).

The members of the New Testament church are imperfect and guilty of many sins—disobedience to its leaders, hangering after the world, immoralities, and apostasy from God and His truth. For all of these things the churches are “chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world” (I Cor. 11:32). Today churches are departing, more and more, from the faith (I Tim. 4:1; I Tim. 4:3). Most Baptist churches in this generation are in a state of apostasy. They have traded faith for finance, fun, and foolishness! More and more, they are becoming like ecclesiastical and commercial Babylon (Rev. 18:4).

ITS GOALS

Israel journeyed through the wilderness to the land of Canaan. Moses told Hobab: “We are journeying unto the place of which the LORD said, I will give it you: come thou with us, and we will do thee good: for the LORD hath spoken good concerning Israel” (Num. 10:29). Many of these strangers and pilgrims of Israel eventually reached the land of Canaan.

The members of the church on earth are “strangers and pilgrims” (I Pet. 2:11). Our citizenship is in Heaven (Phil. 3:20) and our treasuries are there (Matt. 6:20). Heaven is the place of our inheritance (I Pet. 3:4). “We look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ” (Phil. 3:20). When He comes again He will take us to the Father’s house in Heaven (John 14:1-3).

CONCLUSION

1. In the Old Testament the people in covenant relation to God were Israelites. “At the same time, saith the LORD, will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people” (Jer. 31:1). In the New Testament the people in covenant relation with God are the church. Listen to the words of God applied by Paul to the Corinthian church: “And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty” (I Cor. 4:14).

2. Is the church better than Israel? Some with great haste would answer in the affirmative, but I would answer in the negative. In Romans 11 Paul compares Israel to an olive tree. Then he tells how the Gentiles were grafted into this olive tree. He then says: “For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee” (Rom. 11:21).

3. The New Testament church is the greatest institution on earth. Have you been baptized into the Lord’s body? Unto Jesus Christ? Or, could it be you know not Christ as your Savior? If you have not trusted Him, I urge you to do so.

Readers of the BBB are urged to submit religious news items which they may read in their local paper or some other publication. In sending these please give the name of the publication as well as the date it was printed. We will not be able to print all which are submitted, but we welcome any item you may feel we should read. Send them to The Berea Baptist Banner, PO Box 39, Muncie, IN 47305-0039.

The Berea Baptist Banner

April 5, 2002

Page 314

The BEREA BAPTIST BANNER

WASHINGTON, D.C. (E)—Born-again Christians and African Americans have sharply different views of President George W. Bush, according to a new survey released by the Barna Research Group. While born-again Christians are deeply supportive of the President, African-Americans are least likely to approve of his performance.

The study examined 18 measures related to the President and his performance in the White House and found that the groups consistently giving low evaluations were blacks (59 percent), atheists (66 percent), and Democrats (70 percent). Amazingly, a majority of the adults within 60 different population segments analyzed indicated their approval of Bush’s performance to date.

Survey respondents were also asked to rate the President’s handling of the terrorist attacks and subsequent war against terrorism. A gain, four out of five adults (82 percent) said he is doing either an “excellent” or “good” job. The people most likely to give such positive feedback included people 55 or older (88 percent), whites (87 percent), born-again Christians (88 percent), and Republicans (95 percent). The least favorable reactions again were from blacks (59 percent), atheists (67 percent) and Democrats (75 percent). Once again, a majority of every subgroup gave the President above-average evaluations.

Three out of four adults (75 percent)
The Bible & Newspaper

Continued from page 314

have a favorable opinion of George W. Bush as a person. The same pattern emerged: Older adults, whites, born again Christians and Republicans were most enthusiastic about the President as a person, while blacks, atheists and Democrats were least approving of him. “But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man’s judgment…” (I Cor. 4:3).

ROBERTSON SAYS ISLAM NOT A RELIGION OF PEACE

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. (EP) — Islam is “a violent religion bent on world domination,” Christian broadcaster Pat Robertson said on the Feb. 21 installment of CBN’s “700 Club.” Robertson told viewers Islam “is not a peaceful religion that wants to coexist” with other faiths, but one in which its adherents are called upon to “coexist until they can control, dominate and then if need be destroy.”

Robertson said that he disagreed with President Bush’s description of Islam as a peaceful religion, saying, “It’s just not. And the Koran makes it very clear, if you see an infidel, you are to kill him.”

In a response to an article in the Washington Post about his comments, CBN issued a statement saying that Robertson’s comments were directly related to a CBN news report about how Muslims viewed the Sept. 11 attacks, U. S. foreign policy, and the nature of their religion. The network said it had sent a reporter who is fluent in Arabic to an American-Muslim conference near Washington D.C. and to a large Arab neighborhood in New York City.

According to CBN, the reporter recorded a variety of anti-American comments, such as this one from a Muslim-American attending the conference: “I don’t consider Hamas and Hizbollah terrorists. Those ‘people’ have a cause. I am with them 100 percent in their cause. I am with them 100 percent in their cause.”

AFCAN CHRISTIANS ENDURE TORTURE, HARSH CONDITIONS IN SAUDI CITY.

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (EP) — Three Ethiopian Christians allegedly arrested in Saudi Arabia for practicing Christianity were beaten and tortured on Jan. 28. According to International Christian Concern (ICC), a Christian rights group based in Washington, D. C., Baharu Mengistu, Tinsae Gezachew, and Ggeberhey Mefa were kicked and beaten with metal cables and other objects by guards at the Bremen Deportation Prison in Jeddah in front of over 1,000 other prisoners. ICC claims the men were beaten in retaliation for a petition sent to the Ethiopian consulate in Jeddah protesting their situation.

