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Some Baptist Answers about Baptismal Regeneration

By Troy Sheppard

Inverness, Florida

Roman Catholics, Campbellites, Oneness Pentecostals and many other religious groups say that the Bible teaches that a person must be baptized in order to obtain or receive the remission of sins. They say that the act of baptism regenerates, or that one is regenerated in or through the act of baptism. They say that Baptist don't believe the Bible because we teach that Salvation is ONLY in and through the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Who is right? What does the Bible really say?

As Baptists we should always be ready to give an answer to every man that asks us of a reason of the hope that we have in us (1 Peter 3:15). With this in mind, the following are some Biblical, Baptist responses to some statements made by a baptismal

regenerationist.

The baptismal regenerationist says, "The Bible says that baptism saves (1 Peter 3:21). They say that baptism does not save."

The Baptist answer: We do not say that baptism does not save. We say baptism saves! The Bible teaches that baptism saves, but that is not all it teaches. The Bible also teaches, HOW baptism saves. The Bible says that baptism saves in FIGURE (1 Peter 3:21). The Bible says that baptism DOES NOT put away the



Troy Sheppard

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Arguments in Favor of Apostasy Refuted

By John Hall

1849 - 1905

ARGUMENT I. *Angels are holy, but they fell, and are finally lost.*

REPLY

1. Angels stood by law, not by grace. Every one who stands by law is liable to fall.

2. Christ never died for angels, and does not bear their sins; hence they are lost for the lack of a Savior.

3. Fallen angels never were regenerate children of God. Had they been such they would have been partakers of the divine nature, that cannot sin.

ARGUMENT II. *Adam was holy and he fell.*

REPLY

1. Adam, like angels, stood by law, and for the same reason could fall.

2. Adam was not a regenerate child of God prior to the fall.

3. His relation to God stood on



John Hall

works, not on grace.

4. There is no proof that he was finally lost.

A R G U - MENT III. *It is said that King Saul fell.*

Note 1. God selected Saul as King (I Sam. 9:16-17).

2. Saul was to have the Spirit on him and prophesy (I Sam. 10:6).

3. He did prophesy (I Sam. 10:10-12).

REPLY

1. There is no evidence that Saul

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KOREA

The Forgotten War I Can't Forget

By Clyde Hancock

Wayne, West Virginia

November 11, 1999

It has now been over forty-nine years since as a seventeen year old boy I landed at a place called Inchon with the 92nd AFA BN SP. Soon it will be forty-eight years since I departed the unit from somewhere in Korea, and I have yet to forget.

It is true that now at age sixty-seven my sight is much dimmer than then, my recall is not what it was, my walk is not as swift, and there are some things that I have forgotten—like the actual day of my birthday on September 26, 1950, a few days after landing in Korea. And then, when I turned nineteen in 1951, I have forgotten just where in Korea I was. But there are some things burned into my memory about the Korean War that I will never forget, even though there are some I wish I could.

I shall never forget when the reality of being in a war really hit me. The

landing on the beach, the planes making bomb runs and the battle ships firing the big guns didn't do it. It came a few days after we were in Korea and

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Prayer for Revival

By Milburn Cockrell

Mantachie, Mississippi

"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?" (Ps. 85:6).

In the first three verses of Psalm 85 the psalmist looks back to the previ-

ous revival (85:1-3). He remembers a time when God had delivered them from their enemies, put away their sins, and restrained the fierceness of His anger toward His people. Now things have gotten bad morally and spiritually once again. Hence the psalmist prays for a revival to come.

THE DISTASTE FOR REVIVAL

To some of us the word "revival" has come to have a distaste when used with reference to religious work. There has been so much exaggeration and fanatical excitement associated with this work. Churches are often filled with the unsaved during what is termed "an old-time revival." Revival to many means no more than getting new church members by nook or crook. An evangelist is hired and revival is made a business. When such "got-up" revivals are over the evangelist takes the revival home in his

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The Wife's Place in the Home

By Milburn Cockrell

Mantachie, Mississippi

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the LORD" (Prov. 18:22).

King Solomon had much experience with wives, seeing he had 700 wives and 300 concubines (I Kings 11:3). More than any man on earth, he knew the dif-



ference between a good and bad wife (Prov. 12:4). Solomon does not here dwell upon the satisfaction of the harem, but on the blessedness of one good wife. We never find him praising the practice of polygamy which was so great a curse to his own

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"THOU HAST GIVEN A BANNER TO THEM THAT FEAR THEE, THAT IT MAY BE DISPLAYED BECAUSE OF THE TRUTH" (PSALMS 60:4).



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The Wife's Place

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life. In this Proverb he indirectly condemns himself and warns others by his own example.

HELPER OF HER HUSBAND

Eve was created by God to be Adam's helper: "And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man be alone; I will make him an help meet for him" (Gen. 2:18). Eve was to be a second self, one in whom Adam could see himself. The woman was made for the man (I Cor. 11:9) to be his queen, not his slave girl. Eve was to fulfill the intellectual, emotional, physical, and social needs of Adam. "Help meet" means "assistant, coworker, one who supports another." A wife is to be an attentive audience, the source of praise, the tender critic, etc. She is to be her husband's helper, not his equal partner or boss.

The modern feminist movement has its roots in the writings of Karl Marx and Frederick Engels. This radical movement has arrayed husband and wife against each other. These women of the far left dispute the right of a woman to choose motherhood and homemaking as a primary voca-

tion. They would deny the right of a woman to be a woman; they say that women should be men. Radical feminists feel women should not be enslaved by marriage and made a mere instrument for the production of children. They would destroy the father-headed family, and they would put women into the public work force. They tell us children should be raised by the state or a village. All religion must be destroyed because it supports the home. Under the guise of conventions for the rights of women, the United Nation is now actively promoting a radical feminist ideology.

God never intended that husband and wife be in competition with each other. They were designed by God to help each other. Competition is not a Christian virtue commanded in the Scriptures. These radical feminists care nothing for feminine virtues, and most of the leaders of this movement have none.

