

The Berea Baptist Banner

"Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth" Ps. 60:4

The Great Commission or the Great Omission: Home or Family Missions

By Andy Proctor
of Winston-Salem, North Carolina

"And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: Because that he had been often bound



with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither

could any man tame him. And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. But when he saw Jesus afar off, he

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The Three Sons of Noah

By William J. Stang
of Lexington, Kentucky

THE GOSPEL TO THE NATIONS or A REASON FOR MISSIONS

(The Table of the Nations: Genesis chapter 10)

I want to pick out one verse from Paul's sermon on Mar's Hill, which he preached at Athens during his second missionary journey. And if your reaction is what mine was when I first saw this, you will realize that you have never before pondered the full



meaning of these words unless you have seen them in the light of what I will be writing about.

Acts 17:24

speaks of "God that made the world and all things therein..." This same God "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation..."

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An Essay on the Importance of Baptist History

By J. R. Graves
(1820 - 1892)

The comparatively little interest taken by the world, and even by professed Christians, in Church History, is truly astonishing. In how small a proportion of the, not to say libraries, but houses of such can a book, purporting to be a Church History, be found! And in what profound ignorance of the history of Christianity is the world to-day! That non-professing men should take so little interest in Church History is indeed strange, that Christians should



be indifferent to it is unaccountably so. An ancient historian justly remarks: "Nothing can be more becoming a Christian than a general knowledge of Church History. It is a shame, that most of those who profess Christianity should be acquainted not only with the History of their own country, but even with that of the remotest nations, which only serves to satisfy their curiosity; and should at the same time

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The Red Heifer Ordinance Part 7

By Nathaniel Hille
of Plant City, Florida

"And a man that is clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer, and lay them up without the camp in a clean place, and it shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel for a water of separation: it is a purification for sin...And for an unclean person they shall take of the ashes of the burnt heifer of purification for sin, and running water shall be put thereto in a vessel: And a clean person shall take hyssop, and dip it in the water, and sprinkle it upon the tent, and upon all the



vessels, and upon the persons that were there, and upon him that touched a bone, or one slain, or one dead, or a grave: And the

clean person shall sprinkle upon the unclean on the third day, and on the seventh day: and on the seventh day he shall purify himself, and wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and shall be clean at even. But the man that shall be unclean, and shall not purify himself, that soul shall be cut off from among the congregation, because he

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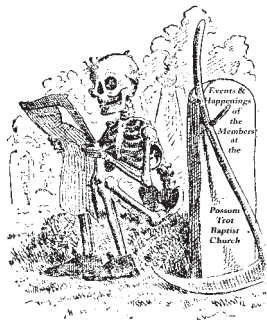
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1. To honor God and to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. To preach the gospel to lost sinners.
3. To spread the whole counsel of God's Word.
4. To encourage God's preachers and to strengthen His churches in the most holy faith.
5. To motivate God's children to a closer fellowship around His Word.
6. To inform people of world events in light of Bible prophecy.
7. To condemn and expose error wherever it may rear its ugly head.
8. To stimulate Christian growth in grace.
9. To make the Devil and his demons as mad as possible.

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Three Sons of Noah

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(Acts 17:26). Giving particular attention to both the "times" and the "bounds" there.

Because I want to give you some idea of the "bounds" of their habitation before appointed, each severally in their appointed "times" as each nation migrated to its final location geographically. And I want you to keep in mind the "one bloodedness" of all men there: we're all of "one blood." We're related. We're of the same "kind." And if you really get a hold of that, every time some government form asks you to put down what race you are of, you will put down that you are of the "Adamic" race, because that is all that there is.

So, keep this verse in mind now, as we turn back to Genesis chapters 9 and 10.

Genesis chapter 10: "THE TABLE OF THE NATIONS." There has "never" been a document like it in all the history of mankind.

Most people do not realize that the earliest written records (the secular records of man) do not go back but a few hundred years before Christ. The Iliad and the Odyssey for example is perhaps the oldest secular writing known. And it may have been written as early as 800 to 1,000 B.C., though the Greek alphabet was probably not invented until about 800 B.C., and the form in which we have the Iliad and the Odyssey was probably not written until perhaps around 400 B.C., and it reads like some fairy tale, with a golden fleece, a cyclops, a medusa with a head of snakes for hair; the Greeks themselves did not take it seriously! They tended to think of it as some kind of a fairy tale which only taught points of

wisdom to be speculated upon. But "we" have a record that goes back four thousand years before that; a serious, somber, sober account of creation that cannot be disproved. In the table of the nations, almost 2,500 years B.C., a record of the ancestry and history of all mankind. A record that has born the scrutiny of 1,000's of years and never been disproven, though it was written before it ever even fully happened, and it's fulfillment is still being unfolded even as speak.

Let us start in Genesis 9:24. You will remember, after the flood, when Ham saw the nakedness of his father Noah, that Noah, in verses 24-27 pronounces the prophetic destiny of the nations. **"And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him. And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren. And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant. God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant"** (Gen. 9:24-27).

It would do us all well to sit and meditate upon this for a while ("Selah"); but you go back and see, if what I tell you isn't the fulfillment of all this.

We see three families here:

Shem: forefather of the Shemites, or "Semites" (as we would say today). The Jews, for one, are a Semitic people, as are the Arabs.

Ham: forefather of the Hamites. The Canaanites, Egyptians, Africans, Asians, most American Indians. Japheth: forefather of the Japhethites. The Indo-European races. Most of us, for example, are all descended from Japheth.

Now listen, people use these

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Baptist History

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know nothing of Church History, whence they may draw such light as may be conducive to their salvation. What advantage may not be reaped from it? It teaches us religion, it shows us what we are to believe and practice, what errors are to be rejected, what things we are to imitate; it furnishes us with abundance of examples of heroic virtue and instructs in duty. It is a great abuse that the study of it is so much neglected. Men are very careful to instruct their children in profane history, which very often only serves to spoil their minds and corrupt their manners, and they leave them altogether ignorant of the history of Jesus Christ and his Church. Worldly people read the ancient and modern histories of nations and countries, without casting their eyes upon the Gospel, the Acts of the Apostles, and those historians who have writ what have happened concerning religion."

Excepting the study of the Bible, the life and teaching of Christ, the teachings and Acts of his Apostles, what study can or should be more delightful or more intensely interesting to the Christian than the study of the history of the churches which succeeded those planted in the days of the Apostles, and which have existed, preserving a pure faith and a pure practice through centuries of the fiercest persecutions and martyrdoms, unto this time? Are not Christians concerned to know whether that prophecy, concerning the Kingdom of Christ, spoken by Daniel 2:44, has thus far been fulfilled? If we understand the prophet he foretells the setting-up of a kingdom in the days of the kings of the fourth universal Empire the Roman - which was

never to be broken in pieces - utterly disorganized - or given to another people, but to stand forever and ultimately fill the whole earth. Was there a kingdom set up in the days of the Caesars by the God of Heaven? Has that kingdom, or organizations in all respects similar to it, existed from the days of Christ until now? And has it been composed of the same class and character of people during all subsequent ages until this time?

Ought not Christians to interest themselves to learn the fulfillment of those promises of Christ himself concerning his Church and people? "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it," **"lo, I am with you alway even unto the end"** (Matthew 28:20). These promises certainly to secure the integrity and perpetuity of churches of Christ in and through all subsequent ages, even unto the end of this dispensation. Says Dr. S. Miller, "This promise seems to secure to his people that there shall be, in all ages, in the worst of times, a substantially pure Church; that is, there shall always be a body of people more or less numerous, who shall hold just the doctrines and order of Christ's house, in some good degree, in conformity with the model of the primitive Church. Accordingly, it is not difficult to show that, ever since the rise of the 'Man of Sin' there has been a succession of those whom the Scriptures style 'Witnesses for God' - 'Witnesses for the truth,' who have kept alive 'the faith once declared to the Saints,' and have in some good degree of faithfulness, maintained the ordinance and discipline which the inspired apostles, in the Master's name committed to the keeping of the Church."*

The Christian who reads and so understands this promise, must

feel a painful solicitude touching the history of his brethren - that company of faithful and true witnesses who have preceded him - and especially knowing as he does, that the powers of darkness and the gates of hell have ceased not in their attempts to prevail against them; that Apostate Rome, for nearly 1260 years, has employed armies and crusades, inquisitions and tortures, prisons, famine and the stake, to break in pieces this and kingdom, and utterly exterminate these witness throughout the world: - to consummate that work which Pagan Rome attempted ages before him. Will not the Christian ask, who have been these suffering witnesses during the past eighteen centuries? In what lands of earth have they been fed for these twelve hundred and sixty prophetic days, - and by what countries has the bride or Christ been "nourished from the face of the serpent - in the mountains and caves, and forests of what wilderness," has she been securely hid by the Saviour from their hand?

Will not the Christian desire to know the gracious manner in which the Saviour has thus far fulfilled his promise to his followers in the fearful ages of persecutions past? Will not the questions rise within him, "How grievous were the trials, how merciless the persecutions, how intense the sufferings, how many and great the sacrifices which those who have kept the testimony of Jesus, have been called upon to undergo, since the days of the last Apostles, - and what have been the faith and patience of the Saints during them all?"

And having ascertained the sources from whence the history of such a people can be gathered, will he not be moved, owing to the present distracted state of

Christendom and the conflicting claims of modern sects, to belong to the family of Christian churches, to inquire with great carefulness, "what were the peculiar doctrines which in every age distinguished this unbroken body of witnesses, - under what form of Church government did they exist, how did they observe the ordinances God's house, - did they admit of human traditions, - did they recognize human legislation in the churches, - and in what light did they regard, and with what measure of charity treat those persons and powers that opposed them with human and worldly organizations, into which they sought to coerce men? The right answers to these inquiries would at once determine which one of all the different opposing denominations in this our day, can claim kindredship with those two witnesses, and are therefore the legitimate and only surviving heirs to the promises of the "Lord Messiah," to his Church. Are not these en questions of paramount concern to all denominations - since, if not from the New Testament, certainly, from the history of these, the form, subjects, ordinances and doctrines of the true Churches of Christ can be learned?

If the solutions of the above questions could be ascertained from the pages of Church history - and they undoubtedly can from one faithfully written - would they not immensely strengthen the faith of the Christian? Would they not tend to add immeasurably to their boldness "and the faithfulness of their testimony for Christ, to their zeal and sacrificing in the kingdom and patience of the Saints? Would not the unshrinking faith, the heroic virtue, and patient

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Baptist History

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sufferings of his brethren, the martyrs, through such ages of inconceivable afflictions and wrongs, loudly reprove his own sinful luke-warmness, repinings and murmurings, when called upon to “endure but a *little hardness* as a good soldier of Christ?” When he has learned by the light of God’s Word and the History of his people, that he is indeed a member of the same household, resting upon the same immutable rock upon which apostles and martyrs, so securely based, were grounded through ages of such fearful whirlwinds of Pagan enmity and Papal wrath, will he not feel indeed a thousand fold more confidence in the immutability of his foundation, and more confidently challenge the malice of devils, and the “gates of hell” to “shake his sure repose?” And will he not, from the mouths and lives of those whom Christ himself pronounces “faithful and true witnesses,” learn how to testify against all informal and corrupt churches” in this our day against human traditions, and mutilated and profaned church ordinances, and those who impiously presume to enact laws in place of Christ, and to change the order of his Church?

The study of the history and lives and testimony of those preceding us, who have been accounted “faithful and true,” is certainly praiseworthy and of great advantage. Did not Paul recount the faith, and sufferings, and patience of the holy men and prophets who had lived before his day to animate the zeal of his brethren? Did he not intimate that they were, through their whole Christian race, being inspected by that “so great a

cloud of witnesses” who, from their blissful seats, were gazing intently down upon them, and ready to receive the victors with triumphant shouts and acclaims of joy? Surely with advantage may we then study the history of the holy men and martyrs through whom the church of Christ, and its doctrines and ordinances, have been transmitted to us in their primitive integrity and purity; and with profit may contemplate their lives and their sufferings, their patience in trials and their triumphs in death - all having been made more than conquerors through him who was with them to the last.