V. : The Ethiopians were arrested in July 2001 along with 11 other foreign Christians living in Saudi Arabia. Of the 14, six have been released but the remaining eight prisoners are still enduring horrific treatment, said ICC.

On Jan. 24, an ICC representative telephoned the Saudi Embassy in the U. S. to discuss the situation with the Saudi ambassador. An official who took the call denied any knowledge of the prisoners, and then allegedly said, if you release our prisoners [in the U.S.], we’ll release your prisoners there!

ICC President Steve Snyder was outraged by the incident and the fact that the remaining detained Christians has been virtually ignored by the American media and the U. S. government. These Christians are not all terrorists, unless you believe that simply being a Christian and praying in your own home is terrorism! Saudi Arabia continues to demonstrate total intolerance toward anyone or any activity that is non-Islamic. Again, the U. S. remains silent, said Snyder.

ICC recently contacted the Ethiopian consulate in Jeddah and asked officials there to act on behalf of the tortured Christians.

“Ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you” (John 15:19).

MORMON CHURCH NOW ONE OF FIVE LARGEST IN U.S.

NEW YORK, N.Y. (EP) — For the first time, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter- Day Saints (Mormon) is one of the five largest religious groups in the U.S., according to the National Council of Churches’ 2002 Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches, released in mid-February.

“This ranking represents a very brisk increase in membership for a church with a relatively brief history,” said Eileen W. Lindner, Yearbook editor and NCC deputy general secretary for research and planning. The Mormon church (also known as LDS) was organized April 6, 1830.

“The distinctive theological position of the LDS and the history of its persecution make such rapid growth all the more remarkable; however, the church’s strong emphasis on outreach through both mission personnel and electronic and print advertising makes it unique among contemporary North American churches,” she wrote.

The Mormon church is a cult based on the teachings of Joseph Smith, who claimed to have received a divine revelation. The church’s unorthodox teachings and embrace of plural marriage caused it to experience persecution in its early years.

The Mormon church’s advancement to fifth place on the list of largest religious groups displaced the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, which fell to sixth.

According to the Yearbook, the largest denomination in the U.S. according to membership figures for the year 2000 are:

* Roman Catholic Church (63,683,030 members, up from 62,391,484)
* Southern Baptist Convention (15,960,308 members, up from 15,851,756)
* United Methodist Church (8,340,949 members, down from 8,377,662)
* Church of God in Christ (5,499,875, same as previous year)
* Mormon (5,208,827 members, up from 5,113,409).

* Southern Baptist Convention
* Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (5,125,939, down from 5,149,668)

The top five churches on the list account for nearly two-thirds of inclusive membership reported to the Yearbook by 66 U.S. denominations.

The Yearbook also reported that local congregations collected and disbursed substantial monies, totaling nearly $30 billion ($29,464,889,024) in 2000, with 65 churches reporting. Total dollars contributed per capita inclusive members jumped by $50.97, from $548.77 in 1999 to $599.14 in 2000.

Contributed per capita inclusive members were up by $50.97, from $548.77 in 1999 to $599.14 in 2000.

“Beware of false prophets….” (Matt. 7:15).

GLEANINGS HERE AND THERE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (EP) — Roy Moore, chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court, awarded custody of three teens to their father rather than their mother, ruling that homosexuality is “an inherent evil.” Writing a unanimous decision for the court, Moore said the mother’s lesbianism makes her an unfit parent and called homosexuality, “abhorrent, immoral, detestable, a crime against nature, and a violation of the laws of nature.” Moore is best-known for his successful battle to keep a plaque bearing the 10 Commandments in his courtroom when he was a district judge.

BOSTON, Mass. (EP) — The Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts upheld two anti-sodomy laws Feb. 21, but limited their enforcement to cases involving public or non-consensual sex acts. Homosexual activists welcomed the ruling for clarifying that anti-sodomy laws in the state do not apply to private, consensual acts. “It really takes all the string out of these laws,” said Jennifer Levi, an attorney for Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders. Anti-sodomy laws are rarely enforced, but remain on the books in 13 states.

IRVINE, Calif. (EP) — M inistries associated with evangelist Roberts Liardon are falling apart following his admission of a “malon failure” involving a homosexual affair with his church’s youth minister. About a quarter of the members of Embassy Christian Center in Irvine, Calif., as have 500 of 1,000 students at Spirit Life Bible College and at least four missionaries with Roberts Liardon M Inistries. Liardon, 34, is taking at least three months off to seek counseling and recover from health problems.

LONG ISLAND, N.Y. (EP) — A woman broke her arm after being “slain in the spirit” during a charismatic worship service won $80,000 from the Long Island church where she was injured. Sophia Reitan sued Upper Room Tabernacle M Inistries for $4 million. Reitan said she had a “religious-bodily experience” during a women’s service in September 1997, after the minister placed his hand on her forehead, causing her to fall backwards. She argued that the church should have had somebody in place to catch her.