Seeing the wife is to help her husband, this prohibits her from being a hinderer to him. This does not mean she cannot express her feelings to her husband, or even give gentle admonitions. Few wives take delight in making their husbands unhappy, but some are professional naggers. This is condemned in Scripture. "It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house" (Prov. 21:9). "It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman" (Prov. 21:19). "A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike" (Prov. 27:15). A solitary life would be better than a quarrelsome married life. A contentious wife who ought to be "a crown to her husband" can become "rotteness to his bones" (Prov. 12:4).

Osborne well said: "I pity from my heart the unhappy man who has a bad wife. She is shackles to his feet, a palsy to his hands, a burden on his shoulder, smoke to his eyes, vinegar to his teeth, a thorn to his side, a dagger to his heart."

In the Bible we read of some good and bad wives. Some men had bad wives like Delilah, Jezebel, Eve, and Job's wife. Some other men had good wives such as Sarah, Ruth, Esther, and Mary. It is sometimes said that Deborah was a career woman, for she served as a public judge (Jud. 4:4-5). But we must remember the Bible speaks of her as "the wife of Lapidoth" (Jud. 4:4) and as a "mother in Israel" (Jud. 5:7).

Jeremy Taylor (1613-1667) said: "A good wife is Heaven's best gift to a man; his angel of mercy; minister of graces innumerable; his gem of many virtues; his casket of jewels; her voice,

his sweetest music; her smile, his brightest day; her kiss, the guardian of his innocence; her arms, the pale of his safety, the balm of his health, the balsam of his life; her industry, his surest wealth; her economy, his safest steward; her lips, his faithful counselors; her bosom, the softest pillow of his cares; and her prayers, the ablest advocates of Heaven's blessings on his head" (*New Cyclopaedia of Prose Illustrations* by Foster, p. 759).

HER MORAL CHARACTER

Moral character is very important to both a husband and a wife. The Bible puts much stress upon a wife's moral character. According to holy Scriptures, this is her true beauty: "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting of the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, 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" (I Pet. 3:3-4).

The inward beauty of the heart is more important than her outward adornment. Peter condemns extravagant decorations as a means of attracting attention. While he does not forbid all adornment, he stresses the inner ornament of a meek and quiet spirit being more God-honoring. The dress of a Christian woman should speak of nothing inconsistent with her heavenly and separating character. Beauty of character, unlike outward beauty, is "not corruptible."

The Hollywood fashion models of this world are not to be the pattern for Christian wives. A woman who is a Christian must not dress to catch the eyes of lustful men. She must never put on the "attire of an harlot" (Prov. 7:10). I Timothy 2:9-10 declares: "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel (not modern apparel), with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array, But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works."

The word "apparel" (*katastole*) refers to appearance, manner, and dress. The verb "to adorn" (*kosmeo*) and the adjective "modest" (*kosmios*) come from a root "to arrange" or "to order." Thus Christian women are to arrange themselves in well-arranged dress. The two accessories must go along with this good taste in outward appearance. "Shamefacedness" (*aidos*) means a moral revulsion from all that is unseemly. "Sobriety" (*sophrosue*) means "sound judgment, self-restraint."

The godly mother is a trustworthy person: "The heart of her husband

doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She shall do him good and not evil all the days of her life." A faithful wife is worth more than gold or silver to her husband and children. As the sun when it arises in the high heaven, so is the beautiful character of a good wife in order to her house.

A HOMEMAKER

Marriage for a woman means a career in homemaking. The word "wife" literally means "a weaver." Before our cotton and cloth factories arose, one of the principal employments in every house was the fabrication of clothing. This was often the work of the mother of the household (Prov. 31:13, 19, 22, 24). The word "wife" is wrapped up hint of earnest, indoor, stay-at-home occupations, as being fitted for her who bears the name (See Trench).

The older women are to teach the younger women to be "keepers at home" (Tit. 2:5), or it could be rendered "working at home." Solomon said of the ideal mother: "She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness" (Prov. 31:27). A young married woman's sphere is the home. In I Timothy 5:14 Paul tells us she should "guide the house," or be the house-ruler (not the husband-ruler).

Modern-day society has removed the wife from the home. As Karl Marx predicted, the wife has now deserted the home to join the public work force. Presently, the work of a mother is the most neglected work in the world, and it is one of the major factors for the prevalence of juvenile delinquency.

There is an old saying: "A man's work is from sun to sun, but a woman's work is never done." The wife has the greatest work in all the world: training boys and girls to be God-fearing and hard-working men and women. This is no easy job, and it requires great intelligence. A young mother with children has no time to be a busybody (I Tim. 5:11-13).


Radical feminism, materialism, and Communism have influenced our homes. Many women with young children are not satisfied with being a homemaker. They don't want to be tied down to the house and kids. Some women are so busy trying to be men they have no time to be women! Question: if women do the men's work, who will do their work? Men will not do it, and so it will go undone!

DUTY TO HER HUSBAND

First, the wife must respect her husband: ". . . and not in the wife see that she reverence her husband" (Eph. 5:33). This implies that the hus-

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Cockrell's



Corner

(The views expressed in this column are strictly those of the editor of this paper. They do not necessarily represent the views of supporters or readers.)

WHY NOT LET KIDS BE KIDS?

Observation is a great teacher. As I get older, I notice a drastic change in our culture. Today's kids are not permitted to be kids any more! They are too involved with many things that satisfy adults more than kids!



When I was a young lad I lived on a cotton farm near Mantachie, Mississippi, with my parents, grandparents (on my father's side) and my sister, Martha Ellen. I had chores to do, but I had time to be a kid. We had to work very hard at times, but I did not think my parents were violating some kind of child labor laws.

I went fishing, hunting, and camping. I would swing on grape vines, and I brought the tops out of pine trees. I rolled old tires and made sling shots and bows and arrows. I played pine burr and corn cob war. I played Hopscotch, Red Rover, Drop the Handkerchief, Cops and Robbers, Cowboys and Indians, Who sir-Me sir, etc. I called up doodle bugs with a broom straw and caught chicken chokers with

the same. I pitched washers (or silver dollars) and horse shoes (the real kind). I made cob pipes and corn stalk fiddles.