Their history introduces us to the countries - not that they inhabited, not in which were their *homes*, but in which they were pilgrims and strangers, as it were - in which were their refuges and hiding places from the face of their pursuers. Who can imagine the feelings of the Christian traveler visiting those Alpine valleys in which the witnesses of Jesus were hid and nourished in those fearful times, descrying here and there the foundations upon which, traditions tell him, once stood their houses of worship, and from which they were driven by their enemies - and then gazing upward to the “munitions of rocks,” the cloud-capped citadels of the everlasting hills to which they fled for refuge, as into the very bosom of their God! Or wandering through those mountains and deep forests, he enters, perhaps, the very caverns in which they hid, and which they made to echo - not with murmurs and complainings, but with the voice of worship, songs of praise, and “their hymns of lofty cheer.” Cold and insensible must be that heart whose piety would not be rebuked, and whose zeal

would not be energized by the contemplation of scenes hallowed by such memories! If a visit to the homes of the ancient patriots and philosophers of Athens, the rostrums from which they spoke, the groves in which they taught, and the tombs in which they slept, could so inflame the ardor of Cicero in the imitation of their virtues, how must a visit to the vales of Piedmont, and the mountains of Wales affect the heart and influence the life of a Christian! And yet in all the pilgrimages of modern times, to scenes of sacred history, never do we hear of one to the valleys of Pragela, or St. Martins, of Perouse, Angrogne, or Luserne.

The little interest felt in, and the almost universal ignorance of Church history, are attributable to the unfaithfulness of those who have professed to write it. There ever has been more or less anxiety on the part of Christians to inquire into the history of the churches that have preceded them, but while they have asked for bread, they have received a stone, and a scorpion for an egg.

Seventeen centuries of the Christian era have passed, and the history of the Christian church is still unwritten; while a thousand works have been palmed upon the world for Church Histories. The only true history of Christian churches that has been extant during these centuries, are the Acts of the Apostles by Luke, and the prophetic history of the Church by John, the beloved disciple, and was this last but thoroughly understood, no other history would be necessary; unless to show the world with what particularity and faithfulness Christ has fulfilled its predictions. As we have said, tomes and epitomes of books, purporting to be Church Histories, have been

written, and each year adds to their number, but still, not until within a few years past has a solitary effort been made upon the proper basis, or in the right direction. The Church Histories with which our bookstores are crowded, were written by Paedobaptists, and they wear a falsehood upon their very title pages, as samples of their contents.

Do Paedobaptists regard the Romish Church as the Church of Christ, or the trunk or even branch of the true church? They certainly do not, if their standards are the exponents of their views.

Since this has lately become a question of vital importance with all Paedobaptist sects, we quote the language of Dr. Beman, in the Genl. Assembly of the N. S. Pres., Church, 1854, to establish our position:

“Our standards declare the Pope to be Anti-Christ, and that his ministers must be excluded from the Christian ministry. Let us not shrink from the conclusion which flows from this principle; the Scriptures have declared this thing: Rome is the scarlet harlot, riding on the beast with seven heads and ten horns. This Church is drunk with the blood of saints.” This is most unquestionably so; all Protestant sects so affirm. Now, if that Church has been manifestly Anti-Christ, since it has been under the jurisdiction of the Pope, then has it been Anti-Christ since the year 606, when the first bishop of Rome assumed the name of universal bishop, and for the first time begirt himself with both swords. But for full three hundred years before 606 - from the time of the Pure Secession - this Church was a corrupt secularized hierarchy, without the least claims to be considered a Church of Christ. How then do these facts

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Home and Family...

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ran and worshipped him, And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit. And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion: for we are many. And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country. Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding. And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them. And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea. And they that fed the swine fled, and told it in the city, and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that was done. And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid. And they that saw it told them how it befell to him that was possessed with the devil, and also concerning the swine. And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts. And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him. Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had

compassion on thee. And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel" (Mark 5:1-20).

Home is where your dearest friends should be, the place above all others where the child of God ought to make his first endeavors to do good. Home is the place where He is most continually seen, and where the reality of His grace ought most truly to appear. Home is the place where His best affections ought to be concentrated. Home is the place where he should strive daily to witness for Christ.

However, home is the place where people are daily doing harm by their example, so long as they serve the world. Home is the place where we are especially bound to be a living epistle of Christ, so soon as we have been mercifully taught to serve God. May we all remember these things daily! May it never be said of us, that we are saints abroad, but wicked at home— talkers about true religion abroad, but worldly and ungodly at home!

But after all, have we anything to tell others? Can we testify to any work of grace in our hearts? Have we experienced any deliverance from the power of the world, the flesh, and the devil? Have we ever tasted the graciousness of Christ? These are indeed serious questions. If we have never yet been born again, and made new creatures, we can, of course, have nothing to "tell."

If we have anything to tell others about Christ, let us resolve to tell it. Let us not be silent, if we have found peace and rest in the Gospel. Let us speak to our friends, and families, and neighbors, according as we have opportunity, and tell them what the Lord has done for our souls, and show

them by our transformed life day by day.

"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much" (Luke 16:10). He who is faithful in sharing the gospel at home, will be faithful sharing the gospel abroad. Those who would be unfaithful in sharing Christ to the least in number will be unfaithful in sharing Christ to the great in number, in God's sight. If we do not provide the gospel with our life and with our lips, we are worse than an infidel. We are worse than that if we tell everyone else, but neglect our family. **"But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel"** (I Tim. 5:8).

The Great Commission indicates that you start where you live, **"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 Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth"** (Acts 1:8), then, into all the world.

In examining "Home Missions or Family Missions" in regard to the Great Commission, we will examine, first, Husbands and Wives; second, Parents and Grandparents; third, Children and Grandchildren; fourth, Siblings; fifth, Extended Family; and sixth and last, Families in the Church.

Husbands and Wives

We know that in the beginning in Genesis that the enemy of our souls sought to divide the first family. Satan sought to divide Adam and Eve by cowardly attacking the weaker vessel, Eve. He also sought to divide or separate them from God. It is

imperative that we be on guard and not be ignorant of Satan's devices.

Sometimes, for one reason or another, there exists a tension or a spiritual division of sorts because one spouse is saved and the other one is not. The greatest desire for a person's salvation should be towards a lost spouse. There is no closer relationship on earth than a husband and his wife. We live with them day by day. We see each other's faults, idiosyncrasies, inconsistencies, but, we also, dream together, plan together, make sacrifices together, and love one another. We must rest on God's sovereignty as to the salvation of one's husband or wife. The Word of God indicates that such a scenario does exist whereupon a husband is unsaved and a wife is saved and visa-versa.

There are occasions where a husband or wife are not both saved due to one being saved after their marriage, or the saved person disobeys Scripture by marrying an unsaved person. God says in II Corinthians 6:14 **"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"** When a husband and wife become one flesh (Gen. 2:24) they are yoked together in more ways than one. I do not believe I will ever forget reading about John Wesley and how his wife used to ridicule him while he preached! I do not know if he provoked her or if she was ever finally converted, but, wow, I feel for those who would be in that situation. Not sure if they were both unconverted when they were married. It seems that may have been the case. So, please do not make your life miserable

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Home and Family...

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and bear an unnecessary heavy burden by voluntarily marrying someone who is unsaved when you yourself are saved.

I know of one husband whose wife made a possible false profession of faith, who began to have doubts, and now it appears she departed from the faith and has not gone to church with him for quite some time and you can tell it is heartbreaking for him. But, either way, whether knowingly or unknowingly, God can use you as an instrument of His grace that your presently unsaved husband or wife would be converted.

Consider what Paul says in Romans 10:1 **“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.”** Also, in Romans 9:3 **“For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh.”**

Once more, our desire for the salvation of our unconverted wife or husband should be our greatest yearning. Our heart’s desire and prayer that our spouse would be saved, so much so, more than anyone else, that we could wish ourselves accursed from Christ that the one who is one with your flesh would be saved!

So, what does the Word of God say in terms of a saved person’s evangelistic efforts towards their lost spouse? **“And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife. But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be**

pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away. And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him (be faithful, love endureth all things, do not depart). For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy. But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace. For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save [thy] husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?” (I Cor. 7:10-16). You can be made an instrument in God’s hand to bring about your husband’s or your wife’s salvation. How is this done? Let us look at a few passages.

“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity (love), I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away...And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity” (I Cor. 13:1-8, 13). Love never loses and is the key element in being a strong testimony to your spouse, or anyone for that matter. Also consider Proverbs 10:12 that says, **“Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.”** There will be misunderstandings, offenses, and so forth, but, love conquers all.

I Peter 3:1-7 says **“Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation (actions, attitudes and the way our words are said) of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.** (Remember, this has reference to the wife and that would involve a loving, cheerful submission to your husband. Spouting Scripture while disobeying the biblical principle of being submissive to your husband will only be hypocrisy, and hypocrisy ruins your testimony.) **Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; (a beautiful woman is made ugly if not acting biblically), see Proverbs 11:22, “As a jewel of gold in a swine’s snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion.” But let it be the hidden man of the heart (the heart, motives and agenda are genuine and real), in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the**

sight of God of great price (no indication of rebellion in God’s sight, is of great price). For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord (sir, in our vernacular): whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement (do not be afraid of being taken advantage of, treated like a doormat). Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge (know her in every way, as when you were courting, observing her likes and dislikes and responding appropriately to her liking, to win and woo her), giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, (behave and speak honorably of her and to her, constantly reminding yourself she is the weaker vessel) and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered (prayers for salvation, prayers for a good marriage, prayers for a better marriage, prayers for your family, and other matters).”

By living in the light, **“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven”** (Matt. 5:14-16).

There are so many good principles to consider in Ephesians 5:17-25, **“Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. (That is, truly understanding God’s Word**

♦ (Continued on page 16)

The Red Heifer

(Continued from page 1) ♦

hath defiled the sanctuary of the LORD: the water of separation hath not been sprinkled upon him; he is unclean. And it shall be a perpetual statute unto them, that he that sprinkleth the water of separation shall wash his clothes; and he that toucheth the water of separation shall be unclean until even. And whatsoever the unclean person toucheth shall be unclean; and the soul that toucheth it shall be unclean until even (Num. 19:9, 17-22).

Having noted our Red Heifer, the Lord Jesus Christ, we then turned and looked at the need for the Red Heifer. We defile ourselves daily. Every day we are unclean. We need our consciences purged from dead works. The ordinance of the Red Heifer is for that purpose—**“...and it shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel for a water of separation: it is a purification for sin”** (Num. 19:9). Now, how was it that the ashes of a Red Heifer were to be applied to a child of Israel?

The Ashes and the Running Water

It was not enough for the red heifer to be sacrificed. It was not enough for the blood to be sprinkled before the tabernacle of the congregation. Seven times (Num. 19:4). It was not enough for the whole red heifer to be burnt without the camp (Num. 19:5). There must be contact with the ashes. **“And for an unclean person they shall take of the ashes of the burnt heifer of purification for sin, and running water shall be put thereto in a vessel: And a clean person shall take hyssop, and dip it in the water, and sprinkle it upon the tent, and upon all the vessels,**

and upon the persons that were there, and upon him that touched a bone, or one slain, or one dead, or a grave: And the clean person shall sprinkle upon the unclean on the third day, and on the seventh day: and on the seventh day he shall purify himself, and wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and shall be clean at even” (Num. 19:17-19).

The Lord told them that they were to take the ashes of the red heifer and it was to be put into a vessel with **“running water”**. Not stagnant water. Not water from a cesspool (septic tank or sewer), but running water or living water. So they made a mixture of ashes of the red heifer and running water (from a stream, or a fountain, or a river). Then we note that a clean person was to do the work. A clean person was to take some hyssop and dip it into the water, the mixture of ashes and water, and sprinkle it upon that which was unclean; whether it was a tent, or vessels, or persons.

Now what does this **“running water”** signify? **“In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly [heart] shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive; for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified)”** (John 7:37-39). The running water signifies the Holy Spirit of God. Now what does the Holy Spirit of God use to deal with us? What is it that the Holy Spirit of God wields as a tool or weapon in His office work? Is it not the Word of God—the **“...sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”**

(Eph. 6:17)? The water speaks of both the Holy Spirit and the word of God—**“That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word”** (Eph. 5:26). We see here that the running water signifies both the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. These two are used in the cleansing of the people of God.