ASTANA, Kazakhstan (EP) — A law that could severely restrict Christian religious activity in Kazakhstan is close to being ratified. According to Keston News Service, a draft law approved by the Kazakh parliament Jan. 17 requires only the signature of President Nursultan Nazarbayev to become law. The law requires all religious groups to be registered with the government, gives the government authority to ban unregistered groups and requires that all religious associations have at least 50 members. The law also requires that all missionaries register with the government. Dairabai Ryskayev, a leader in the Muslims Spiritual Administration in Kazakhstan told Keston he was in favor of the law and the fact that it awards fitting status to Kazakhs’ traditional religions Islam and Orthodoxy. Ryskayev said that Continued on page 316
branches of Islam that deviated from the Sunni branch were evil and would not be allowed to spread in an independent Kazakhstan. Roman Dudnik, president of the Christian Society for Evangelization and Charity compared the new law to the totalitarian rules of Afghanistan's former Taliban regime. The draft law is full of hidden ways to persecute believers. Dudnik told Keston. The state will virtually give part of its functions to a few chosen religious associations. We are going back to the European Middle Ages. 

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (EP)—A new national study found that antidepressant drugs are prescribed in Utah at a rate nearly twice the national average—more than any other state. Dr. Curtis Canning, president of the Utah Psychiatric Association, says the study's findings are puzzling, but suggests that the strong Mormon influence in the state may be a factor. "In Mormonism, there is a social expectation—particularly among the females—to put on a mask, say 'yes' to everything that comes at her and hide the misery and pain," he says. "There is the expectation that you should be happy, and if you're not happy, you're failing."

HONG KONG, China (EP)—The release of a convicted Bible smuggler during the second week of February was a welcome event, but observers say it was probably motivated solely by political concerns. Li Guangqiang was arrested in January with two other Chinese men after they were caught smuggling over 16,000 Bibles into the country to a group the communist government labeled an "evil cult." The businessman was charged with disrupting Chinese society, a crime punishable by death.

DENVER, Colo. (EP)—One of the worst massacres in American history happened in 1857, when 120 men, women and children in a wagon train traveling from Arkansas to California were killed. Mormon historians have long debated exactly what happened in the Moutain Meadows Massacre. Some say Indians did the killing, while others suspect Mormon leadership. A new National Park Service discovery may shed some light on this mystery—and implicate Mormon leader Brigham Young. A Park Service volunteer discovered a soft lead sheet under several inches of dirt and rat droppings. The sheep contained writing, supposedly etched by John D. Lee, who was the only man tried and executed in connection with the attack. Filled with misspelled words, the letter says in part, "I do not fear authority for the time is closing and am willing to take the blame. I trust in God—I have no fear—Death hold no terror—Lord hav merci on this resless soul." The key line may be one that says the attack was "on order from Pres Young." Lee, who was Young's adopted son, was blamed for the massacre 20 years later when Mormon leaders came under pressure from the federal government to solve the case. The rolled lead sheet was found while cleaning the floor of Lee's Fort on the Colorado River. Mormon leaders say the plate may be a hoax. Utah historian Will Bagley says it was unusual but no unknown for people of Lee's time to use lead for a record they wanted to preserve. The Park Service is running tests to determine the plate's authenticity.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—The nation's largest teacher's union is encouraging school districts to adopt policies providing special protections for homosexual students and staff. Under a plan adopted Feb. 8 by the National Education Association's board of directors, schools also will be encouraged to develop materials for classrooms discussions on homosexuality. NEA President Bob Clotfelter says and lesbian teachers in some states face losing their jobs because of their sexual orientation. "It is clear that, in too many places, students and education employees who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered face a hostile environment," Clotfelter said.

Last year Congress enacted a record of $18.5 billion in pork-barrel spending! One of every ten Americans (26 million) is now receiving food stamps (Straight Talk, 2-21-02).

An estimate 500,000 illegal immigrants from Communist China have come to America during the past 20 years. Former President Clinton gave the United Nations a ton of United States platinum. Once a month it is inspected by a U N team headed by a Russian and a Vietnamese (Straight Talk, 2-28-02).

The Supreme Court refused on Feb. 25 for the second time in nine months to block an American Civil Liberties Union lawyer's crusade to rid Indiana public places of the Ten Commandments (The Washington Times, Mar 4-10, 2002).

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, a devout Roman Catholic, said Feb. 4 that judges who follow Catholic teaching against the death penalty should resign. Speaking at Georgetown University, Scalia said he disagrees with the church's anti-death penalty teaching and argued that the church historically has supported capital punishment. "No authority I know of denies the 2,000-year-old tradition of the church approving capital punishment," he said. "So to reconcile his Catholic faith with his support of the death penalty, Scalia said a Catholic judge with concerns about the death penalty should resign because he or she would not be upholding the laws judges must swear to protect (Western Recorder, 2-19-02).

A federal judge has ruled that a 51-year tradition of teaching Bible classes in the country where the famous Scopes trial was held must end. U. S. District Judge Alan Edgar in Chattanooga, Tenn., ruled Feb. 8 that classes in Rhea County violate the First Amendment's clause separating church and state (ibid.).

The federal government spends $13 a year on A I D S-related programs, far more than it spends on other disease from which more people suffer. In 1996, the National Institute of Health spent an average of $1,160 for every heart disease death, $4,700 for every cancer death, but an incredible $43,000 for every A I D S death, according to the National Institute of Medicine (Cal Thomas in Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal, 3-1-02).

What is it about President Bush that most impresses Sen. Robert C. Byrd, West Virginia Democrat? His knees. "When it is all said and done, I have to remember that here is a man who preaches and practices, as far as I have seen, his faith," says Mr. Byrd. "It is unfortunate, but these are times when few men and women, relatively speaking it seems to me, recognize God in their lives and in the life of the nation. So I respect President Bush for his humility, for his willingness to call upon God, to express a faith, to express a strength that can only come from calling upon the Creator of us all. It just touches my heart and makes me feel good that the chief magistrate of our country is talking about getting on his knees" (The Washington Times, Feb. 23-March 3, 2002).