I would often play so hard I would be tired from playing. I had lots of fun, and I would laugh until my stomach hurt. I would run so hard I would be short of breath. I jumped on the bed and had pillow fights. I will never forget trying to eat green persimmons and green apples covered in baking soda. I caught lightening bugs and put them in a jar. I chased toad frogs, crickets, and grasshoppers. I made truck wagons with wooden wheels, and I slid down a pine straw hillside on a barrel stave which had been slicked on the bark of a pine tree. I made tents out of pine straw, and I constructed tree houses.

Kids cannot always remain kids. They must grow up sometime. But when kids are kids they should be given time to be kids. Adults are just big kids.

THE MIDEAST MUDDLE

Some readers have written and others have called, wanting to know what I think about the problems in the Mideast. I will briefly state my views of the situation. To put it simple, I think a war could soon start that could spread to the whole Muslim world and other nations. This would cause oil prices to skyrocket.

The OSLO Peace Accords are dead in the water. Israeli Priminister Ehud Barak, under pressure from the Clinton Administration, made a generous offer to Yasser Arafat, hoping to satisfy the Muslim demands concerning Jerusalem and the Temple Mount. The offer was so generous that Barak popularity fell to 30 percent in the polls after he did this. Barak's offer would have given the Palestinians administrative and joint authority over all East Jerusalem and sovereign control over the Mosques atop the

Temple Mount. It would also have given them a sovereignty over more than ninety percent of the West bank and Gaza under a sovereign Palestinian State with East Jerusalem as its capital. Arafat rejected this offer, demanding the whole city of Jerusalem.

The Palestinians resorted to violence as soon as they did not get all of Jerusalem. Instead of calling for an end to the violence, Arafat's organization has offered families of young children who are killed attacking Israeli police \$2,000 reward.

Israel is being pressured by the Clinton Administration to give up land vital to their defense and survival. All of this must be done for a promise of peace from a people who launched three wars to annihilate Israel—1948, 1965, 1967. The Palestinian goal is now what it has always been—the complete annihilation of the nation of Israel. Their religion teaches them to slay the infidel, and they consider Israel, the U.S., etc. to be infidels.

Now there has been a terrorist attack on the U.S. guided-missile destroyer Cole, whose hull was pierced by an explosion as it was preparing to refuel at the Yemeni port of Aden on the Arabia Peninsula. Few doubt but what this is connected to the problems in the Mideast.

The situation is now so hot that I doubt if Arafat or Barak can control their people. Age-old hatred and animosity are running very high. If the Palestinian declare independence in November, war is certain. Israel can easily defeat Arafat and his crowd, but do not be surprised if the whole Mulsim world comes to the aid of the Palestinians. Then we know the U. S. and others would have to come to the aid of Israel.

Students of prophecy realize this could lead to the fulfillment of Ezekiel 38. This age is rapidly coming to a close. Jesus is coming soon!

Our president loves power and office. Let us hope his legacy will not be an all-out war with the Moslem nations so as to retain his position and power.

The Wife's Place

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band should be worthy of respect. The Apostle Paul tells a Christian wife to esteem and admire her husband. This can be done without demeaning her own personality. This is a part of her lady-like grace. Sarah, the wife of Abraham, is an example of this: **“Even as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amaze-**

ment” (I Pet. 3:6).

Second, she must be in subjection and submission to her husband: **“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord”** (Eph. 5:22; cf. Col. 3:18). Even though the wife surpasses her husband in character, education, and spirituality, she must submit to her head in God's appointed order (I Cor. 11:3). The words

“as to the Lord” means that her obedience to her husband is to be regarded as part of her obedience to Christ. The motive for obedience to her husband grows out of her respect for Christ and His Word. This submission is deeper than what might be the product of human affection or mere etiquette.

Ephesians 5:24 says: **“Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing”** (cf. Titus 2:5). Submission to the authority of her husband proves spirituality in the life of a Christian wife. Nor does this submission show the wife is inferior to her husband. Christ's submission to the Father's will as expressed in His obedience did not suggest inferiority, but it was a perfect expression of His spirituality.

The words **“in every thing”** does not mean the authority of the husband is unlimited as some teach. It does teach that a wife's subjection to her husband is not limited to one department of the social life, for it extends to all departments, including the church (I Cor. 14:34-35). **“Every thing”** means every relationship which does not conflict with her supreme loyalty to God (Acts 5:29).

I will now give some reasons why the wife should obey her husband. Adam was first formed, and then Eve (I Tim. 2:13). In point of time man had the superiority. We read in I Corinthians 11:8-9 **“For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.”**

The woman was first in the transgression (I Tim. 2:14), and she was the means of drawing her husband into sin. This is why her desire shall be to her husband (Gen. 3:16).

Third, the wife is obligated to try to please her husband: **“There is a difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband”** (I Cor. 7:34). She is to assist and help her husband in family affairs, agreeable to the original end

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The Wife's Place

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of her creation. Sarah pleased Abraham, calling him lord. Rebecca pleased Isaac by providing him the meat that he loved. A Christian wife must take great care that in pleasing her husband she does not displease God.

Fourth, the wife must not refuse her husband the use of her body: **"Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power over her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency"** (I Cor. 7:3-5). Failure on the part of either of the two to heed the injunction in these verses has often resulted in adultery and divorce. Every happily married husband and wife have a balanced sex life.

Let me point out I Corinthians 7:3-5 discloses that sex between husband and wife is intended for pleasure. It is not merely for baby production as some contend. Since it is intended for pleasure not all forms of birth control are wrong.

Fifth, the wife must continue with her husband in every state and circumstance of life. She is to accompany him wherever God in His providence may call him. She should do as Ruth proposed to do to Naomi: **"Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge"** (Ruth 1:16).

DUTY TO HER CHILDREN

First, a Christian wife is to delight in bearing children: **"I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children. . ."** (I Tim. 5:14). When it is physically possible husband and wife should have children. This is essential to the continuance of the human race and the well-being of society. The wife must bring children forth by giving birth to them, and then to bring them up in a God-honoring way.