You recall what the Lord said when He washed the disciples feet? **“And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray him; Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded. Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet? Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter”** (John 13:2-7). What the Lord does, we know not now, but we do know after it is done. You see, beloved, the work of purification, the ordinance of the red heifer is this: that the Holy Spirit uses the word to convict the believer of some evil allowed or done in his/her life to the hindering of ones joy, growth, and service. Once convicted, the believer remembers that the guilt of his sin has been met by the sacrifice of Christ **“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin”** (I John 1:7). Rather than being in despair and despondent,

the convicted believer judges and confesses the defiling thing as unworthy of a saint, and is forgiven and cleansed¹. Beloved, observe how that Nathan the prophet had come unto David and rehearsed to him that evil thing which David had done (II Sam. 11). **“And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul; And I gave thee thy master’s house, and thy master’s wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things. Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? Thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon”** (II Sam. 12:7-9). David had lost the joy of the salvation of the Lord. Sin will do that. Sin will rob us of our joy. Just coming into contact with sin robs us of our joy. It stifles our growth. You observe brother Lot there in Sodom and Gomorrah. He had no spiritual growth. In the case of David and Lot, neither one was able to render service unto the Lord at this point in their lives. Observe the words of David after the word of the Lord came unto him through the prophet Nathan: **“Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness; according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity,**

1 Scofield Reference Bible, Numbers 19:2—The Red Heifer foot note ♦ (Continued on page 8)

The Red Heifer

(Continued from page 7) ♦

and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that thee bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit" (Psa. 51:1-12). You and I need to be cleansed from our daily, minuscule, minute sins because they defile us; they rob us of joy in the Lord; we do not grow in grace and in knowledge of the Lord; and we are unable to render service unto the Lord.

Now this work is "unknown" to us. "Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter" (John 13:7). The work of cleansing the believer is the work of the Spirit of Christ. It is His work. It is a mystery. Just as the hymn writer said, "I know not how the Spirit moves convincing men of sin; revealing Jesus through His word creating

faith in him"²--the same work of convincing sin in the believer of his/her sins as well. The Lord Jesus described the work of the Holy Spirit in regeneration stating, **"The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and wither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit"** (John 3:8). This shows us the nature of the work of the Holy Spirit, that it is spiritual, not carnal and mysterious to us. When a person is saved, the Holy Spirit takes up residence in them. **"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own"** (I Cor. 6:19). And beloved, when we sin the Holy Spirit does His office work. He takes the word of God, read, preached, taught, sang, etc. and brings it to our heart and mind convincing and convicting us of that evil thing. This is what transpires in the house of the Lord. That is what Christ was showing them in John 13:2-12, when He washed their feet as they had assembled in church capacity. This is what Paul was referring to when he wrote, **"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish"** (Eph. 5:25-27). How does He do this? The Word of God is preached, and **"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches"** (Rev. 2:7), the Holy Spirit takes it and

2 "I know whom I have believed"--Daniel Whittle

makes it effective in our hearts and lives, and we turn to Christ for forgiveness and cleansing and the purging of our conscience from dead works--works that have no life in them, works that do not glorify God (and we have a lot of those), **"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have not sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us"** (I John 1:7-10). You see, beloved, it is not my word, but the Word of the Holy Spirit. No wonder that Paul instructed the church of the Lord at Thessalonica to **"Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings"** (I Thess. 5:19, 20). This was how they were going to be cleansed.

You ever come into the house of God and it seems like the preacher, or pastor, or Sunday School teacher, or the song leader, or whoever is singing a special is living in your heart and head? Where that message, or sermon, or song was particularly aimed at you? Well, beloved, it was not the preacher, or the song leader, or anyone else, it was the Lord, the Holy Spirit of God. You have heard me say before about "spiritual heart-burn". That is the work of the Holy Spirit. That is His office work of purifying you; burning off the dross and making you more like unto the glorious image of Jesus Christ. People get their toes "stepped on" and many times they will dismiss it. Do "not" do that. Do "not" quench the Spirit. Do "not" despise the

preached word of God. That is the work of God cleansing you from some sin; purging your conscience of a dead work or dead works.

Closing

We all need the ordinance of the red heifer. We all need the Holy Spirit to take God's Word and convince and convict us of our sinfulness in our own lives. We ought to come to the house of God expecting it, yea, rather desiring it. We are so defiled and in need of cleansing. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. What sin(s) has the Holy Spirit been dealing with you in your life? Confess and forsake them before the Lord that you might be cleansed and go on and serve the Lord with greater vigor than before **"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy"** (Prov. 28:13). Amen.



Baptist History

(Continued from page 4) ♦

bear upon the subject before us? Evidently the history of this "Man of Sin" - this "Son of Perdition" - "THIS ANTI-CHRIST" - has been written and palmed off upon the world for the History of the Churches of Christ! Was ever any thing one-half so preposterous?

Historians acknowledge the New Testament to be an authentic history of the Church until its Canon closes, A.D. 100. Commencing with this date, they trace its history down for two centuries, when the first secession took place, when the Puritans - who maintained the primitive simplicity and integrity of church government and of the ordinances repudiated the claims of the corrupt party to be considered a church, although

♦ (Continued on page 9)

Baptist History

(Continued from page 8) ♦

assuming to be, par excellence, the Church Catholic. This corrupt party, which called itself, so early as the fourth century, the Catholic Church, in 606 became the Roman Catholic Church, anathematizing all who dissented from it as heretics, and consigning them to destruction. All Pedobaptist historians have recognized the impious claims of the Catholics to be the Church, and have written their history for the history of the Church of Christ, down to the sixteenth century, and then reformed the churches of Christ out of the bosom of the Mother of Harlots! Examine the standard Church histories of our day, and mark, they all include the history of sixteen centuries; thirteen of which belong to the Catholic and Romish Church, and only two of the sixteen to the Church of Christ. It is no longer strange that the world is so profoundly ignorant of Church History. It is not strange that the people are disgusted with the books that purport to be Church Histories, and have “wondered after the Beast,” with whose history they have been surfeited. Do not such histories wear a falsehood on their title pages? Dr. Beman, pursuing this same track, writes a history, and calls it a “History of the Church of Christ.” His history includes sixteen centuries; you ask him as a historian, if his book is a correct history of the Church of Christ during these sixteen centuries, and he avers that it is. You ask him as a theologian, if this party, the history of which he has written from A.D. 300, to A.D. 1600, is the Church of Christ, and he answers you with great warmth and indignation; - “No, sir, it is Anti-Christ; it is

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Heavenly Hymns

“...Be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Ephesians 5:18-20). [This hymn was printed with permission from the Olmstead Baptist Church. You may access their free-domain hymnal by going to www.olmsteadbaptistchurch.org/hymnal.pdf]

6 ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL

1. All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing
 2. The Lord, ye know, is God in deed, with
 3. O en - ter then His gates with praise, ap -
 4. For why? the Lord our God is good, His
 5. Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

to the Lord with cheer - ful voice; Him serve with fear, His
 out our aid He did us make; we are His flock, He
 proach with joy His courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless His
 mer - cy is for - ev - er sure: His truth at all times
 Him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise Him a - bove, ye

praise forth - tell; come ye be - fore Him and re - joice.
 doth us feed, and for His sheep He doth us take.
 name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.
 heaven - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,

Three Sons of Noah

(Continued from page 2) ♦

verses to teach all kinds of things, and to justify all kinds of prejudices, but I want to show you the fulfillment of them here, in the hope of locking home to your heart what they actually teach; that the true teaching might forever guard you against the many false teachings that are miss-launched from this passage, and that the truth of the outline of 4,500 years of human history, given beforehand, may unfold to you.

Do you remember in Genesis 1:28 when the Lord gave the command for man to be fruitful and to multiply, and to replenish, (or that is, to “fill” the earth, and subdue it through learning about it, conquer the creation: take it over), that has been called “The Cultural Mandate.” God tells them that again in verse 7 after the flood. **“And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein”** (Gen 9:7).

In chapters 10 and 11 they rebel against that by gathering together to build the Tower of Babel, don’t they? Instead of spreading abroad, they gather together in rebellion against God. And so God tells us He went down to confound their language. **“Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech”** (Gen. 11:7).

This was not said to the angels, else it would be “go ye” or “do ye confound their language.” This is a council of the Godhead; just like Genesis 1:26 wherein **“God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...”** That “us” is in the plural in the Hebrew language 1,000’s of times. God refers to Himself in that number

in the Old Testament.

This work was above the power of angels to do. None but God, that gave to man the faculty of speech, and the use of language, could confound it. Which was as great an instance of Divine power as to bestow the gift of tongues on the Apostles at Pentecost; and the same God that did the one did the other.

The “us” here in Genesis 11:7, are afterwards explained of Jehovah Himself in verse 8. That’s capital “L,” capital “O,” capital “R,” capital “D.” **“So the LORD (Jehovah Himself) scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city”** (Gen. 11:8).

The “us” of Genesis 11:7 is the antecedent pronoun, finding that which it answers to in the proper name “Jehovah” of verse 8; they are one and the same. A proof of the trinity. If not so, every time God does this, He did not know His grammar, and He lied. But God did not lie!

And He Who ‘gave’ man the gift of language knows its every function and every nuance and every meaning. Language is an exact science. If that were not true you could not diagram a sentence, write a contract, pass and enforce laws, label a can of beans, and have any expectation that what is in it is what it says is in it. God knows the Science. He knows the rules of grammar better than anyone else ever did. II Peter 1:20-21 says, **“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”** God said what He meant, and He meant what He said.

It is the devil that comes along

and says, “Yea, hath God really said, yea well, is that really what He means?”

But it is inherent in God’s very being the ability to communicate. God did not have to learn, as you or I do. He is the Word incarnate. He “said” and it came to pass. To call into question, to slander His Word, to impugn His Word is to slander His very person. To say that He did not know what He was saying, that He does not know how to say it, that He can not communicate what He wants to say, is to slander and impugn the One of Whom it is said, **“Never man spake like this man”** (John 7:46). If there is ever a failure to communicate, it is on our part and not His. Our job is to figure out what He said, not to question it!

But what we have there in verses 26-27, is the single most important occurrence effecting the fulfillment of the curse upon Canaan in our passage in chapter 9 verse 25, “Cursed be Canaan, a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.”

Now that’s a Hebrew hyperbole: a figure of speech. The Hebrew hyperbole: like “Lord of lords” and “King of kings,” these are Hebrew hyperboles. Such is also the phrase: “A Servant of servants.” The construction of the Hebrew hyperbole, in all of these cases, speaks of or expresses the idea of: “par excel lance.” Our Lord is a Lord above all lords, and a King above all kings: not only in position, but also in quality. That is the idea that is expressed there. Of course He is a King above kings in position. All the Word of God teaches that. But the Hebrew hyperbole has reference in particular to quality.

The NIV, which is a corrupt translation: the devils own, translates this verse (9:25) “Cursed

be Canaan! The lowest of slaves will he be to his brothers.” And that in fact is an absolutely false translation (of which the NIV is utterly prone to exhibit). But to the contrary, in the thinking of the far eastern mind, this would be like a man who had a thousand servants, and there’s one who just excelleth them all: the best servant he had! As to quality: “a servant of servants!” He excelled them all. Not the lowest of slaves. But Canaan would serve his fellow man, in a way, far beyond the average servant. A servant, none the less, but a “servant of servants” “Par Excel lance!”

I find it very interesting though, that the liberal position, and their liberal translation: the NIV, supports slavery, and seeks to bring it about (though they raise a hue and a cry to try to pretend otherwise). They are either trying to cast aspersion upon the Word of God, or they are manifesting blatant hypocrisy in their politics! And today, they would in fact subjugate the whole human race to the bondage of socialism and totalitarianism if only they could. Liberalism has always been self contradictory. But Isaiah 32:5 says that there’s coming a day when, **“the vile person shall be no more called liberal, nor the churl said to be bountiful.”** but they will be seen for what they are. And we see that they are known for their works, even their wicked translations of the Word of God.

But I want you to notice here, Noah cursed Canaan, he didn’t curse Ham (the one who saw his nakedness), he cursed Ham’s son. For in old Semitic tradition, if you curse a man, you , in effect, curse his father. If Noah had cursed Ham he’d a been cursing himself! He cursed Ham’s son: Canaan; and cursed Ham in the process....

♦ (Continued on page 11)

Three Sons of Noah

(Continued from page 10) ♦

and cursed all their progeny as well....as the curse went out and was passed on. So there would be degrees of this curse as it went out through these men's descendents. And that is exactly what we find historically, as we shall see.

Now I want you to notice in chapter 10 that there are three divisions, so that we might outline it thusly:

GENESIS CHAPTER 10

1. The descendants of Japheth (verses 2-5). Including Russia and the Germanic peoples (and most all of the European nations) by their ancient names; the Indo-European peoples. What we would generally speak of as "Caucasians" today. Hitler fanatically and satanically singled out what he thought of as a superior strain of these and spoke of the Aryan races. Keep in mind our opening passage: Acts 17:26-27, that God **"hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:.."** Modern man has unscientifically ascribed that term "races" to the different families of man; and by so doing they themselves have created "racial" strife and division. Again: the liberals own emphasis of wording, creating what they themselves pretend to decry. Creating "racism" by their unnatural division and by their constant emphasis upon differences that God's Word does not even recognize. We are all of the same race. We are all of the Adamic race. And we all

need to be concerned with our standing before God, and not our standing before our fellow man. We have all sinned in Adam, and need forgiveness in Christ. And all this constant reporting and emphasis upon false divisions and differences only serves as a diversionary tactic of the devil that seeks to keep men's attentions from this all important human need of finding peace with God in Christ. It is God Who Adam and all his descendents have offended.