Several newly published social studies textbooks that include the September 11 terrorist attacks do not identify O sama bin Laden as the mastermind behind the deadly assaults. Instead, the new chapters describe bin Laden as a leader of the al Qaeda terrorist group that the U. S. government considers to be a "prime suspect" in the attacks, despite President Bush's repeated assertions that the ex-Saudi fugitive is behind the assaults and a videotape in which bin Laden details the attacks.

The books have been printed in time to arrive in social studies or history classrooms nationwide this fall. The books are among several under review by the state education board in Tennessee, where students will be among the first in the country to use textbooks that detail the events of September 11.

On February 21, President Bush spoke to the students at Tsinghua University in Beijing. The speech was televised live by China Central Television, but at 10:15 a.m., a time when most Chinese are at work. Part of the address—describing American freedom and praising the potential for religious freedom in China— appeared to be an indirect rebuke to Chinese President Jiang Zemin. The Chinese government's New China News Agency edited these words out when it later published the speech.

The day before, in a joint press conference with Bush, Jiang had volunteered that he had no religious faith. He denied that he had the power to effect verdicts or sentences by Chinese courts. He claimed there was religious freedom in a China that systematically oppresses Buddhists, Protestants and Catholics who refuse to join state-controlled churches. And he denied that a group of imprisoned Catholic bishops had been imprisoned for their beliefs.

Here are some of Bush's censored words: "We're a nation of laws. Our courts are honest and they are independent. The President, me, I can't tell the courts how to rule. And neither can any other member of the executive or legislative branch of government. . . . "America is a nation guided by faith. Someone once called us a nation with the soul of a church. This may interest you. 95% of Americans say they believe in God. And I'm one of them. When I met President Jiang Zemin in Shanghai a few months ago, I had the honor of sharing with him how faith changed my life and how faith contributes to the life of my country. Faith points to a moral law beyond man's law and calls us to practice values higher than material gain. Freedom of religion is not something to be feared, it's to be welcomed. Because faith gives us a moral core and teaches us to hold ourselves to high standards, to love and to serve others, and to live responsible lives.

"If you travel across America—and I hope you do someday, if you haven't been there—you will find people of many different ethnic backgrounds and many different faiths. . . . Tens of millions of Chinese today are relearning Buddhist, Taoist and local religious traditions or practicing Christianity, Islam and other faiths. Regardless of where or how these believers worship, they are no threat to public order. In fact, they make good citizens. For centuries this country has had a tradition of religious tolerance. My prayer is that all persecution will end so that all in China are free to gather and worship as they wish. All these changes will lead to a stronger, more confident China, a China that can astonish and enrich the world, a China that your generation will help create." (Human
School vouchers is currently one of the hottest items in the news. Emotions run high on both sides of the issue. As I understand it, the voucher system would give parents education tax money to pay tuition for their kids in private schools. Supposedly, this is money already paid in to the system by the parents, for education.

Here is my opinion which is what Mini Edition is all about anyway. For the following statements, I am now ready to be offered on the opinion altar of sacrifice. I am also fully prepared to be boiled in oil, flayed alive, drawn and quartered, buried, have my bones dug up and crushed, for the following statements (Keep those cards and letters coming).

"Education should not be a public, government endeavor. Government, whether state or federal, shouldn’t have its nose and fingers in the education of our children. It affects a brain chemical called serotonin, one of the chemical building blocks of the brain. The brain does not require any government sponsored education. So the real issue goes beyond education and questions whether government should be sponsoring all the programs it sponsors.

I realize this statement is alien to most because it’s hard to get beyond a lifetime of a government dependent mentality. Not one person reading this has even lived in a time when government sponsored public education did not exist. So the thought has never occurred to most. The private sector out-performs government programs and agencies almost every time. One of the best examples government can offer is the United States Postal Service, and private delivery business are more efficient than the USPS most of the time. And there is always a hint of a postage hike around the corner.

When it comes to education, parents are the primary responsible parties for their children’s education. There are, however, many parent and church sponsored schools do an excellent job. And now home education is growing by leaps and bounds. Parents have discovered they like having a voice and a choice in matters. Plus, Christian and home education affords the control to offer science, history, political science courses, contrary to what the government says. School vouchers are a great way to give parents an opportunity to educate their children in the manner they desire.

I don’t believe government, through its provision, can better educate (Public School System), offer a better retirement program (Social Security) or provide better social or benevolent services (Welfare and Medicaid) more efficiently (Key word) than I or groups of individuals or churches or private businesses can provide. But hey, that’s just me. One lone voice crying in the internet wilderness. It is, however, my opinion.

The AXIS of Evil Empires

Thank you President Bush for speaking the truth with clarity and boldness, in a Reagan-like way. When the President called Iraq, Iran, and North Korea the “Axis of Evil” he was thoroughly criticized by the soft speaking liberal left. It’s ironic how soft spoken the left can be, until it comes to denouncing sound, conservative policy and conservative Christians. Liberals like to compare conservative Christians with Al Qaeda. Murdering terrorists, yet are squeamish about categorizing murdering terrorists correctly. The regimes in the states mentioned above sponsor, support, and promote terrorism, and have for many years. They are the main sources of terrorism in the world today, hence the “Evil Axis” label.