Psalms 113:9 declares of God: **"He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children"** (Ps. 113:9). Hannah, Sarah, Rebecca, and Rachel are examples of this. A family is favored by God when a child is born. Both parents should be made happy by the event. Jesus said: **"A woman when**

she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world" (John 16:21).

Some husbands take these verses about child bearing to the extreme. They think the wife should always be bare-footed and pregnant—some sort of brood sow! This is wrong. The Bible prohibits a family from having more children than they can properly care for: **"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). In today's world it costs about \$85,000 to raise up a child. Some thought must be given to the consideration of the wife's health. A woman in good physical health can have twenty or more babies in a lifetime. Contrary to the thinking of some, the Bible gives some birth control laws (Lev. 12:1-8; 18:19; 20:18).

We live in a very sick society. We have social parasites who are determined to have as many babies as possible so as to increase the amount of their welfare checks. The Bible nowhere says it is the responsibility of the state to take care of babies born in or out of wedlock. It is the responsibility of the mother and father to take care of their offspring. Some person will ask, "What should the state do with these social bums who have more babies so they can increase their government checks?" The answer is simple: castrate the men and sterilize the women.

Second, a mother is to love her children: **"Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee"** (Isa. 49:15). A godly mother can never forget her offspring. While a mother's love does not surpass the love of God for His people, her love is a very deep and lasting love. None is so pure and devoted. The wild storm of adversity and the bright sunshine of prosperity are all alike to a mother's love for her children.

Third, she must be an example to her children, for **"As is the mother, so is her daughter"** (Ezek. 16:44; cf. II Chron. 22:1-3). Sons, as well as daughters, often reflect their mother. The mother of George Washington was pious, pure, and true. The mother of Patrick Henry was marked by her superior conversational powers. The mother of John Wesley was so pious she had been called "the mother of Methodism." Byron's mother was proud, ill-tempered, and violent. The mother of Nero was a murderess. In each of these examples, the son in-

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herited the prominent traits of the mother. I sometimes wonder if Hitler's mother had been a good woman, would there have ever been a Hitler.

Samuel Budgett was about nine years of age, when, one day passing his mother's door, he heard her engaged in earnest prayer for her family, and for himself by name. He thought, "My mother is more earnest that I should be saved than I am for my own salvation." In that hour he repented of his sins and trusted Christ for salvation. Mothers should desire to see their children saved.

Once a mother who had laughed and scorned salvation by Christ was lying restless and miserable on her bed of death. She desired that her children should be called. They came. "My children, I have been leading you down the wrong road all your lives. I now find the broad road ends in destruction. Oh, seek to serve God and to try to find the gate of Heaven, though you may never meet your mother there." Her lips were closed forever, and her spirit departed to its destination, while the household looked on with terror.

CONCLUSION

1. An ideal wife does not just exist in the realm of imagination. Every married woman should desire to be such. It is a woman's greatest duty and highest privilege to be a Christian mother. Then she is a crown to her husband, an honor to her children, a blessing to society, and a credit to the cause of Christ.

2. Just how does God see you as a mother? Are you a good wife? Do you know the Lord? Have you ever trusted in Jesus Christ to be your Savior?

Arguments in Favor

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was ever a regenerate man.

2. He was given as a king because he was wicked.

"I gave thee a king in mine anger, and took him away in my wrath" (Hosea 13:11). See I Sam.

12:19-20.

3. At first Saul declined the kingship (I Sam. 9:21, 10:21).

4. He was turned into **"another man,"** not a new man (10:6).

5. God gave him **"another heart,"** not a new heart (I Sam. 10:9).

6. Those who knew him were astonished that he was a prophet (I Sam. 10:12).

7. Prophecy does not always indicate conversion. Balaam's ass (Num. 22:28-30; II Pet. 2:16). Caiaphas prophesied (John 11:50-51).

ARGUMENT IV. *It is said that King David fell.*

Note 1. He committed murder (II Sam. 12:9).

2. **"No murderer hath eternal life"** (I John 3:15).

3. He prayed, **"Restore me"** (Ps. 51:12).

REPLY

1. David was a regenerate man.

2. He sinned egregiously, and inexcusably.

3. But he confessed his sins and was forgiven (II Sam. 12:13).

4. His punishment was the death of his child (v. 14).

5. He prayed: **"Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation,"** not the salvation itself. He had that, but his sins had brought him great distress (Ps. 50:12).

6. He was the sweet singer of Israel, and a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22).

ARGUMENT V. *In Ezekiel we are told that if a righteous man turneth from his righteousness, and commit iniquity he shall die* (Ezek. 18:24-26; 33:18).

REPLY

1. Ezekiel is speaking of capital punishment, *natural death* (Ezek. 33:1-10).

2. The righteousness here mentioned is a legal one (Ezek. 18:1-9).

3. The man turns from *his own righteousness* (Ezek. 33:13).

4. He is not speaking of regenerate persons.

5. None can be saved by the deeds of the law (Rom. 3:20; Col. 3:9).

6. By the law, the committing of *one sin* brings death. **"Who then can be**

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saved?"

ARGUMENT VI. *The unclean spirit goes out of a man, and then returns, and his last state is worse than the first* (Matt. 12:43).

1. This unclean spirit *goes out*, not cast out.

2. He returns to **"my house."** He counts it *his own house*.

3. He goes in and out at his own pleasure.

4. If he finds **"seven"** others **"more wicked than himself"** then he was not Satan. On returning he finds *his house "empty, swept and garnished."* Then the good spirit was not there, and had not been there. This house belonged to the **"unclean spirit"** all the time.

5. This person was never a regenerate man because he had never had the "indwelling of the Holy Spirit." The language had its application to that generation.

ARGUMENT VII. *It is claimed that Judas Iscariot fell.*

1. That Judas was one of the apostles (Mark 3:19; Luke 6:16).

2. He had part of that ministry (Acts 1:17).

3. He had power to cast out devils (Matt. 10:1).

4. To preach the gospel and perform miracles (Matt. 10:7-8).

REPLY

1. Judas was an unbeliever from the beginning (John 6:64).

2. Jesus said he **"was a devil"** (John 6:70).

3. David said he was **"a wicked man"** (Ps. 109:6-8).

4. Jesus called him the **"son of perdition,"** not a son of God (John 17:12).

5. Peter said **"he went to his own place"** (Acts 1:25).

6. Jesus said he was lost *that Scripture might be fulfilled* (John 17:12). *He never was a regenerate man.*

ARGUMENT VIII. *The broken off branches.*

1. **"Every branch in me"** (John 15:2).