2. The descendants of Ham (verses 6-20). Cush is Ethiopia, Mizraim is Egypt, then you see the Canaanites there in verses 7 are the peoples that populated the whole Arab peninsula at one time, the same Sheba and Dedan who are allied with us in the Middle East today as seen in Ezekiel 38: all those rich Arab Emirates; who have since become overrun by the descendents of Ishmael and of Esau, but are still named after the first inhabitants. There is also the first Babylonian Empire: the Old Babylonian Empire, verses 8-10. There it was Hamitic. But the Neo-Babylonian Empire later on would be Semitic, as the Semitic peoples displaced the earlier Hamitic tribes. Then there's the Assyrian Empire there in verse 11. Ludim in Lybia (v:13); and, as I said, Mizraim is Egypt. The Philistines are in v:14 (Philistim); and notice especially (because we're going to see it again later) I want you to notice Caphtorim in verse 14, this is Minoa, Minos, or the Old Minoan Civilization on the Island of Crete as they came to be called after their first great king: King Minos. But then, as they expanded onto the Greek mainland, it became known as the Mycenaean Civilization, that was later conquered and pushed out by the Hellenistic Greeks or sons of Javan, as we had in verse 4

(during the later expansion of the sons of Japheth, these will come down, over 1,000 years later, but still almost 1,000 B.C. to us). But I want you to remember that the first people who lived there on the Greek mainland were these sons of Ham, the Caphtorim that we see in v:14. And then, you've got the Sidonians of Sidon in verse 15 (That by verse 19 is seen as it will become: a city. The city of Sidon. This is the beginning of what will later be seen to be that great seafaring and trading people: the Phoenicians; who in all likelihood sailed as far as even to the new world, possibly even becoming the beginning of the earliest Mesoamerican civilizations). And then you've got Heth in verse 15: the Hittites. You know, archeologists didn't even believe that there ever was a Hittite Civilization, though it is mentioned in the Bible some 26 times, no one believed it existed! Until lo and behold in 1872 archeological proof of its existence was found throughout Asia Minor. You know, archeologists can be right, if they'd just go by the Bible. And then, I believe that the Sinite in verse 17 may very well be the originator of a people who have been known throughout history by the prefix "Sino", as in "Sino-American" relations, or as in the "Sino-Japanese" war. We're speaking of China aren't we. I believe everybody whose on the face of the earth today is descended from one of these names in Genesis chapter 10.

3. And finally: the descendants of Shem (verses 21-31). There, you've got "Eber" in verse 21; and that, in fact, is where the name "Hebrew" comes from. This is where the Hebrew people derive their name. And then most all of the names associated therewith in the following verses are

people who inhabit the Arabian peninsula or other areas of the Middle East today.

You see many of these names throughout the Bible. Many are still recognizable today. And verse 32 says: **"These are the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood."**

Now then, here in verses 9-10, Nimrod, a descendent of Ham, took the lead in the building of the Tower of Babel. And history shows us, that they also took the brunt of the curse: the confounding of their language. Which is evidenced by the fact that in Africa, for example, you can have two tribes on two different sides of the same river, their languages seemingly totally unrelated. Obviously, both of them Hamitic. Both descendants of Ham. But mass confusion reigns in the Hamitic tongues, because they received the brunt of the curse. Verses, for example, the Romance languages (that's not romance, as in love; but that's Romance, as in "derived from the Roman or Latin tongue:" as in Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Rumanian, etc. They are all obviously related - with relatively little change (as compared to Hamitic tongues, which are wildly varied or changed).

But I would have you to know also, that not all Hamites are black men. The word "Phoenician" for example, in the Old Testament. Etymologically, the word "Phoenician" originally meant: "red skin." That may not be a politically correct phraseology today, to call someone a "redskin", they say that's degrading today. But once there was a people who openly acknowledged and owned

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The Berea Baptist Banner Forum

Submit your questions on any Bible topic.

Please explain: Revelation 7:9 “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands”

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How many is **“no man could number”**? That caught my imagination a few months ago and as I meditated upon it, I thought that if a person spent their lifetime of living hours trying to count this multitude, they would die before finishing! How big a number is that? If a man lived “three-score and ten” and counted one person per second, twelve hours per day, there would be one billion and 88 million seconds in that seventy years! That would be a literal number that no man could number systematically, eh? Can we yet imagine the glory of our great God that even in this horrific time of judgment, would save a billion folk in the final seven years of this Earth? Selah!

Who will find themselves in this great multitude of God's Sovereign grace? Most commentators think they are Gentiles, but that's not entirely true from God's perspective, although it is (somewhat) from ours. The fullness of the gentile age will have been saved at the time of the rapture. Rom. 11:25-26 **“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened**

to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob” The Apostle Paul, as almost everyone knows, is speaking of the Rapture and the end of the Church Age (God's primary focus is Gentiles: Acts 13:46-48), after which He turns His focus back to the Salvation of Israel in Daniel's 70th week and the time of Jacob's Trouble! Why then, do most commentators double back to predict a soul harvest of Gentiles saved in the time of Israel's restoration?

Because no one knows where the lost ten tribes are! After the destruction of Israel's Northern Kingdom in 723 BC, Assyria began the scattering of God's people around the globe, as God, Himself declared would happen. But He also has prophesied to bring them BACK from the uttermost parts of the Earth! **“...a Great Multitude... of All nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues”** anyone...? Hallelujah! Eze. 34:12-13,16 **“...so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. And I will bring them out from the people (Gentiles), and gather them from the countries (Nations), and will bring them to their own land, ...I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was**

broken, and will strengthen that which was sick... For I will take you from among the heathen (Gentiles), and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.” Eze. 36:24. Our Revelation 7 text is the Ultimate Fulfillment of these prophecies! Selah! Think about it!

The vast majority of those in the Holy Lands in 2022 are from the tribe of Judah (and Levi) and that is why they have been called Jews (Jew-dah!) down through the centuries because no one knows where the Gadites and Zebulonites are...but God does! Watch him call 12,000 by irresistible Sovereign grace out of 12 specific tribes in this same text chapter 12 of revelation to do His work of evangelizing these lost children of God! Lost no longer! The Ethiopians, the Chinese, the Australians, the Ceylonese, the Chileans, the French and the Americans will be saved in droves! Sure from the outside, the commentators are right they are not Jews, but they are also NOT Gentiles! The Book of Revelation continues to reveal! Their heritage will be discovered as Israelites! Wow! How is that even possible? Only God could have preserved their lineage enough throughout the centuries to present us with the genealogy of a Naphtali tribe member next to a purebred Ephraim ethnicity!

It has been almost 3000 years since God passed judgment on these lost tribes and they have had plenty of time to propagate into the billion souls that **“no man could number”**! But the Gentiles? Their Time is past, when the clock starts ticking for Daniel's 70th Week... II Thess. 2:10-12 **“And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that**

they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who be-lieved not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” Just as surely as Israel was blinded at the time of Christ's first advent, and God gave light and life unto the Gentile nations, all those Gentiles that CONTINUE to reject God to the point of the Rapture, we receive the “strong delusion” and “believe a lie” of the AntiChrist, “that they all might be damned who believed not...” No soul harvest of Gentiles, I am afraid, but Glory to our Sovereign God that neglects NONE of His Eternal Promises! Dan. 9:24 **“Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconcilia-tion for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.”** It's going to happen for Israel, Selah! Think about it!

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Many want to know what this verse is referring to; it must mean folks are interested in what is coming in the near future. It appears that, as usual there is a difference of opinion with many scholars, but almost all agree that these are Gentiles saved during the **“Great Tribulation”**, that is the result of the two witnesses and the 144,000's preaching the gospel message of Jesus Christ.

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The Berea Baptist Banner Forum

Submit your questions on any Bible topic.

Can you please comment on Romans 16:1-2? Who is Phebe and was she really a deaconess? What is a deaconess?

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I Timothy 3:12-13- **“Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.”**

Our KJV word “deacon” comes from the Greek word “diakonos,” which is transliterated basically into our English language for the Acts 6 church-created and ordained “Office of Deacon.” Names of people and objects typically are transliterated as a new word in the new language for someone or something that there is no existing word to parallel. The word “diakonos,” means “servant” or “minister.” At essence, all of God’s people are to be His servants, both men and women, boys and girls. Another Greek word of interest is “doulos.” While either word is at times translated “servant” in the Bible, they are hardly the same word. 29 times “diakonos” is used in the NT, but aside from the Gospels, the Romans 16 reference for Phoebe (we’ll get to) and the clear “ordained deacon” references, “diakonos” is translated as minister. Which is the PRIMARY thought of the word. Selah!

The word “doulos” is used

in 119 verses in the NT. It is ALWAYS translated as servant or bond(man). The PRIMARY thought of this word is a personal slave. Thus the beautiful picture of us being the “doulos” of Christ, but the “diakonos” of the church. A slave of Christ, made a freeman in His church... I Cor. 7:21-23 **“Art thou called being a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather. For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord’s freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ’s servant. Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.”**

That’s how Phoebe is mentioned in Rom. 16:1 **“I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea”** That’s why the Apostle used this word of Phoebe, rather than “doulos”: She was performing ministerial work for the church carrying the book of Romans, perhaps. **“...That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also.”**

But could the word “diakonos” have been translated here as Deacon, as it is in some modern versions? Well, the simple answer is that “Diakonos” is never “translated” as deacon anywhere in scripture. That would be impossible. As we have already stated, a proper “translation” will ALWAYS be “servant” or “minister.” These are the parallel words in the English language to the Greek

word. To make the reference to Phoebe in Romans 16 come out as “deacon” it would HAVE TO BE TRANSLITERATED!

The only 5 times that our KJV Bible inserts the word “deacon” for “diakonos” is when it is referring to the office of deacon. Transliteration certainly has its correct place in the Bible! This is a place where the title should be differentiated from typical translation of a “normally used” word. Whenever NOT referring to the office, it is always correctly translated as minister or servant, depending on the context. To transliterate it for Phoebe, would be for the translators to say that it is referring to the office and would make Phoebe an Officer of the First Baptist Church of Cenchrea. Beloved, there is just no textual or scriptural warrant to do that!

Women are not eligible for this office of authority and teaching as per clear Bible instructions throughout the New Testament of her place in public worship. I Tim. 2:11-12 **“Let the woman 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.”** I Tim. 3:8, 11-12 **“Likewise must the deacons be grave, ...Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife...”** I Cor. 14:34-35 **“Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.”**

So, it would be erroneous to transliterate it thusly in Romans 16 for Phoebe... Minister or Servant

carries the correct thought of the passage. Praise God, the more I study, the more respect I have for William Tyndale and the King James Translators... Selah! Think about it!

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Phebe means “bright and radiant” which fits Paul’s description of Phebe’s personality and Christian character as a servant. Many believe that because the word servant can be translated deacon, that it is to be taken that if a man is a servant (deacon) then it’s just automatic that if a woman is called a servant, then she must be a deaconess. That is the furthest thing from the truth, there is no scripture to back up this claim.

But in fact, there is scripture to prove that there is no such thing as a deaconess, but that the office of a deacon is strictly an office held by men and only if they are called to do so, and that are qualified for that office. There are only two officers of the church, Bishops (pastors) and Deacons.

Scriptures for the office of Deacons (1 Timothy 3:10-13 KJV) **“And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which**

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Forum Question #1

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I would like to quote Clarence Larkin and Henry Morris, as they put it better than I could ever attempt too. Larkin, titles verse 9 as the **"Blood Washed Multitude"** he states, *"This introduces us to another class of saved of the "End Time." They are not the Church, for they come out of the "Great Tribulation." They are probably Gentiles who accept Christ as their Saviour after the Church is caught out. "They are saved and shall serve God in His Heavenly Temple, and never hunger or thirst any more, but they are not part of the Church and shall not participate in any Millennial blessings on the earth."*

Morris states, *"John had observed the sealing of the 144,000 for a ministry on earth; now he saw another great drama in heaven, once again at the throne of the Lamb. On earth he had seen twelve thousand from each tribe of Israel; in heaven, standing before the throne, he saw such a great throng that it would be impossible for anyone man to count."*

These were not Israelites but Gentiles, coming from every nation, tribe, people, and language. Christ's great commission had been to "teach all nations" (Matthew 28:19), promising that when His gospel of the kingdom of God had been preached "for a witness unto all nations" (Matthew 24:14), then the end of the age would finally come. At this point, the gospel apparently has been preached "unto the uttermost parts of the earth" (Acts 1:8) and some have indeed been won to Christ from every trib and language.