Speaking of telling the truth, liberals, and some conservatives are squeamish about speaking the truth when it comes to Islam, that general oppressive, intolerant religion and spiritual home for terrorists, that is now receiving accolades. Pat Robertson and Franklin Graham have jumped into the fray pan with their opinions recently. The Jehovah of Judaism and Christianity and the Allah of Islam are not one and the same, any more than the Great White Spirit of the Native American Indians is the same as the God of the Bible. Jehovah is loving, merciful, and compassionate. Compare the number of Jews to the number of Muslims. Jehovah commanded the building of the Temple to Jerusalem, and expects the same of his followers. Allah is warlike, impersonal and intolerant of the infidels and requires their extermination. It is true that Jehovah in the Old Testament required his people to kill reprobate Canaanites in their conquest of the promised land, because there was no possibility of their conversion and great possibility of them contaminating the Israelites with their pagan gods. But that’s the exception and not the rule, whereas Islam leaves a consistent, historical trail of blood, beginning with Mohammed and continuing to the present.

And why won’t Muslims talk about or at least acknowledge the utter intolerance of other religions found in Islam dominated countries? The rule of thumb for Jews and Christians has been prosecution and death, and where they have been allowed to remain, they have been relegated to the position of second and third class citizens, not enjoying the privileges Muslims enjoy (Read From Time Immemorial by Joan Peters for a real eye opener (worldnetdaily.com).)

A. Ecstasy is an illegal drug that has become associated with “raves,” or all-night parties, because it can overpower the user to eat, drink, or sleep—thereby, enabling the user to party for extended periods of time. It affects a brain chemical called serotonin, which regulates sleep, appetite, mood, memory, and sexual behavior. Ecstasy, sometimes called XTC or E, reportedly sometimes called XTC or E, reportedly has risen to popularity among young college students. It is often found at parties for their children’s education. Parents are the primary responsible parties for their children’s education. Parents have discovered they like having a voice and a choice in matters. Plus, Christian and home education affords the control to offer science, history, political science courses, contrary to what the government says. School vouchers are a great way to give parents an opportunity to educate their children in the manner they desire.

The Bible & Newspaper

Continued from page 316

Events, 3-4-02.

*****

O s a m a b i n L a d e n -b r a n d h e r o i n h a s a r r i v e d i n A m e r i c a. A t l e a s t i t h a s a r r i v e d i n N e w Y o r k. . . . S t a m p e d i n b r i l l i a n t r e d l e s s e r a t e s e a c h e n v e l o p e w e r e t h e w o r d s "B I N L A D E N . " T h a t w a s n o t a l l . T h e e n v e l o p e s w e r e a d m i n d e d o n t h e o t h e r s i d e w i t h a d r a w i n g o f j e t b o u n d f o r t h e W o r l d T r a d e C e n t e r t o w e r s , a l s o i n b r i g h t r e d . ( T h e W a s h i n g t o n T i m e s , F e b . 1 8 - 2 4 , 2 0 0 2 . )

*****

Q. How many American children are raised without their fathers in the house?

A. Some 34 percent of American children, about 24 million, live in homes without their biological fathers, according to the National Fatherhood Initiative. The group reports that, on average, such children are at least two to three times more likely to be poor; use illegal drugs; experience emotional, behavioral, health, and educational problems; become victims of child abuse and take part in criminal activity than children living with their married parents, either biological or adoptive (The New American, 2-25-02).

*****

Q. How much does the International Monetary Fund cost the U. S. while it interferes in other economies, such as Argentina’s?

M. B., S l i b u r y , N. C.

A. The International Monetary Fund gets about $37 billion from U. S. taxpayers annually, and hopes to push that up to $50 billion by next year, according to Representative Ron Paul (R.-Texas).

Athough its problems have become recent front-page news, a Argentina’s economy has been in trouble for years. Yet, as Paul has said, “IMF loans with an incredibly low interest rate of 2.6 percent kept pouring into the country” (ibid.).

*****

Q. What exactly is “ecstasy,” and what are its medical consequences?

W. B., B e e c h G r o v e , I n d.

A. Ecstasy is an illegal drug that has become associated with “raves,” or all-night parties, because it can overpower the user to eat, drink, or sleep—thereby, enabling the user to party for extended periods of time. It affects a brain chemical called serotonin, which regulates sleep, appetite, mood, memory, and sexual behavior. Ecstasy, sometimes called XTC or E, reportedly induces euphoria and sexual arousal. The scientific name of the drug is methylenedioxymethamphetamine, or MDMA. The evidence indicates that heavy use of the drug can cause kidney and heart failure, and sometimes death. According to a study published in the British medical journal The Lancet, the drug may cause significantly more brain damage to women than to men (ibid. 1-30).

******

DAY CARE VERSUS FAMILY...AGAIN

Have you heard about the latest slap in the face against the family? Research by the University of Washington has revealed startling new information. “Children kept in day care are better off than those cared for by extended family, friends and

Continued on page 318
GLEANINGS

COULD JESUS HAVE SINNED?

This question is hotly debated by some of our brethren today. What did the old Baptists say on this subject? Please consider these men on this subject.

John Broadus (1837-1895):

"How could Jesus be tempted? Was it possible for him to sin? If this was in no sense possible, then he was not really tested. Certainly not 'like we are.' (Heb. 4:15). But how can it have been possible for him to sin? If we think of his human nature in itself, apart from the co-linked divinity, and apart from the Holy Spirit that filled and led him, then we must say that, like Adam in his state of purity, like the angels and every other moral creature, his humanity was certainly in itself capable of sinning, and thus the temptation was real, and was felt as such, and as such overcome; while yet in virtue of the union with the divine nature, and of the power of the Holy Spirit that filled him, it was morally impossible that he should sin.—A substantially similar view is well stated by Ebersheim" (Commentary on Matthew, p. 61, 1886 edition).