2. **"That beareth not fruit he purgeth it"** (John 15:2).

3. **"Men gather them, . . . and they are burned"** (John 15:6).

REPLY

1. There are two kinds of Christians, *real* and *nominal*.

2. The nominal have the *semblance* of being in the vine.

3. The vineyard metaphor has the idea of "water sprouts."

4. **"Every one that beareth fruit he purgeth."** The fruit is love.

5. None can be Christians without love.

6. If he has that he will be **"purged"** and bring forth *more fruit*.

ARGUMENT IX. *Israelites lost in the wilderness.* I Cor. 10:5-6.

1. They all ate and drank of Christ (I Cor. 10:4).

2. They were all baptized (I Cor. 10:1-2).

3. They were all counted as Israel.

REPLY

1. They ate and drank of Christ only in a figure (I Cor. 10:4).

2. They did not all believe the gospel (Heb. 4:2).

3. God said they **"had not known his ways"** (Heb. 3:10).

4. None but the wicked and idolatrous perished (I Cor. 10:7-11).

5. Paul says we shall not be tempted above that we are able to bear (I Cor. 10:13).

ARGUMENT X. *The Jews broken off and the Gentiles grafted in* (Rom. 11:20).

1. The **"olive tree"** is salvation.

2. To be broken off is to be lost.

REPLY

1. The olive tree is a figure meaning "God's favor."

2. The Jews lost this favor by unbelief (Rom. 11:20).

3. The Gentiles secure it by faith (Rom. 11:20).

4. God has not **"cast off his people"** (Rom. 11:2).

5. Their fall brought salvation to us (Rom. 11:11-15).

6. **"All Israel shall be saved"** (Rom. 11:26).

ARGUMENT XI. *Impossible to renew them to repentance* (Heb. 6:6).

1. These persons had been enlightened (Heb. 6:4).

2. Had been made partakers of the Holy Ghost (v. 3).

3. Had tasted of the good word of God (v. 5).

4. Had the powers of the world to come (v. 5).

5. And then fell away (v. 6).

6. It is impossible to renew them (vv. 4-6).

REPLY

1. To be "enlightened" is to be *informed* (Ps. 19:8; Eph. 1:8).

2. **"Partakers of the Holy Ghost"** is conviction (John 16:7-11).

3. To taste God's Word is to hear it. Job 34:2-4: **"Hear my words, O ye wise men; and give ear unto me. Ye that have knowledge; For the ear trieth words as the mouth tasteth meat. Let us choose to us judgment; let us know among ourselves what is good."**

4. The **"powers of the world to come,"** included both the convictions they had felt, and the miracles they had seen (Heb. 2:3-4).

5. **"If they fell away,"** is suppositional, like (I Cor. 15:12-20).

6. Paul is contrasting the more perfect priesthood of Christ with that of

the Jews, showing that if the *first* salvation was a failure, Christ must be crucified afresh to make a start towards another (See Heb. 5th chapter).

7. Paul was persuaded better things of them (Heb. 6:9).

8. This very chapter has God's oath to his people (vs. 13-14).

9. If Paul means to say that a saved man thus falls, then to renew him would be impossible, *and all who sin will be lost. . . .*

REPLY

1. These persons were not Christians, but great sinners.

2. To **"sin wilfully"** after we know the truth, is inexcusable, but sinners who are never saved, do that.

3. To trample Christ **"under foot,"** is to reject Him altogether.

4. The impenitent sinner counts the blood of the covenant wherewith he (Christ) was sanctified, an unholy thing. See Taylor, Matthew Henry, etc.

5. Doing **"despite to the Spirit of Grace"** is to resist the Spirit's acts, 7:51.

6. Those who 'despised Moses' law' rejected him as they reject Christ (Lev. 26:43. "The land also shall be left of them, and enjoy her Sabbaths, while she lieth desolate without them, and they shall accept of the punishment of their iniquity, because, even because they despised my judgments, and because their soul abhorred my judgments" (Luke 10:16). "He that heareth you, heareth me, and he that despiseth you, despiseth me, and he that despiseth me despiseth him that sent me."

7. The "fiery indignation" will "devour the adversaries," not the Lord's people.

8. If it is a Christian who thus sins he is lost eternally, for **"there remaineth no more sacrifice for sin"** v. 26.

ARGUMENT XII. *Make shipwreck of faith.*

1. Some have made **"shipwreck of faith"** (II Tim. 2).

2. Their word eats as a **"canker."**

REPLY

1. It is not said that their *personal* faith in Christ was **"shipwrecked."**

2. Shipwreck does not necessarily mean destruction. Paul was *shipwrecked thrice* (II Cor. 11:5).

3. Their error was on one doctrine, the resurrection. They did not deny it, but said it was past (II Tim. 2:18).

4. Paul delivered them over to Satan that they might learn not to blaspheme (v. 20). That is not damnation, but correction.

5. **"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure having the seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his"** (II Tim. 2:19).

ARGUMENT XIII. *Damnation of*

wanton widows.

1. Wanton against Christ to "ogle with the eyes"—Young's Concordance.

2. They have damnation.

REPLY

1. It is not criminal to "ogle with the eyes"—to court.

2. The diaglott renders "incurring condemnation," men will blame them.

3. The diaglott renders, "They have violated their first fidelity." They have not cast off faith.

4. All widows who want to marry, are not to be damned.

ARGUMENT XIV. *Paul keeps his body under, and while he preached to others, he feared that he might be a castaway.*

REPLY

1. Paul's trouble was with his body, not his spirit.

2. **"A castaway"** is not a criminal. Diaglott, "unapproved."

3. All Christians "keep under their bodies," so as not to be unapproved.

4. Paul had committed all to Christ (II Tim. 1:12).

ARGUMENT XV. *Saving a soul from death. "Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins"* (James 5:19-20).