The fact that these are all arrayed in white robes suggests that they included the, martyred saints of the early part of the tribulation period, since they had been given white robes. They were to be arrayed along with others who would be slain for

their testimony and would join them (Revelation 6:11)."

I do not agree with Morris that the palm branches were *"(perhaps the antitype of the "first Palm Sunday")"*, but I believe that they represent the victory they had in Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

I hope this satisfies the question here that has been asked. Hopefully the other writers of the Forum can give a better answer than I have attempted to do. God Bless!

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"After this I beheld": John saw with his eyes in heaven. **"A great multitude which no man could number":** there were so many in this crowd that the number was incalculable. **"Of nations":** they were from all nations on the earth. **"And kindreds":** of tribes, clans, and those related. **"And people":** a group of persons with an indefinite number. **"And tongues":** all different languages from the world who have spoken and do speak a written or spoken language. They **"stood before the throne":** this throne is the throne of God which He sits upon and the Lamb of God. **"Clothed with white robes":** these peoples were clothed in white robes as we read in Revelation 7:13 **"And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?" "...and palms in their hands":** palms in the hands represent victory, peace, and joy.

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John had just seen the sealing of the 144,000 Jews. There were 12,000 out of each of the tribes of Israel set apart by God by electing grace and the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ (Rev. 7:1-8). As redeemed believers they no doubt had a testimony to bear regarding the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Even during the Great Tribulation Period on the earth, God still saves sinners and raises up witnesses who are willing to share the Gospel of Christ with others.

John's attention then turns to a great multitude in Heaven celebrating God's sovereign grace with palms in their hands. These are heavenly worshipers who were redeemed by the blood of Christ and immediately martyred for their faith during the Great Tribulation. This is made crystal clear in Revelation 7:14-15: **"And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them."** I have no doubt this great company of redeemed saints are people who believed the message of the Gospel of Christ shared by the 144,000 Jews during the great tribulation. They are people who were saved just like every

one of God's elect are saved, by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. They were born of the Spirit, given the gifts of repentance and saving faith, and were miraculously changed by the power of God. Yes, I believe the Great Tribulation will be marked by the severity of God's judgment and wrath, but God will still remember mercy and save His elect and wash them in the blood of the Lord Jesus. It also appears in the context of the chapter that there will be multitudes of people saved all around the world. Revelation chapter seven clearly reveals that these are people who were saved out of all nations during the great tribulation and who were martyred for their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. They will be in Heaven, free of suffering and sorrow standing before the One who loved them and gave Himself for them. They will be rejoicing, singing, and praising the Lord Jesus for His redeeming work. What a glad and glorious day it will be for those saints who were martyred during the Great Tribulation period.



Three Sons of Noah

(Continued from page 11) ♦

themselves as that, and called themselves: "Phoenicians" or "red-skins". And I can prove by the record of history that they were originally of Hamitic origin.

And history shows that most of the Hamitic families were driven out of their original homelands and pushed along before following conquering hordes of: 1st Semitic families, and then 2^{ndly} Japhetic families. So that their original homelands became overrun, and they became so intermarried, and heavily influenced over a

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Forum Question #2

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is in Christ Jesus.”

We have many sisters in our church that we would consider “bright and radiant” and servants of our church (I don’t know what we would do without them), but they do not have the qualifications to be a deacon (deaconess), because there is no such office for a woman. God Bless!

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“I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea: That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also” (Rom. 16:1-2).

The word servant and the word deacon is the same Greek word. We conclude by Paul’s remarks about Phebe that she was a servant to the church, in what capacity we know not, other than she helped many of the church in Cenchrea. Historians say that there were women who aided younger women in the faith and at home in child bearing and such things in the female sphere that men should not be crossing over into.

There are only two offices in the churches, Pastor and Deacon, and the men who are ordained to this office have official duties in the churches that accompany those positions.

Phebe may have been a woman of means, having the ability to buy or at least procure what was needed to aid anyone that was in need. She apparently was able to travel and delivered a letter from Corinthus or Corinth to Rome.

Women ought never to teach other men or to hold offices in the churches, nor to speak in the assemblies. I see nothing wrong with what Phebe has done here nor do I see the Apostle mention that what she is doing or what she has done as being wrong. Going any further than what the scriptures teach is wrong, also.

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Romans 16:1-2 states: **“I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea: That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath be a succorer of many, and of myself also.”**

Phebe is identified by Paul as a sister in Christ, one who had been born of the Spirit and washed in the blood of the Lord Jesus. Her name means “bright and radiant” which appears to also describe her faithful testimony in the Lord. She was considered a valuable member of the church at Cenchrea, which many believe was planted by the church of Corinth. Paul describes Phebe as a **“servant of the the church”** and as **“a succorer of many”**, including himself. In the early churches there were women who were selected to minister to the poor,

the elderly, and widowed women in the churches. These women were also noted for their care of the sick, the orphaned, and those in prison. Often they were women of means who were generous and compassionate toward those less fortunate among the membership. It appears that Paul recognized this dear saint of God as a woman who was committed to helping and ministering to others. As such, he urges the church of Rome to **“receive her in the Lord”** and help her in whatever way she had need.

The office of a deacon was created out of necessity in Acts 6:1-8 by the church at Jerusalem. Deacons were to be men of faith recognized by the church as servants, especially in the temporal matters of the church to free up the elders/pastors for the work of the ministry of the Word and prayer. Their qualifications are clearly set forth in I Timothy 3:7-15. Qualified deacons were identified within the church and ordained to the office.

The Greek word “diakonas is translated **“deacon”** in our English Bible or its plural form “deacons” five times. The word deaconess does not occur in our English Bible. The word is more often translated **“servant”** in other places signifying those who serve as in Romans 16:1, which is the only time it is applied to a woman in the New Testament according to Vine (page 275). This is why many identify Phebe as a deaconess. She was definitely a servant in the church at Cenchrea but not in the same sense as male deacons were.

I like the way that Elder John Gill, the old Baptist Expositor explains this passage of Scripture: “...in this place (Cenchrea), was a church of Jesus Christ; and since it was so near to Corinth, it shews

that churches in those early times were not national, or provincial, but congregational. Of this church Phebe was a servant, or, as the word signifies, a minister or deacon; not that she was a teacher of the word or preacher of the Gospel, for that was not allowed of by the apostle in the church at Corinth, that a woman should teach; see I Cor. 14:34-35, and therefore would never be admitted at Cenchrea. Rather, as some think, she was a deaconess appointed by the church, to take care of the poor sisters of the church; though as they were usually poor, and ancient women, that were put into that service, and this woman, according to the account of her, being neither poor, nor very ancient; it seems rather, that being a rich and generous woman, she served or ministered to the church by relieving the poor; not out of the church’s stock, as deaconesses did, but out of her own substance; and received the ministers of the Gospel, and all strangers, into her house, which was open to all Christians; and so was exceeding serviceable to that church, and to all the saints that came thither: though it is certain that among the ancient Christians there were women servants who were called ministers.” (Gill’s Expositor, Volume 8, page 584).



Three Sons of Noah

(Continued from page 14) ♦

2,000 year period, that they eventually took on a strong Semitic character, till even the language they ended up with in some cases is considered by most to have become mostly Semitic by the end of the history of some of their earliest civilizations. Such was the fate of the transition from the Old Babylonian Empire

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Home and Family...

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by living in glad obedience to it.) **And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;** (Drug and alcohol abuse will only make matters worse, but you must be filled with the Holy Spirit and emptied of self to glorify God in your family, to be successful in God's sight in Home Missions.) **Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;** (Let there be joy in the house.), **"...for the joy of the LORD is your strength"** (Neh. 8:10), (And we sure need strength to fight the enemies of the world, the flesh and the devil.) **Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;** (Murmurers and complainers are just hard to live with and they are not happy until they make others miserable, be thankful and you will be glad you did, and what a great witness that is to those in the home.) **Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing** (everything scriptural). **Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.** That is a tall order that humbles us men and we need to fall on our face before God and plead that He will help us.

Some of this is very obvious: be faithful to your man or woman: in thoughts, intentions, words and

actions. By being the husband or wife God has called us to be. By showing the love of Christ to them. By sharing the gospel which is the power of God unto salvation, for faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Much prayer is needed as we find out that it is tougher than we even imagined.

We must keep in mind, to prevent frustration and to grant us patience we must realize that God is sovereign over all, including the salvation of loved ones, if they will be saved and when they will be saved. If your husband or wife is already saved, then, this will help encourage you both to live for Christ and to be a witness to others in the family or outside of the family.

Parents and Grandparents

Some of us know the heartache of parents who are or were unbelievers. It can be difficult by the bare fact that it does not set well when those who are younger telling those older that they are wrong, need to repent from their sins, and believe upon Christ or they will go to hell. It is critical to remember that we approach this sensitive scenario with much prayer, and with much humility and patience. Exodus 20:12 gives us great counsel, **"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."** Honoring them, respecting them and loving them as God would have us to, often provides many open doors of opportunity to home missions among those who may be older than we are. Can we think of any better way to honor our parents and grandparents than to tell them about how Jesus saves sinners and encourage them to believe?

To only witness to our parents

with our lips and then just say **"...be ye warmed and filled..."** (Jam. 2:16) when our parents have physical needs, will only push them away. Note, I Timothy 5:4, **"But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God."**

Children and Grandchildren

Our ministry to our children should never be taken lightly as Christ speaks kindly of them: **"But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God"** (Luke 18:16). **"And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea"** (Mark 9:42). It is scary how many times this is said and people just keep on doing things to discourage children in the church or in the home.

Timothy's mother and grandmother were instruments in God's hands to plant the seed of the Holy Scriptures in their son and grandson and what rejoicing there must have been when God gave the increase! **"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus"** (II Tim. 3:15). What a great mission field it is to have a home full of children or even grandchildren! It is not only a great mission field, but a great privilege and responsibility that God has preordained for us.

Siblings

Siblings, though sibling rivalry is a reality, are precious souls that need salvation and should be a part of our home missions.

Notice how Andrew cared for the soul of his brother Peter in John 1:40-42, **"One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone."**

Extended Family

There are others who may not be immediate family, but there is a special relation that can be used of God to extend our home missions to In-laws, such as seen with Jacob and his father-in-law and Moses and his father-in-law. Family relations such as uncles, aunts, cousins, etc., also provide unique inroads that those outside of our family circle may not have.

Families in the Church

Lastly, we can consider church members who have family who are lost, who may attend church or go to family functions, and that gives a natural connection that could be a means to share the gospel with them. It may be that such occasions may be brief or not that frequent, but the light of our testimony of love and kindness can open the door to other doors that would involve us telling them of their need of Christ because of their sins and how Jesus saves sinners.

We will deal with Home Missions in more detail in two more messages, Lord willing. But, the principle and importance of beginning at home when it comes to leading people to Christ or leading in any spiritual capacity is expressed in I Timothy 3:4-5, **"One that ruleth well his own**

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Home and Family...

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house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)." If a man or woman has a home that is a wreck spiritually, they are not in the position to spiritually lead or point anyone to Christ.

It is the principle of heaven, **"His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord"** (Matt. 25:21).

Happy is he who is not ashamed to say to others, as the wild man of the Gadarenes in our text and with the psalmist, **"Come and hear, ...what the Lord hath done for my soul"** (Psa. 66:16). This principle of evangelism is in the Old Testament, the New Testament and may it be in your "You Testament" as you live out your life in your homes as epistles of Christ seen and read of others (II Cor. 3:2-3).

Oh, our Father, bless our homes that we may see a great harvest of souls amongst us that would praise, extol, and worship and serve you in your churches to spread the glad tidings of great joy found in the gospel of Christ! In the Mighty, Matchless Name of our God and Saviour Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.



Baptist History

(Continued from page 9) ♦

the scarlet harlot riding on the beast with seven heads and ten horns; she is drunk with the blood of saints." Why then, sir, have you written the history of Anti-Christ, instead of the history

of the Churches of Christ, for Church History? And what can Dr. Beman, or all the doctors of Presbyterianism in the world, answer? The question is involved in inextricable difficulties. It is a fearful question for them; it devolves awful consequences upon them.

A little history connected with the last N. S. Presbyterian General Assembly, which held its session in Buffalo, May, 1854, will illustrate this, and it ought not to be allowed to pass without improvement.

A query was introduced into that body to this effect: - Are Romish baptisms and ordinations valid? A Committee of junior and senior patriarchs, was sent out to report an answer. They failed to agree. The majority reported negatively. But there were sundry gray-haired doctors, who saw the logical consequences that lay behind such a decision, and indeed, *any decision they as Pedobaptists could make*; and those consequences would certainly be precipitated upon them by their Baptist friends and Catholic foes.