William L. Pettingill (1880-1950):

"The question is often raised as to whether there was any possibility of Jesus falling before the tempter's power. I answer, No. He was God in the flesh, and God cannot be tempted with evil. He was ever holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners. If someone objects that in that case there was no temptation, I answer that though there was no desire on Jesus' part to yield to the devil's alluring, yet there was a real temptation, in the sense of testing, and this is the meaning of Hebrews 4:15, which being literally translated reads: "For we have not a High Priest who cannot feel the infirmities, but Who has in all points been tempted like as we are, apart from sin." That is, He did not have the inward craving for evil things, as you and I have, for that would be indwelling sin, and there was no sin in Him. He is nevertheless quite able to sympathize with us, for He made us and knows us altogether.

If Jesus had failed under the test, His failure would have proved, not that God could sin, but that Jesus was not God. For in this sense, "God cannot be tempted with evil" (I Cor. 13). (The Gospel of the Kingdom, p. 51).

Clarence Larkin (1850-1901):

"If Jesus could have sinned, then the possibility of Jesus sinning would, and therefore there was no risk incurred in His Temptation. Those who claim that it was possible for Jesus to sin compare Him with Satan and Adam, who, though created pure and sinless, had in them the possibility of sinning as is evidenced by their fall. But Satan and Adam were created beings, while Jesus was the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary, and it was said of the Body of Jesus that it was "THAT HOLY THING." Therefore the humanity of Jesus was SINLESS, and when joined to the Eternal Holy Personality of the Son of God, there could have been no possibility of Jesus sinning."

"If Jesus could have sinned then the whole scheme of Salvation hung in the balance until after the Wilderness Temptation. Such a thought is not only unthinkable but unscriptural. Jesus was the Lamb—"foreordained before the foundation of the world" (I Pet. 1:18-20), and a lamb accepted for sacrifice must be "without spot or blemish." The Scriptures declare that "Whoever is born of God cannot sin" (I John 3:9). Therefore Jesus could not sin. If He could have sinned at the Temptation, since there has been no change in His nature since then, for He took His humanity back with Him to Heaven, what is there to prevent His yielding to Temptation in the future? What guarantee have we that the whole plan of Salvation shall not yet be upset? The thought is contrary to the whole trend of the Scripture."

"What then was the purpose of the Temptation if it were not possible for Jesus to have fallen? The purpose was simply to show that Jesus was a Perfect Saviour, and that there was NO SIN IN HIM, nor possibility of failure. He was thus set before us, not as an example to be followed when we are tempted, but as an object of faith we can look as a DELIVERER when we are tempted. A simple illustration will make this plain. We will suppose that a double track "Suspension Bridge" has been built over a deep canyon connecting two mountain ranges. To the people in the valley the Bridge seems to be but an "airy nothing" hardly capable of carrying its own weight and they are afraid to trust themselves to it, but one day to their amazement two long trains of freight cars loaded with pig-iron approach from opposite directions, and when both have reached the center of the Bridge they slowly come to a stop as they expect the Bridge to collapse. But no, it remains intact. And when, after remaining 24 hours on the Bridge, the trains continue on their way, they no longer lack faith in the safety of the Bridge. So with the Temptation of Jesus. It was the rest of His Sonship and of His power to overcome and destroy the works of the Devil, and we need not fear Temptation, but that He is a Perfect and All-Powerful Saviour." (Rightly Dividing the Word), pp. 172-174, 1958 edition).

SEE IF YOU CAN...

To follow are some quotes from various sources that you may wish to read. I have included these over and see if you can determine what they looked for. Was it the coming of Jesus Christ? the abomination of desolation? the Antichrist? Or, did they believe that Christ came in A. D. 70, fulfilling all prophecies about His second coming? Instead of taking my word or the word of some other person, why not check for yourself?

Here is a quote from the Didache, or the Teaching of the Apostles. It is assigned by some to a date earlier than A. D. 100. Section 10 ends with "M aranatha. Amen." Section 16 starts: "Be watchful for your life; let your lamps not be quenched and your loins not ungirded, but ye ready; for ye know not the hour in which our Lord cometh."1

Clement I of Rome (A. D. 30-100) wrote: "Of a truth quickly and shall not tarry; and after the Tribulation the trains continue on their way, they no longer lack faith in the safety of the Bridge. So with the Temptation of Jesus. It was the rest of His Sonship and of His power to overcome and destroy the works of the Devil, and we need not fear Temptation, but that He is a Perfect and All-Powerful Saviour." (Rightly Dividing the Word), pp. 172-174, 1958 edition).

SEE IF YOU CAN...
NOTE

Many of the books we have in this list are out-of-print from the publishers. Others we will not restock due to large orders required by publishers. We have only 1 copy of some of these. We plan to stock less books in the near future, but keep a better supply of what we offer. These are sold on a first-come-first-serve basis. If books are all sold, we will refund your money. On orders of $20.00 or more you may take a 20% discount except those for which marked no discount.

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARIES

(*) This mark denotes a very good commentary.