1. This man is a **"brother."**

2. He **"errs from the truth."**

3. His conversion saves him **"from death."**

REPLY

1. To err from the truth does not necessarily mean damnation. **"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows"** (I Tim. 6:10). These were not lost. Again: **"O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: which some professing have erred concerning the faith"** (I Tim. 6:20). It is not a damning sin to oppose false science.

2. If a sinner is converted he is saved, not lost.

3. James is writing to the twelve scattered tribes, and calls them *"brother"* without reference to Christ (Jas. 1:1, 3:1, etc.).

ARGUMENT XVI. *The sin unto death* (I John 5:16). **"If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it."**

1. A sin that is not **"unto death."**

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2. A sin that is "unto death."
3. That must mean "eternal death."

REPLY

1. There are two sorts of death from sin—natural death, and damnation.
2. Prayer doesn't save from "damnation." It takes the blood of Christ to do that.

3. Prayer may save from *natural death*. "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him" (James 5:15).

"Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years" (Isa. 38:5).

4. The "sin unto death" brings fatal sickness.

5. John says: "We know that whatever is born of God, sinneth not" (v. 18).

6. So, then, he must be speaking of others than those that "are born of God."

7. Jesus said to His people, "they shall never die" (John 11:26).

ARGUMENT XVII. *Take his, part out of the book* (Rev. 22:18-19).

1. It is supposed that this man has a saved relation to God.

2. And by sin he loses it.

REPLY

1. Can any man add to or take from the word of God?

2. Whoever would do it would be a wicked man.

3. What part has such a man in "the book of life?" or in "the holy city?"

4. He simply forfeits his opportunity for salvation by his sin.

ARGUMENT XVIII. *Some shall depart from the faith. "Now the spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seered with a hot iron; forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God both created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth"* (I Tim. 4:1-3).

1. *Some depart from the faith.*
2. It is supposed they will be lost.

REPLY

1. This is a prophecy of the last days and refers to merely nominal professors (See II Tim. 3:1-9).

2. The "falling away" reveals "the man of sin" (II Thess. 2:3-4).

3. Evidently refers to Romanism.
4. Has no reference at all to apos-

tasy, but to a denominational apostasy from the true system of faith.

ARGUMENT XIX. *The sow returneth to her wallow* (II Pet. 2:20-22).

1. These had escaped the pollution's.

2. They knew "the way of righteousness."

3. They "turned from the holy commandments."

4. The latter end is worse than the beginning.

5. It is supposed they were last.

REPLY

1. People escape the "pollutions of the world," by simply going into the church, and living morally.

2. A "knowledge of Christ," may be clearly had by hearing the gospel preached.

3. To "turn from righteousness" is to turn from the church.

4. It is always "worse with them than at the beginning" because they will be counted hypocrites, and are harder to bring to repentance. Such people are rarely ever saved.

5. Like the "dog" and the "sow," they had never been changed in nature.

6. They were false teachers to begin with (See vs. 1-3).

7. Their true character is displayed in returning to the old habits, and in verses 12-18.

Evils of the doctrine of Apostasy

1. It is based on a system of salvation by works.

2. It gives the devil more power to destroy than God has to save.

3. It makes our salvation depend on the grace of Satan, instead of the grace of God.

4. It makes God condemn His own children.

5. It denies to the believer everlasting life.

6. It reflects on the merits of Christ's blood, and imperils the whole system of redemption, and the throne itself.

7. It nullifies the whole work of the Spirit.

8. It makes void the mediation of Christ.

9. It nullifies the divine promises.

10. It outrages God's oath to His people.

11. It makes regeneration a mockery.

12. It leaves the world without hope.

13. Declares (1) that God was not wise enough or (2) was not good enough, or (3) was not strong enough, to effectually save His people.

(*Memoirs of Elder J. N. Hall*, pp. 307-319).



Some Baptist Answers

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filth of the flesh (I Peter 3:21). The Bible does not say "baptism saves the soul from eternal hell" or "baptism gives eternal life" - ONLY JESUS can GIVE eternal life (John 10:25-30; 17:1-3). If baptism saved in the SENSE that the baptismal regenerationists says that it does then Jesus never saved anyone because he never baptized anyone (John 4:2).

The baptismal regenerationist says, "The Bible says that baptism washes away sins (Acts 22:16). They say that baptism does not wash away sins."

The Baptist answer: We do not say that baptism does not wash away sins. We say that it does, but only figuratively (I Peter 3:21). It does not actually wash away sins. The only thing that can actually wash away sin is the BLOOD of Jesus Christ (I John 1:7; Hebrews 9:11-15).

The baptismal regenerationist says, "The Bible says that one must be born of water and spirit (John 3:3-5). They say that water is not necessary."

The Baptist answer: The baptismal regenerationist never heard a Baptist say that the water and the spirit in John 3:3-5 was unnecessary. We believe what the Bible says! The water is necessary, but the water in this text is not baptism. The Bible DOES NOT say that one must be born of "BAPTISM and the spirit," it says "water and the spirit." Baptism is not a BIRTH, it is a burial in relation to a death and a resurrection in relation to a new life (Romans 6:4). Where is Baptism said to be a birth? Only in the depraved mind of a baptismal regenerationist!

The baptismal regenerationist says, "The Bible says that baptism causes the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). They say that baptism does not cause the remission of sins."

The Baptist answer: The Bible DOES NOT say baptism causes the remission of sins. What it does say is, "...be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ FOR the remission of sins...". "FOR" DOES NOT mean, "in order to obtain" but in this text it means "in relation to". The Bible commands the repenting one to "be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ in relation to the remission of sins". Baptism is, "for remission" much like the offering made by the man healed of Leprosy in Luke 5:12-14 was "for" his cleansing. Notice how he was cleansed, "...behold a man full of leprosy: who seeing Jesus fell on his face, and besought him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And he put forth his hand, and touched him, say-

ing, I will: be thou clean. And immediately the leprosy departed from him. And he charged him to tell no man: but go, and shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing, according as Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them." How was the leprosy man cleansed, by a ceremony? No! Jesus cleaned the man up and cured him of his leprosy. The only thing that the ceremony did was TESTIFY to the fact of a work of cleaning already done. Baptism is a TESTIMONY of a work that Jesus has already done. Jesus ALONE is the CAUSE of the remission of sins!