The reports were read in the Assembly, and a warm discussion ensued. Unfortunately, very little of that discussion has been given to the public; but the positions taken by the two parties were substantially these:

The majority reported that all ordinances at the hands of Romish priests were invalid, because the Romish Catholic Church was no Church of Christ, and no part or branch of Christ's Church; but manifest Anti-Christ - the scarlet harlot riding on the beast with seven heads and ten horns, drunk with the blood of saints; the baptism and ordinations of such an apostate body are null and void; and to pronounce them valid, is to pronounce the Romish

Church the Church of Christ; and more, to involve Presbyterians and all Protestant sects in the guilt of schism, since they rent the body of Christ when they came out of Rome!

But the party who sustained the minority report, or were unfavorable to a decision, urged on the other hand: If you deny the Church of Rome to be a true Church, and decide that her baptisms and ordinations are invalid, then do we to all intents and purposes unchurch ourselves, unless we can baptize the ashes of Luther and Calvin, from whom we have received our baptisms and ordinations! If the baptisms and ordinations of Antichrist, of the Man of Sin, and Son of Perdition are invalid, then Luther and Calvin were unbaptized, as were all the members that composed the first churches of the Reformation! then were they unordained, and consequently had no authority to baptize their followers, or ordain other ministers to follow them; in a word, all Protestant societies are unbaptized bodies, and consequently no Churches of Christ, since a body of unbaptized persons, however pious, cannot be considered a Church; all Protestant ministers are both unbaptized and unordained, and consequently unauthorized to preach officially and administer the ordinances.

Thus we see the trilemma into which the query precipitated them:

1. To decide that "Antichrist," "the Man of Sin," "the Mother of Harlots" is a true Church of Christ, would be a monstrous solecism. But this would convict all Protestant sects of sin, and destroy at once every claim they could set up to be churches of Christ; for they confess themselves schismatics.

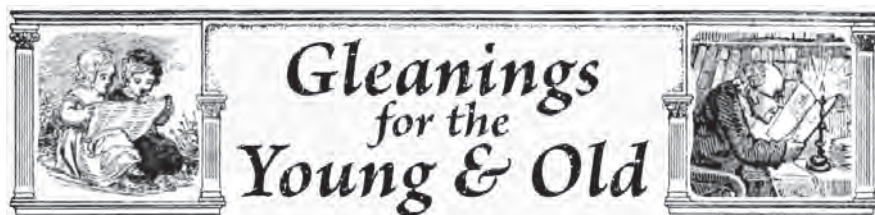
2. To decide that the Romish apostacy is not the true Church of Christ, is to decide that all her ordinances are invalid, and consequently that all Protestant societies are bodies of unbaptized persons, and therefore not churches of Christ, and all Protestant ministers are both unbaptized and unordained, and consequently unauthorized either to preach or administer the ordinances.

3. To say that we cannot decide a question so manifest, will arouse the attention of the people, and awaken their suspicion, at once, that there is a great wrong and a great failure about Protestant churches somewhere.

Finding that they could not extricate themselves from this labyrinth of fatal consequences, they moved an indefinite postponement of the question! Their membership which they have led into their societies, and the world which they are now using every possible effort to entice into their societies, should loudly and constantly demand of them to decide whether the Romish apostacy is a true Church of Christ or not, for let Protestant societies decide it affirmatively or negatively, according to their own admissions, they equally cut off all their own claims to be considered Christian Churches!

It is "high time" for the history of the Church of Christ to be written. The world has quite long enough wondered after the Beast, and the Church of Christ left in the obscurity of the wilderness. One thing settled by the late discussion in the Presbyterian Assembly, is that no Protestant can write the history of the Christian Church! Unless he writes the history of the Romish church, he has no church to write

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Gleanings for the Young & Old

Should Christians (Baptist) Celebrate Christmas?

Elder Roger Reed

Revelation 18:1-11 "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her. And the kings of

the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come. And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more"

Before I continue, I am aware that many Baptists prefer to use Xmas in the place of the word Christmas, but I have chosen to just refer to this Pagan holiday as what it is known by to the world as Christmas.

Christmas—December 25th is the day set aside on our calendars to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. But is this the day He was really born? Should we celebrate it whether we know the date or not? Or should we celebrate it because of the importance of being the birthday of the Saviour? Is this season a custom or is it of Christian origin? Or is it another example of mixture between paganism and Christianity?

The Origin

First of all, the word itself should throw up some red flags. Christmas is a Catholic word for Christ-Mass. Are you Catholic? According to the Encyclopedia, Christmas originated in the 4th century as a Christian substitute for pagan celebrations of the winter solstice.

Before the introduction of Christmas, each year beginning

on December 17 Romans honored Saturn, the ancient god of agriculture, in a festival called Saturnalia (Sat-ur-na-li-a). This festival lasted for seven days and included the winter solstice, which usually occurred around December 25 on the ancient Julian calendar. During Saturnalia (Sat-ur-na-li-a) the Romans feasted, postponed all business and warfare, exchanged gifts, and temporarily freed their slaves. Many Romans also celebrated the lengthening of daylight following the winter solstice by participating in rituals to glorify Mithra, the ancient Persian god of light.

These and other winter festivities continued through January 1, the festival of Kalends, when Romans marked the day of the new moon and the first day of the month and year. Although the Gospels describe Jesus' birth in detail, they never mention the date, so historians do not know on what date he was born. The Roman Catholic Church chose December 25 as the day for the Feast of the Nativity in order to give Christian meaning to existing pagan rituals. For example, the Church replaced festivities honoring the birth of Mithra, the god of light, with festivities to commemorate the birth of Jesus, whom the Bible calls the light of the world. The Catholic Church hoped to draw pagans into its religion by allowing them to continue their revelry while simultaneously honoring the birthday of Jesus.

The origin goes as far back as the Babylonian Empire I want to quote from E.G. Cook in his article What Is Christmas! "In Babylon, that great heathen Chaldean city, pagan religion reached its peak so far as ancient history was concerned. Here in Babylon the queen of heaven

and her son had their beginnings in the persons of Semeramis (The title "Queen of Heaven" by which many Catholics refer to Mary, was first used of Semeramis, wife of Nimrod the founder of Babylon), and her son, Tammuz (Ezekiel 8:13-15). When Belshazzar was slain (Daniel 5:30) and the Chaldeans defeated by Darius, the Mede, it seems the capital of the pagan religious world was moved from Babylon to Pergamos. Later, at the death of Attalus III, Phrygia was given to the Roman Empire in 133 B.C. The Babylonian pagan worship was then removed to Rome where Semeramis and Tammuz became Fortuna and Jupiter. This queen of heaven and her son became the very heart of pagan, or idol worship throughout the world. They were called by different names in different countries. In Egypt they were Isis and Osiris, etc., but they were all the same queen of heaven and her son. All of these were dumped into Christmas under the new name of Mary and Jesus. Now with all the ingredients in Christmas, it is time to look for the reason why Christmas must be in December. Even back in ancient Babylon the birth of Tammuz was celebrated in our December. The heathen sun worshipers throughout the northern hemisphere all celebrated the rebirth of the sun at the time of its turning back toward the North, that is about December 25. These heathen people had been brought into the Catholic Church, mainly through the efforts of Constantine the great. They were still just as heathen as they were before they were incorporated into the Catholic Church, and they were going to continue celebrating this great feast at this same time. It did not matter too much what their god was called. It was still a representative of their sacred god, the sun. But the time of their feast could not be changed, because the sun starts

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Gleanings...

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on his return toward the North at only one time of the year. Even old Satan, with the help of all his able efficient coworkers, could not change that time. Therefore, Christmas had to be December 25, whether the shepherds were out that night with their flocks or not." Jeremiah 7:18 **"The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger."**

What Sayeth the Scriptures?

Now, I want to take and look at the Scripture that many have used to miss lead others into error concerning Christmas. What about the modern Nativity! This is a half-truth! If we study Matthew 2:1-16 and Luke 2:1-20 we will get the full picture, and the truth of the matter. In Luke chapter 2 we first see yes, there was the birth of our Savior in **"Bethlehem"** (v. 4). And Mary wrapped Jesus in **"swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn."** But we also see that it was early spring probably April, because the **"shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night."** But NO wise men! Why is that? Going to chapter 2 of Matthew we see exactly what took place. Matthew 2:1-2 **"Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him."** You can read on here, but the wise men left Herod and then we see where

the wise men went seeing the star Matthew 2:10-11 **"When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh."**

Oh my, they went into the house where the young child was, see what it says? A young child, in a house, NOT A MANGER! So much for the Nativity, huh? How old was this child? The answer is right under our nose Matthew 2:16 **"Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men."** That's right at least two years old. But I know that's not what some of you wanted to hear did you?

What about the money that is spent and the debt people go in each year to buy all that is needed for this pagan holiday? I grant you it is fun and it is nice to give and receive gifts. I used to have two growing up. My parents were divorced and they had to split their time with me around the holidays. In fact, Christmas was the reason my divorced parents fought over me. And as a result of that, the last time I seen my dad I was six years old, and I didn't see him again until I was nineteen. All over a holiday that doesn't mean anything to God except, I believe it's a stench in His nose (an abomination).

Christmas Trees

The Christmas tree seems to be

the main attraction. If Christmas is a Christian holiday, then what does the tree have to do with Christ? Absolutely nothing. Fact is the tradition of cutting down a tree and decorating it is found within the Bible (Jeremiah 10:1-10). This is yet another heathen practice that Catholicism incorporated into their religion.

Santa Claus

Catholics and Protestants alike are telling their kids that Santa Claus is coming to bring them all presents. He is a fictitious character (Definition: 1. false: not true or genuine, and intended to deceive) man who is described as one who knows all. He supposedly travels all night long bringing presents to children everywhere, all over the world. Isn't lying a sin? Yet, parents are lying to their children right this very hour. You may say, it's only a little harmless white lie. Really? So, the Bible says that it's ok to lie a little? People are raising their children to fear Santa when they should fear God Proverbs 9:10 **"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."** Have you noticed how that Santa spells Satan if the letters are rearranged? Not a coincidence, if you consider Isaiah 14:12-14.

Parents consider this

You work hard for your money, and you want your children to have nice things and you want them to have toys to play with. So, at Christmas time you go shopping for your children, and spend your hard-earned money on buying gifts for them, and then you give all the credit to a fictitious guy in a red suit, because on that gift that you put under a tree a little tag that says: From Santa Clause! What a lie! Parents should be ashamed of themselves. How many of you are still paying

on credit cards from last years Christmas shopping, that's insane!

So, you have lied to your children about Santa Clause who doesn't exist, but your children see him everywhere and then they get old enough to realize there is no such person and you lied to them all those years, and then you want to tell them about Jesus Christ who they cannot see. Is that right? How's that working for you?

I want to leave you with this thought, men and women are looking forward to the so-called Christian holiday Christmas. They will get time off work, congress will shut down for a couple of weeks and there will be all kind of parties at work and there will be drinking and all sorts of sin, adultery, fornication, lying and cheating all in the name of celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. People love this holiday for that, but tell me why every other time of the year they hate the name of Jesus and want to remove it from everywhere. The lost say take Christ out of Christmas, the Christian says put Christ back in Christmas. Baptist should say, **"DON'T DO IT AT ALL"** because Christ was never in it!



Baptist History

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about for sixteen centuries, - until the Reformation of Luther. He may well be asked, Had Christ no church, no witnesses in the world during the roll of one thousand five hundred years? and if he had, why did not Luther and Calvin unite themselves and their followers to the then existing Christian churches, instead of setting up rival churches, originating new and never before

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Three Sons of Noah

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(Hamitic) to the Neo-Babylonian Empire over a thousand years later on (Semitic). Such was also the history of empires in Egypt between the old kingdom and the new kingdom when Egypt was overrun by the Hyksos, a Semitic people from across the Sinai. And I believe this pattern also played out in the area of the Assyrian Empire. And meanwhile, worldwide, the Hamites kept **“serving” their fellow man by settling a region, just to be pushed out; thus fulfilling the prophecy of becoming “a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren”** (Gen. 9:25). They served as the original conquerors of the land, the original inventors of the agriculture and the industry which was necessary to do so. The original innovators of all the basic inventions of man.