Gospel of Matthew
H. A. Ironside ..................................... 19.99
Gospel of Matthew
G. Campbell Morgan ......................... 18.99
What the Bible Teaches: Matt. & Mark
J. Heading & H. Paisley ......................... 24.99
The Gospel of the Kingdom
C. H. Spurgeon ..................................... 12.00
*Matthew
John F. Walvoord ................................ 16.99
Matthew
William Hendriksen ......................... 29.99
Matthew Majestical Gospel
Ivor Powell ........................................ 18.99
Christ the King
W. Lee Rector ...................................... 3.95
Exploring the Gospel of Matthew
John Phillips ....................................... 6.99
*Matthew
John Broadus ........................................ 26.99
Matthew & Mark
J. Heading and Mark H. Paisley ............. 24.99
*Commentary on Mark
John Phillips ....................................... 21.99
Mark
J. C. Ryles ........................................ 9.99
Mark's Superb Gospel
Ivor Powell ........................................ 17.99
*Commentary on Mark
H. B. Swete ........................................ 24.99
*Commentary on Mark
J. A. Alexander .................................. 17.99
*Commentary on Mark
J. D. Jones ........................................ 24.99
Mark
William B. Hendriksen ....................... 29.99
Outline Studies in Luke
W. H. Griffith Thomas ....................... 16.99
Luke's Thrilling Gospel
Ivor Powell ........................................ 23.99
The Gospel of Luke
William H. Hendriksen ....................... 29.99
The Gospel of Luke
William Kelly ..................................... 18.50
What the Bible Teaches: Luke
N. Crawford ........................................ 24.99
*John (Vol. I) ....................................... 9.99
*John (Vol. II) ...................................... 9.99
*John (Vol. II) ...................................... 9.99
The Gospel of John
William Hendriksen ......................... 34.99
What the Bible Teaches: John
J. Heading ......................................... 24.95
John's Wonderful Gospel
Ivor Powell ........................................ 16.99
Expository Com. on John
W. E. Vine ......................................... 14.99
The Gospel of John
I. C. Redpath ...................................... 9.95
Gospel of John
David Thomas ..................................... 19.99
Outline Studies in John
Robert Lee ......................................... 6.99
Gospel of John
Merrill Tenney ................................... 19.99
Gospel of John
Arno G. Gaebelien ................................ 9.95
*John 17
George Newton .................................... 29.99
Amazing Acts
Ivor Powell ........................................ 16.99
*Commentary on Acts (hardcover)
Horatio B. Hackett ................................ 23.99
*Commentary on Acts (paperback)
Horatio B. Hackett ................................ 18.99
Acts of the Apostles
Charles C. Ryrie ................................ 8.99
Acts
A. A. Alexander .................................. 28.99
Acts
J. A. Alexander .................................... 34.99
Acts of the Apostles
I. K. Cross ......................................... 8.95
Acts
Paton J. Gloag ..................................... 32.95
*Acts
Thomas Walker ..................................... 28.99
What the Bible Teaches: Acts and James
Acts
H. A. Ironside .................................... 19.99
The Acts of the Apostles
Arno G. Gaebelien ................................ 10.95
The Acts of the Apostles
G. Campbell Morgan ......................... 21.99
Studies in Acts
William Arntz ...................................... 12.95
*Commentary on Romans
Robert Haldane ................................... 30.99
Romans
William Hendriksen ......................... 21.95
Romans
Charles Hodge ..................................... 26.99
Romans
H. A. Ironside .................................... 12.99
Romans An Interpretive Outline
In N. Steele & Curtis C. Thomas ............ 8.99
Romans
William R. Newell .............................. 19.99
Epistle to Romans
W. H. Griffith Thomas ......................... 12.95
Romans
Martin Luther ..................................... 12.99
Commentary on Romans
William S. Plumer ............................... 31.99
What the Bible Teaches Romans
F. E. Stallman ..................................... 28.99
I Corinthians
Charles Hodge ..................................... 16.99
*I & II Corinthians
Charles Hodge ..................................... 27.99
I Corinthians
Roy Laurin ......................................... 13.99
Studies in I Corinthians
M. R. De Haan ..................................... 11.99
Studies in I Corinthians
Alan Redpath ...................................... 11.99
*What the Bible Teaches: I Cor.
J. Hunter & A. M. Cashman .................. 24.99
Historical Commentary on I Cor.
William M. Ramsey ......................... 10.99
I Corinthians
H. A. Ironside ..................................... 18.99
II Corinthians
Charles Hodge ..................................... 16.99
II Corinthians
M. R. De Haan ..................................... 11.99
The Corinthian Letter of Paul
G. Campbell Morgan ............................. 16.99
II Corinthians Epistle
Philip Hughes ....................................... 29.99
Hebrews
Roy Laurin ......................................... 12.99
Expository Commentary on Galatians
W. E. Vine ......................................... 14.99
Historical Commentary on Galatians
William M. Ramsey ......................... 14.99
Galatians
John Brown ......................................... 27.99
Studies in Galatians
M. R. De Haan ..................................... 11.99
Philippians
William M. Ramsey ......................... 15.99
Philippians
Merrill Tenney ..................................... 28.99
Philippians
J. A. Alexander .................................... 34.99
Philippians
Robert Lee .......................................... 6.99
Galatians
M. R. De Haan ..................................... 11.99
Ephesians
J. A. Alexander .................................... 15.99
John Phillips ....................................... 18.99
*The Book of Ephesians
E. C. Gillentine .................................... 20 cents
*A Study in Ephesians
J. D. Pentecost .................................... 12.99
Philippians
John Walvoord .................................... 8.99
Philippians
Roy L. Laurin ..................................... 11.99
An Exposition of Philippians
D. A. Carson ....................................... 11.99
Philosophical Studies
Howard F. Vos ..................................... 6.95
Studies in Romans
H. C. G. Moule ................................... 6.95
Gal., Eph., Phil., Col., Phile.,
Various writers .................................. 24.99
Colossians
Roy A. Laurin ...................................... 11.99
Colossians
Evert E. Harrison ................................ 8.99
Studies in Col., Phil.,
W. H. Griffith Thomas ....................... 11.99
*I & II Thessalonians
D. Edmond Hiebert .............................. 17.99
Paul's Letters to Thess.
Frederick A. Tatford .......................... 18.99
I & II Thess., I & II Tim., Titus
Various writers ................................... 24.99
Expository Com. I & II Thess.
W. E. Vine .......................................... 14.99
Practical Truths from Thess.
Frederick E. Marsh ............................. 12.99
*Paul's Lectures to Tim. & Titus
I. K. Cross ......................................... 3.25
Thess., Tim., &
William Hendriksen ......................... 24.99
Studies in Timothy
H. C. G. Moule ................................... 10.99
Theology of I & II Tim.
Thomas M. Stroser ............................... 9.95
*I Timothy
D. Edmond Hiebert .............................. 9.99
Hebrews & Titus
H. A. Ironside .................................... 6.25
His. Com. on Pastoral Ep.
William M. Ramsey ......................... 10.99
Titus
John M. AcArthur ............................... 21.99
*Outlines on Philomen
M. I. Cockrell ..................................... 3.50
*Studies in Hebrews
M. R. De Haan ..................................... 11.99
Epistle to the Hebrews
Adolph Saphir ..................................... 22.99
Hebrews
W. H. Griffith Thomas ....................... 79.95
*Hebrews
William Hendriksen ......................... 21.95
*Hebrews
John Brown ......................................... 27.99
Exposition of Hebrews
Andrew Murray ................................. 18.99
Hebrews
*J. M. Flanagan .................................... 24.99
James
Charles R. Tyree .................................. 12.99
James
John M. AcArthur ............................... 21.99
James
Robert Johnstone ............................... 18.95
Epistle of James
Joseph B. Mayor ................................ 21.99
*I & II Peter, I, II, III John, Jude
Various writers ................................... 24.99
*I & II Peter
Alexander Nisbet ................................ 27.99
Peter & Jude
Merrill Tenney ................................... 16.99
*I & II Peter
I John
Robert S. Candlish ............................. 28.99
Jude
Thomas M. Anton ............................... 17.99
Jude
Thomas M. Anton ............................... 14.99
Slanderading the Angels
John Benton ...................................... 11.99
The Letters to the Seven Churches
William M. Ramsey ............................ 19.95
*The Revelation of Jesus Christ
Willard Williams (no discount) ............ 9.95
*The Revelation of Jesus Christ
John F. Walvoord ............................... 14.99
Revelation
H. A. Ironside .................................... 9.99
*The Apocalypse
Joseph A. Seiss .................................. 34.99
Revelation
Charles C. Ryrie ................................ 8.99
Studies in Revelation
M. R. De Haan .................................... 13.99
Revelation
John F. Walvoord ............................... 14.99
*Revelation
Fred G. Stevenson ............................... 8.95
*The Revelation Record
Henry M. Morris ................................. 24.99
*Revelation
J. Allen ............................................. 28.99