The baptismal regenerationist says, "The Bible says that baptism makes us sons of God (Gal. 3:26-27). They say that baptism does not make us sons."

The Baptist answer: The Bible does not say, "baptism makes you sons of God". What the Bible says is, "...ye are all the children of God BY FAITH" (Gal. 3:26). Faith, which is the gift of God (Eph. 2:8-9) is the channel by which we can KNOW and SAY that we are the children of God. NO WHERE IS BAPTISM SAID TO "MAKE" ANYONE A CHILD OF GOD. Please, give one verse that says baptism causes you to be, or makes you a son or child of God. There is no such verse! There however are many verses that teach that faith is the channel of sonship and righteousness (Rom. 4:1-5, 9-12, 20-25; 5:1-2).

The baptismal regenerationist says, "The Bible says that baptism makes one put on Christ (Gal. 3:27). They say that baptism does not make us put on Christ."

The Baptist answer: The Bible does not say "baptism MAKES one put on Christ" What the Bible does say is, "as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." We as Baptists do believe that as many as are baptized "in relation to Christ" (not "in order to Christ") have "put on Christ". Every regenerated person who submits to baptism "puts on" Christ - they identify with Christ. The act of "putting on Christ" is the act of someone who is already alive in Christ. Their baptism is a declarative statement that they are already "IN" Christ. The uniform doesn't make the soldier. The uniform (baptism) identifies the soldier with army he is already in.

The baptismal regenerationist says, "The Bible says by baptism one puts off the body of sins (Col. 2:12-13, Rom. 6:3-4). They say that baptism does not put off the body of sins."

The Baptist answer: The baptismal regenerationist again misquotes and

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Some Baptist Answers Prayer for Revival

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misuses the scripture. The Bible does not say, "baptism puts off the body of sin." What the Bible does say is baptism is, "**in the LIKENESS of his death**" (Rom. 6:5), and is, "into (in relation to) his (Christ's) death (Rom. 6:3). Baptism does not do away with the body of sin. Only Jesus and his work can do away with our sins (Heb. 9:11-15, 23-26; I Cor. 1:30-31).

Oh! How lost the man is who is trusting in his WATER BAPTISM to save him! He can only sing, "What can wash away my sins? Nothing but water of Baptism!" and "There is a fountain fill with WATER drawn from the city main, and sinners plunged beneath THAT flood loose all there guilt and stain." and "There is power, power, wonder working power is the WATER of the land. There is power, power, wonder working power in the precious WATER of the land".

The baptismal regenerationist says, "Who really believes in the Bible?"

The Baptist answer: The baptismal regenerationist may believe IN the Bible, but they surely don't BELIEVE THE BIBLE! There's no telling how many things they believe IN. A man who is trusting IN water to save him will most likely trust in just about anything. They are a very superstitious bunch! We as Baptist BELIEVE THE BIBLE! We are not trusting IN it or any THING else. We are trusting IN the person and work of the LORD JESUS CHRIST. The LORD JESUS CHRIST is our SALVATION!

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;" (Ephesians 1:7)

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:" (Colossians 1:14)

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:"(I Pet. 1:18-19).

There is a fountain filled with BLOOD

Drawn from Immanuel's veins;

And sinners plunged beneath THAT flood,

Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see

THAT fountain in his day.

And there may I, though vile as he,

Wash ALL my sins away.

What fountain are you trusting in?

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pocket. All such "got-up" revivals are bad.

During the last thirty years, we have seen a remarkable increase in Christian professions in the United States. Nearly every person belongs to some church, although he may never attend its services except on Easter and Christmas. Religious books are best sellers. Religious songs are popular even with the unconverted. Religious organizations report record financial income. The Devil has made the world religious without Christ. Despite all the so-called new converts to Christ, the crime rate soars and the divorce rate increases. Social problems are increasing by the hour. This all goes to show the emptiness of modern-day revivals.

WHAT IS A REVIVAL?

Most Christians think revival is a series of special meetings intended to win souls to Christ. But this is not revival. Such a thing might be called evangelism. Evangelism relates to the unsaved; revival relates to the saved. In the text the psalmist prays that God's "people" might be revived. He is not praying that sinners might be converted. Revival is God quickening, strengthening, and elevating those already alive in Christ.

A revival is a reviving or being revived; it is a renewal or rekindling. It implies the new creation has been accomplished, the passing from death unto life has taken place. But this life has declined, and, therefore, needs reviving. Spiritual life is not like natural life which is weakest at the beginning and end. Spiritual life is strong in the vigor of its first love, but as the years pass it may decline (Rev. 2:4). But that life which has declined in the midst of the years can have its health and vigor brought back. Backsliding can be healed.

WHY REVIVAL IS NEEDED

Sometimes a Christian or a church becomes like our world in winter. The earth is cold and the winds are bleak. The trees show no sign of life. The flowers are withered and gone. The fruits of the gardens and fields are all gathered. Death seems to reign everywhere. But the scene changes with the advent of spring. All nature seems to burst into a new life of wondrous beauty.

A church can experience a spiritual winter. It may cease to grow and be concerned for the unsaved. Its members may have little or no family altars. Scandalous sins may not be confessed among its membership. The Lord's work may languish for a lack of funds. The Holy Spirit is grieved.

Church members may tend to think more of social entertainment than the worship services. Bickering and strife may become prevalent among its members.

In this Laodicean church age some churches are so backslidden they do not know they need a revival (Rev. 3:17). The emptiness of religious profession among some church members is astonishing. We have become stale and stuffy. Even our revivals are spasmodic and superficial. The only fire some churches have is in the kitchen or at the end of a cigarette.