And that's what we'll see throughout history, over and over again = a supplanting of peoples; 1st, a settling of a land by the descendents of Ham. Ham develops the land, subdues it (the first to be pushed out on the frontier because of his confusing language, his bad language, if you will. No one can understand him). But as he moves on: he's the first to develop the land, the first to cultivate it, dig or establish wells, shelters, trails, and the tools and attire necessary to endure whatever climate it happens to be. Just as the white man had to live like the Indian here in America when first he came to this new land. Then came the Semites, and then the Japhethites to (quote) **“dwell in their stead”** (as the Bible itself says it over and over again). Even as the Hebrew people pushed out the Hamites that were in the land before them when the

Lord gave them the land. It said repeatedly, they **“dwelt in their stead,”** as it says repeatedly in the second chapter of Deuteronomy.

Let me give you an example of what I'm talking about: Let me start by telling you, I took a course down at Austin Peay State University in Tennessee, 30 some years ago. It was on the historical root of the English language: as derived from the Indo-European tongues, as seen through comparative linguistics and the etymology of words in our language; or that is: their historical roots. It was taught by the late Professor Edwin Irwin, perhaps one of the foremost professors of language throughout the South at that time.

We studied language etymologically, again: referring to the history of words, but in their historical setting. That was the emphasis. Now, you can study the history of a language and the migration of a people all at one and the same time, by the place names that they give to things. Again, this was the central theme of the course: English came through the Germanic branch of the Indo-European family. The Germanic Anglo-Saxon invasion of Britain took place between 450 and 600 AD, but it goes back way before that, as it traced its way across all of Europe. And you can trace the migration paths that they took by the place names they gave to geographical features as they came across the European continent. So we know that the same people who named this mountain range (for example), in South Eastern Europe, were the same people, same language, which later on a few centuries further on named such and such a river, or a lake (from the same language you see: demonstrating only a few centuries of change in

the language). And thus we can see how the language develops as time goes on. But here then is the evidence therein, that these were the same peoples, and that this was just the known course of the development of our language, and proof of their migration from all the way back to the Fertile Crescent traced through the language. And in the course of all this it is freely admitted that the linguists all believe that all the languages of man do in fact go back to a common language that had its origin somewhere in the Fertile Crescent, a grand daddy Sanskrit of all time, which has since been lost to mankind. But Oh how they love to speculate on it! But what are we talking about here? We're talking about a pre-flood language, aren't we. A pre-tower of Babel language.

Now I got along with that professor famously. That is, until he decided to have us give an oral report on any aspect of the course that we so choose; and he would count that as our term final. And so, I choose to tell about how everything that we had studied in that course perfectly fits the outline of history as it's recorded in the Bible; but it was diametrically opposed to the theories of the origin of man, as is taught in that same institution just down the hall in their science classes. And all those pop quizzes that I'd maxed, all those A's on everything I'd turned in up to that point - they all got averaged out to a C (for one reason and one reason alone: that was a preparatory class in which the student was required to get a B or above if one wanted to go on to do doctoral level work at that institution. And with my views, though they did adroitly sum up the gist of that class: the truth that the evidence pointed to was there for all to see; but that I

called attention to it, was not in the least bit appreciated. And I was effectively being kept out of the inner circle, by being given a C. He saw to it that I would not be allowed to go on and get a PHD. But that is alright, I had no intention of entering that circle anyway.

But you see, it can all be traced back to the Tigris-Euphrates valley. Up over the Caspian Sea, through southern Russia, and all the way across Europe. In the Indo-Aryan or Indo-European languages we see the sons of Japheth, migrating from the Fertile Crescent, and then northwards: till some went south into India, and some went Northwest through Europe. That course was a course on the languages of the sons of Japheth, though they knew it not.

In that course we again spoke of a “sub-planting”, wherein someone else was coming along and dwelling in ones stead, even as we have herein Biblically observed before. For example, I believe that the Celts, which originally populated England, were all Hamitic, all descendents of Ham, all following that exact self same pattern as befits the prophecy of the sons of Noah in Genesis 9:25-27, and all of chapter 10.

Even so, the Germanic tribes broke down and divided, coming across Europe in the course of two thousand years; first the Normans, and then the Anglo Saxons overran England and displaced the Celtic tribes; even to the extent that today it's called “England” “Land of the Angles” or “Anglo-Saxons.” We can trace them by their language (of course, this is closer to our history, and we know what happened there). But then too, when we speak of Indo-European Aryan languages: and they talk about

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Three Sons of Noah

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the Aryan invasion into India. (Some of these Germanic tribes went north, some went south.) Thousands of years before Christ Hamites had settled in India. And yet, mere hundreds of years before Christ - Germanic tribes, or Aryan tribes pushed down through India, pushing them out; driving them across the Pacific to become Polynesians, and the Indonesians, and the Aborigines of Australia. And you yet see where they came from in those words: Indonesia, and Indochina. They came from India. And there was yet preserved, in the cast system of some parts of Southern India—a people that yet bear a strong family resemblance to the Aborigines of Australia. In fact, I have recently seen a study where this has been verified by DNA analysis. The Aborigines are the descendents of the original inhabitants of India.

And some of them are still in India; they couldn't get them all out, though they would have if they could. In the prejudices of these Aryan tribes, they formed the "Cast System" the worst form and longest lasting form of apartheid that there ever was (for they developed a whole religious system to justify its existence!). That is what Hinduism is! Nevertheless, as they slowly mixed races the highborn lighter skinned peoples subjected the darker ones as they blended into modern India.

Nevertheless, Hamites also populated China, Korea...they came across the Bearing Strait into Alaska, down the coast of North America long before they ever spread across the continent. They took the path of least resistance first: down the west coast...all the

way to the tip of South America.

When I was a pastor in Anchorage, Alaska there was an Eskimo brother who was a member in the church there. Highly educated, with a PHD in geology, he worked for the oil companies. But he had an interest in languages. He had heard the Korean language, as well as other Asian languages. And he had a tape of the Araucanian Indian language of the tribes of southern Chile and Argentina at the southernmost tip of South America. He told me that he was convinced that this was distinctly descended from his native language, and that his was obviously descended from the Korean.

Tierra Del Fuego, the modern language equivalent of the Araucanian Indian language name for that "end of the earth" region, means just that "end of the earth!" Whatever else those migrating peoples might have known by the time that they got there, they understood at least this, that they were fulfilling some old cultural mandate to spread abroad and to **"Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion..."** over the whole creation, as God had given them command to do so in Genesis 1:28 and also in chapter 9 and verses 1-2. They knew that they were fulfilling that same cultural mandate; and they knew when they got there, that they had gone as far as they could.

I myself have heard the affirmative expression "yes" in many of these languages, as well as in many of the languages of the North American Indians. They are all either a variant of "ha!" or "aha!" As the affirmative is pronounced in Japanese and Chinese. All obviously related. All obviously from the same

historical source.

And so time and time again we see, that what we know about the history of language is diametrically opposed to all this silly "scientific?" speculation that is going on about the origin of the species. What we know overthrows the speculation of men.

Today, it is becoming popular and extremely politically correct to teach that the cradle of life was in Africa. I'm afraid that they do that to appease the racial political activism that is so prevalent today. There is no real evidence for it. A few shards of puzzles cast to fit the preconceived opinions of a few men who have been put forward to cast doubt upon mountains of known truth. It's being used to bolster black pride. But they wouldn't need that, and wouldn't even want it, if they only knew their own history. All of those early Civilizations of man were Hamitic in origin. The Old Babylonian, the Egyptian, the Hittites, the great Mycenaean's, the astounding Phoenicians. They were the first explorers and colonizers of the old world. These were the first to cultivate the land: but then only to leave it to others.

They were the first inventors of all the most basic inventions of man: the scythe, the wheel, the water wheel; they first developed the art of fabrics, sewing and weaving; the first to domesticate animals; to develop the basic food crops, such as corn, potatoes, beans, and cereals; they were the first to begin a system of banking and commerce; record keeping, accounting such as are seen in the clay tablets we dig up out of the mounds that are left of their cities. Basic plumbing, porcelain and glass. Both paper and gunpowder were of Chinese, Hamitic origin. Hamites were the beginners of the so-called "bronze age" after

the flood. The first to use most all the metals.

Listen closely and understand: today, as you look out upon the so-called "primitive" peoples of the world: Hamites are not primitive races; there are no primitive races. There are no Pre-historic peoples. There is only degenerate man! The so-called "primitive" tribes that are found today are what's left over after a civilization has degenerated to the point of collapse and beyond.

Anthropologically, the anthropologist likes to classify the races as: 1. Negroid, 2. Mongoloid, and 3. Caucasoid. That is a false division. Utterly misleading! Negroid and Mongoloid are both Hamitic. Then they lump both Japheth and Shem under Caucasoid. They have all kinds of problems with this kind of classification system. It just doesn't fit! It would be amazing how well it would fit, if they would just recognize and use God's outline of it all: Hamitic, Semitic, and Japhetic.

As we have seen: there is only one race: but there are three families: 1. There was the Hamitic Civilizations (which ran their course). 2. Then there was the Semitic Civilizations (Asshur, 10:22, the Assyrian Civilization. Arphaxad: the Chaldean, or Neo-Babylonian (you will recall that the Old Babylonian Empire was Hamitic; but the Neo-Babylonian Empire, a different people entirely, were Semitic). Aram, V:22 again, the Syrian nation. Elam becomes Persia, and on and on. 3. The third round of civilizations are Japhetic, the ancestry of which, or in which, most Americans fit.

Again, another correction which is needed: is that, if you go to study history in a secular school or college you will study:

♦ (Continued on page 22)

BEREA BAPTIST BANNER	
Financial Report	
10-1-2022 to 10-31-2022	
Beginning Balance	\$6,870.29
RECEIPTS:	
Berea B. C., Mantachie, MS	750.00
The Willetts, Cottonwood Shores, TX	100.00
Citrus M. B. C., Inverness, FL	25.00
Grace B. C., Gladwin, MI	50.00
Grace B. C., Germanton, NC	50.00
The Lord's B. C., Goose Creek, SC	100.00
Michael Sherman, Ashland, KY	40.00
Mt. Pleasant B. C., Chesapeake, OH	100.00
Philadelphia B. C., Decatur, AL	100.00
Portland B. C., Plumerville, AR	50.00
Sovereign Grace B. C., Wellington, KS	100.00
Beauty Mtn. B. C., Edmond WV	50.00
Indore B.C., Indore, WV	300.00
Berea B.C., Stonington, IL	60.00
Big Creek B.C., Wayne, WV	200.00
Victory B. C., Courtland VA	25.00
Grace B. C., Corbin KY	100.00
Bruce Allen, Cross Plains TX	25.00
Southside B.C., Fulton MS	25.00
New Testament B. C., Goshen IN	100.00
Briar Creek BC, Williamsburg KY	150.00
Faith B. C., Lynn AR	12.50
Bible Believers B. C., Naples ID	300.00
Parkway Landmark B.C., Springfield OR	200.00
Grace B.C., Tulsa OK	150.00

Love Offerings toward foreign postage:
Parkway Landmark B.C., Springfield OR.. 100.00

Divided Checks.....	150.00
Anonymous	350.00
Sub Total	\$3,762.50
TOTAL.....	\$10,632.79

EXPENDITURES:	
Postage:	
Reg \$860.57 + Foreign \$116.77	977.34
Supplies	56.00
Wages	2000.00
FICA	153.00
Div Cks	150.00
Total Expenditures	\$3,336.34

ENDING BALANCE \$7,296.45



BEREA BAPTIST BROADCAST	
Financial Report	
10-1-2022 to 10-31-2022	
Beginning Balance	\$5,087.50
RECEIPTS:	
Berea B. C., Mantachie, MS	225.00
Briar Creek B. C., Williamsburg, KY	100.00
Grace B. C., Corbin, KY	100.00
.....	425.00
TOTAL.....	5,148.52
EXPENDITURES:	
Radio time	363.98
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	363.98
.....	
Interest	+0.14
ENDING BALANCE	\$5,148.66

Three Sons of Noah

(Continued from page 21) ♦

1. Ancient History. 2. And Modern History. 3. They may even throw in the Middle Ages in there somewhere (but in both their Modern History, and their middle history, you'll be studying Japhetic History).

In reality, there is: 1. Hamitic History, when Ham was in the ascendancy (up until about 1500 B.C. inter lapping with). 2. Semitic History (from about 2000 B.C. to 500 B.C.) and 3. Japhetic History, starting with the Hellenistic Greeks on thru Rome and on to us.

The 1st two waves of civilization, from about 2,400 B.C. (after the flood) to about 300 B.C., was when the Hamitic civilizations had paved the way for and were being supplanted by Semitic peoples, that came along and “dwelt in their stead.” That’s our chapter 9:26 in such a way: served they Shem. They prepared the way for them. Even as the Israelites came in (Semitic) - took the land of Canaan (Hamitic) - and dwelt in their stead.