Postage Chart

Order Value ................................ Add Minimum ..............................................
$12.50-19.99 ...................................... 28%
$20.00-29.99 ...................................... 25%
$30.00-39.99 ...................................... 20%
$40.00-49.99 ...................................... 18%
$50.00-59.99 ...................................... 16%
$60.00-99.99 ...................................... 15%
$100.00 and Up .................................... FREE
Gleanings
Continued from page 318

The prominent traits of Montanism was a "visionary MILLENNARIANISM, founded indeed upon the Apocalypse and on the apostolic expectation of the speedy return of Christ, but giving it extravagant weight and a materialistic coloring. The Montanists were the warmest millenarians in the ancient church, and held fast to the speedy return of Christ in glory. . . ."11

Footnotes

2 op. cit., p. 24
5 op. cit., p. 94
8 Johann H. Kurtz, Church History (Reading, Pa.: Pilgrim Publishing H.ouse, 1897), p. 65.

The Shepherd of Hermas contains some interesting material. This book is believed to have been written in the late first century or early second century A.D. of the Christian Era. In his fourth vision he sees a beast. A virgin then appears to him and says: "Thou hast escaped from great tribulation on account of your faith, and because you did not doubt in the presence of such a beast. Go, therefore, and tell the elect of the Lord His mighty deeds, and say to them that this beast is a type of the great tribulation that is coming. If then ye prepare yourselves, and repent with all your heart, and turn to the Lord, it will be possible for you to escape it, if your heart is pure and spotless, and ye spend the rest of the days of your life in serving the Lord blamelessly."10

George Park, Fisher of Yale University tells us concerning the M ontanists: "One of their tenets was a belief in the speedy second coming of Christ."7

William M. Blackburn informs of them: "The utterances of these fanatics related to supposed reforms in the Church, to more rigid discipline, to fasting and ascetic practices, to the speedy coming of the Lord, and to the awful judgments about to fall from heaven. . . ."8

Professor Kurtz relates of these people: "From the Apostles’ time the expectation of the early return of the Lord stood in the forefront of Christian faith, hope and yearning, and this expectation continued still to be heartily entertained."9

George Henry Trabert has this to say: "The M ontanists believed in the speedy return of Christ to earth and looked with contempt on the present order of things."10

Philip Schaff says of these people: "Another of the essential and prominent traits of M ontanism was a