And now, in more modern history, Japheth has been in the ascendancy. And again, he took from Ham whatsoever came to his hand. Not only in England, as with the Celts, as we have already seen. Not only in Europe; but even over in this hemisphere, the great civilizations of the Inca, and the Aztec, and the Mayan: they too were Hamitic in origin.

Even in North America. How did we settle this land? We took it inch by inch from the Hamitic Indians who were here before us. And they taught us how to plant corn, and how to fish the beaver ponds, and hunt the buffalo, and live off the land; and then we pushed them out, and took it over.

Listen, I’m not passing judgment, one way or the other. God said that is the way it would be!

Today, Japhethites control everything from Europe to America to Australia. And in every case we took it away from the Hamites.

There has never been another document like the Table of the Nations in Genesis chapter 10! God foretold the complete history of man before it ever even happened!

In chapter 10 and verse 2 you’ve got Germany (Gomer), Russia (Magog), the Medes (Madai), the Greeks (Javan), more of the people who populated Russia (Tubal and Meschek), and the Thracians (Tiras). Javan there: one of those first barbarian tribes to descend out of the Barbarian hordes of Europe from the north (as even others descended much later at the fall of the Roman Empire); but Javan here, descended into the Greek Peloponnesus (that hand shaped peninsula that hangs down into the Mediterranean Sea just west of Asia Minor, that was the Greek mainland of Aristotle and Plato fame. Before Plato and Aristotle ever even lived: Javan, the Hellenists, took it away from the Mycenaean Civilization (that’s that Caphtorim of Chapter 10 verse 14 in the Hamitic section). {And I’ll show you something else that the Bible tells us about them in just a moment}. Nevertheless, all the great powers today are all Japhetic, with the exception of China (God has reserved them for a specific purpose as well, at the end of the Tribulation, at the battle of Armageddon). And the Semitic Jews are right where God said they would be in this, the last days. And so we see all the nations still represented here at the end as well. God’s purpose is still being

fulfilled in them. But as to their strength, they’ve all come forth as a flower: to bud, and to blossom, and to bloom; each to fall to the earth just to be replaced by another. And they’ll not recycle again: the strength of the nations is spent!

These cocoa leave chewing natives of Columbia and Peru are what’s left, after the collapse of a civilization! These head hunter cannibals of Central America is what’s left! There are no primitive tribes! There is only degenerate man.

The Table of the Nations! There is not another document like it anywhere in any library of man! Given before it ever even happened. Listen, we don’t have to approve any of the atrocities of history. But we can’t change it. Yet we better well believe it. It’ll be true whether we believe it or not.

I did a study on “slavery” in conjunction with this: bear in mind that there has almost always been slavery; but throughout most of man’s history men have enslaved people who looked much like themselves when one nation conquered a neighboring nation and enslaved them. Modern “gangland” slavery, “plantation” slavery, what’s known as “racial” slavery, is of a rather more recent origin. In the 1400’s as the Portuguese prince known as Prince Henry the Navigator sent his expeditions exploring the coast of Africa, he received an exclusive franchise: a Papal concession, a Bull of authority from the Pope of Rome, granting the Portuguese all the gold and ivory and slave trade of Africa. On January 8, 1455 Pope Nicholas V granted to King Alfonso V of Portugal the exclusive right to all such trade. As quoted from Wikipedia: “In 1452, Pope Nicholas V issued

♦ (Continued on page 23)

Three Sons of Noah

(Continued from page 22) ♦

the [papal bull Dum Diversas](#), granting Afonso V the right to reduce “Saracens, pagans and any other unbelievers” to hereditary slavery. This approval of slavery was reaffirmed and extended in the [Romanus Pontifex](#) bull of 1455 (also by Nicholas V). These papal bulls came to serve as a justification for the subsequent era of slave trade and European colonialism.” Even secular history lays the blame at the feet of Rome. But it wasn’t long before they found that there was not very much gold and there wasn’t that much ivory either. Ah, but there were slaves a plenty. Before long the Spanish King demanded such an exclusive right as well. And it wasn’t very much longer till other Popes began dividing up the New World between Spain and Portugal to which they might import those slaves to build their plantations: Pope Alexander VI, 1493; Pope Paul III, 1545. This is why Brazil speaks Portuguese and all the rest of South America speaks Spanish. It’s there for all the world to see.

It was almost a hundred years later (a full century later!) that the Dutch and the English, not being able to withstand the temptation of such wealth, entered into the slave trade as well. But originally these were the wares of Mystery Babylon. Having so long enslaved souls, it was not such a great leap for them to enslave the bodies of men as well. If you want to see it all foretold in the Word of God, just look over in Revelation 18:13. Many of us know full well who Revelation 17 & 18 is talking about. Many of us were saved out of this system and can claim Revelation 18:4 for ourselves. Many have been her wares

throughout her incarnations, but the end of her wares are **“slaves, and the souls of men.”**

They think to trade in “souls” in their hellish doctrine of purgatory wherein they think that they can sell masses for the souls in purgatory. There has possibly never been a more satanically inspired doctrine than this, but Roman Catholicism was also the first to translate Genesis 9:25, “lowest of slaves” in justification of her enslavement of others. The Catholic Bible and the NIV show their true colors in being in agreement, in that both of them give this same utterly false rendition; and thus seek to conceal the glorious truth of which this paper is written, the truth of the fulfillment of these verses.

History has been a history of man’s inhumanity to man, because of sin, because of the fall of man in the Garden of Eden. But there is a beautiful side to this as well; and that is the side that we want to consider now.

Look again at Genesis chapter 9 verse 26. It says: **“Blessed be the LORD God of Shem;...”** who was the forefather of Abraham. And verse 27, **“God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem;...”** Those of you who are true students of prophecy know this to be Messianic in nature: Shem would be especially blessed by being the natural ancestor of the Messiah, and Japheth would **“dwell in the tents of Shem.”** And by and large Christianity has found its way in Western Civilization amongst the Japhethites. But you and I both know full well that there’s not a Hamite or a Semite who knows Christ that doesn’t rejoice over this as well, and counts it a blessing just to know Him.

I want you to see today, that though God singled out

Abraham of the family of Shem, and promised to him a seed, a most peculiar seed (singular), the Christ-line (through which would come the Christ); that seed was carried through Abraham. And yet, I want you to see that God never forgot any of the families of man.

Let us go ahead to the New Testament now to see the fulfillment thereof Mark 15:21. And we will wrap this up with the blessing. (This is recorded in Luke 23:26 as well). In Mark 15:21, it is recorded that the Jews cried **“crucify Him... crucify Him.”** The Jews (the Semites) cried that. Then in verses 12-15, **“And Pilate answered and said again unto them, What will ye then that I shall do unto him whom ye call the King of the Jews? And they cried out again, Crucify him. Then Pilate said unto them, Why, what evil hath he done? And they cried out the more exceedingly, Crucify him. And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified.”** Pilate was a gentile, a Roman governor, of the seed of Japheth!

Then verses 16-21, **“And the soldiers led him away into the hall, called Praetorium; and they call together the whole band. And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head, And began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews! And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him. And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple from him, and put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him. And they compel one Simon a**

Cyrenian (that is in Africa, this is a Hamite!), **who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, (him they did compel) to bear His cross.”**

Every jot and every tittle, every word in the Word of God is there for a purpose. And so we see all three of the descendents of Noah there at the crucifixion. Today, the Catholics blame the Jews, and the Jews blame the Catholics as the descendents of Rome. But Listen! If you don’t take the blame, own the part, that He died for you, for your sins! Then are ye yet in your sins.

We are getting ahead of ourselves here: but you might notice a center reference on “Rufus” in verse 21. Why are Alexander and Rufus even mentioned? The children of this “Simon the Cyrenian?” As I say, I do not believe that there is anything in the Word of God that is not there on purpose. Many believe this is the same “Rufus” that is mentioned in Romans 16:13, “...Rufus chosen in the Lord...” I do not know that for certain. But why does God tell us this here otherwise? Rome was a multicultural civilization as well. And those Roman roads were as much an innovation and encouragement to travel in that day as the automobile has been in ours. And all roads lead to Rome.

But here, the inerrant and inspired account does tell us that all three of the families of man were involved in the crucifixion and all three had a hand at Calvary. All three were guilty of the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Not a one abstained.

Brother Stang’s article will be concluded in the January 2023 issue of the Berea Baptist Banner.

Baptist History

(Continued from page 19) ♡

heard of, schemes of church governments, and thus distracting Christendom.

If the world is ever favored with a faithful history of Christian Churches, it will receive it from Baptists, and that history will rest upon a new basis, and will look after communities of Christians from the third to the sixteenth, and down to the nineteenth centuries, far different from Catholics of the former period or the Protestants of the latter.

During the last thirty years, several efforts have been made in the right direction. Robert Robinson, in his *History of Baptism* and *Ecclesiastical Researches*, aided in indicating the direction such a work should take. Wm. Jones, with the light thrown upon his path by Paul Perrin, and Robinson, did still more, and left us, not a complete but a valuable church history.

But the most valuable chronological history of the Churches of Christ, now extant, and excepting Jones's, the only one passing over eighteen centuries, that deserves the name of Church History, now before the Christian world, is the one we now present to the American public for the first time, in a reprint. A full, philosophic history, it claims not to be, but it does claim to prove, by the most unquestionable authorities, the existence of large communities of Baptists, in the various countries of Europe, and a succession of them from the earliest ages down to the present time; and we think the author has been successful. It has been before the public in England for several years, and if its authority has been questioned we have the fact to learn.

It is a history especially needed by Baptists, to assist them in replying to the taunting interrogations of Paedobaptists, "Where were you before the days of Roger Williams, or before the days of Muncer?"

Brother Graves article will be continued in the January 2023 issue of the Berea Baptist Banner.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grace Baptist Church of Gladwin Michigan is seeking to start a mission work in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. We are also seeking a sound preacher to go there. If you are interested and feel led of the Lord please contact Pastor Sam Wilson at 989-701-5564. You may also contact Brother Tom Coffee, who is currently working in the area at 843-254-3018.

This ministry currently has a blog written by Bro Coffee that can be read online at <https://thefaithfulofgod.com/blog/>

The Maranatha Missionary Baptist Church located at 14460 Ravenna Avenue, Alliance, OH, 44601, is seeking a pastor. The church was organized in 1981 and currently has seven members that are grounded in sound Baptist doctrine. Any interested elder can contact Brother Denny Morgan at dennymatco@gmail.com or call (330) 324-3038.

The Grace Landmark Baptist Church of Buckhannon, WV, is seeking a pastor. The church is Sovereign Grace and Landmark in doctrine and practice. Any interested called pastor of like faith may contact Brother Brad Butcher at (304) 669-4738 or (304) 745-6226.

The Sovereign Grace Baptist Church of Caldwell, KS is in need of a pastor. For more information please contact the church in writing at SGBC, 400 N. Main St., Caldwell, KS 67022, or by phone Brother Darin Wiley 620-863-2431.

The Victory Baptist Church of Chehalis, Washington is in need of a pastor. Any interested brother may call Gerry Greisen at (360) 985-7975, or Mark Fenison at (360) 751-2929.

The Lord's Baptist Church in Tacoma, Washington is in need of a pastor. For more information please contact Gaylen Russell at 360-879-5565 (home) or 253-495-4567 (cell) or by Email: gaylenr@rainierconnect.com.

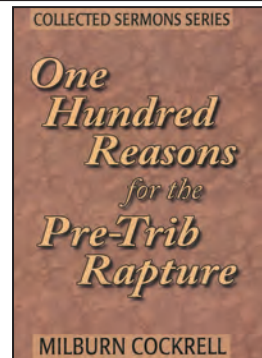
Bethel Baptist Church, which is located at 2603 Penfield, Pasadena TX 77506, is in need of a pastor. Any interested Elders should call Brother Risinger at 832-564-6350 which is his cell phone or you can call him at home at 281-476-5099.

Grace Missionary Baptist Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma is in need of a pastor. This calling has a parsonage

located right next to the church building. Interested persons are to contact Brothers Charlie Hodges at 918-633-2713 or David Thorne at 918-373-6057.

Bethel Bapist Church of Lawton OK is looking for a pastor. They have been an independent, sovereign grace Baptist Church since the late 1950's and they are seeking to call a man of God to guide, lead, teach and rebuild their modest congregation. If you are interested please contact Bennie Burnsed at 580-695-4473.

NOW AVAILABLE



We are pleased to announce that *One Hundred Reasons for the Pre-Trib Rapture* by Milburn Cockrell is now back in print! This book will be sent free to any prisoner that requests it. Retail price \$4.95. Paperback, 56 pages.

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