"Revival presupposes a low state of religion, a decline in the spiritual life. Some sickness or disease or decay has set in. There is a falling away, a falling off. It means the Church is subnormal. As Vance Havner said, 'The Church is so subnormal that if it got back to the New Testament normal it would seem to be abnormal!' That is it, If we were up to the New Testament normal we would not need revival. Revival is not the normal. The New Testament presents the normal. The reason—and as far as I am concerned, the only reason—that we need revival is to get back to the normal New Testament Christian life, as Christ offered it, as the disciples appended it, as the early Church lived it" (Armin Gesswein in *Is Revival the Normal?* p. 8).

When God sends revival the family altars are rebuilt. Prayer becomes a speech of love that never wearies. The Christian Sabbath is an honor

and delight, the best day in all the week. The meeting place of the saints beams with a heavenly luster, and church members can't wait to attend its services. Sins are confessed to God and man. The Lord's people become liberal givers. They are filled with the Spirit of God. A great lesson of spiritual refreshing comes upon the church. This is a Heaven-sent revival!

A REVIVAL IN ANSWER TO PRAYER

The psalmist felt the need for revival. The prayer he prayed showed his soul was wide awake to the need of a spiritual refreshing from the presence of the Lord. He is earnest and anxious about revival. He is not looking to the prophet or priest in Israel to bring revival. He is looking to the only source of real revival: a sovereign God. He realized that a revival was a divine manifestation, a miracle of God. He knew a revival was not natural, but supernatural—not ordinary, but extraordinary!

Prayer and revival go hand in hand. Before preaching the Sermon on the Mount Christ prayed all night. Before Pentecost there was a ten-day prayer meeting. The church is to be a house of prayer. Revival occurs when there is earnest consecrated prayer on the part of the people of God (II Chron. 7:14). We need to pray big prayers for revival. The Lord has said: **"Open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it"** (Ps. 81:10). We have not because we ask not (Jas. 4:2; Matt. 7:7-11; Mark

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Funnybone

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

Two Catholic nuns ran out of gas in a hospital van near Possumtrot. One said to the other, "One of us must walk down the hill to the gas station."

The other said, "It would do no good, for we have no container in which to put gasoline."

The first nun said, "We can use one of the hospital bed pans to put the gas in." So they went and purchased some gas and brought it back to the hospital van and started to pour from the hospital bed pan into the gas tank.

Deacon Jones and Bill Tightwad topped the hill on the way to hunt their cows just in time to see this last event. Bill said to the deacon, "That's what I call real faith."

Pastor Brown is getting very absent minded. After he performed a wedding at his church the groom rose to speak: "I have a confession to make to my bride in front of all of you. I confess, honey, that before I married you, I spent many happy hours in the

arms of another woman—my mother."

All present enjoyed it, and Pastor Brown made a mental note to use it on the occasion of his golden wedding anniversary to be celebrated that week at the Possumtrot Baptist Church.

The fellowship hall was full of guests to honor the good pastor and his wife. He rose to speak: "After fifty years of married life, my dear, I have a confession to make to you in front of all our friends and the church. Before I married you I spent many happy hours in the arms of another woman—and for the life of me, I can't remember who she was."

"How did the wedding go?" asked pastor Brown's wife.

"Fine, my dear, until I asked the bride if she would obey and she said, 'Do you think I'm crazy?' And the bridegroom, who was in sort of a daze, mumbled, 'I do'—then things began to happen!

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11:24). I fear we do not know much about the ministry of intercessory prayer. Oh, how we need to realize the importance of prevailing prayer (Jas. 5:16). Our prayers should be strong, prevailing, Hell-defeating, Devil-rout-ing, Christ-exalted, work-producing and money-finding. We need to pray like Bud Robinson: "O Lord, give me a backbone as big as a saw log and ribs like the sleepers under the church floor. Put iron shoes on me and galvanized breeches and give me a rhinoceros hide for a skin, and an half of a wagon load of determination up to the gable end of my soul and help me to fight the devil as long as I have got a fist and bite him as long as I have got a tooth and then gum him 'till I die."

REVIVALS ARE FROM GOD

The words: "**Wilt thou not revive us. . . ?**" discloses that the psalmist believed that revival came only from God. The Hebrew is: "**Wilt thou not return and revive us?**" Revivals are divinely appointed by God and God-sent, and they occur at the time of His own choosing.

I read and hear much about the formula for revival. But most of what I hear is certainly not the formula of the Bible. You can plan your big meetings. You can secure a big-shot evangelist. You can organize your church members. You can advertise the meeting on TV and in the press, but unless God in His sovereignty gives you a Heaven-sent revival, it will all be in vain. The most important thing in any religious meeting is to invoke the presence and power of God. A form of godliness without the power is worthless (II Tim. 3:5).

REVIVAL RESTRAINS THE ANGER OF GOD

Look at the verses preceding my text: "**LORD, thou hast been favourable unto our land: thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob. Thou has forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Thou hast taken away all thy wrath: thou hast turned thyself from the fierceness of thine anger**" (Ps. 85:1-3). It is plain from these words that God's righteous anger is against His people who live in an unrevived state.

The Israelites had confessed their sins to God (Ps. 85:2), and He had forgiven them and covered them up from His justice. Hence His anger was turned away. The Lord told King Solomon: "**If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my**

face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (II Chron. 7:14).

In a time past there had been iniquity among God's people. In both the Old and New Testaments we see the sins of the saints. It is not an easy thing to keep the old nature dormant and the new nature dominant. Iniquity is that form of evil in our hearts which tries to explain away God's demands upon our lives in order that we may continue in sin.

There is much sin in our churches, and when there is sin in the camp we will suffer defeat at the hands of the Devil and his crowd (Josh. 7). Our young people are being led into immorality, unchastity, and then easy divorce. Adult church members are guilty of stealing God's tithes. They are guilty of non-attendance to the house of God, and the sin of unholiness in their daily lives. Things are so bad some pastors wonder if they are feeding sheep or worrying with goats. Some church members are so bold as to laugh and make fun of their sins. Thus I can see how God's righteous anger is revealed from Heaven even against His own people who are in an unrevived state. God cannot condemn sin in the sinner and condone it in the saints. Psalm 93:5 declares: "**Holiness becometh thine house, O LORD, for ever.**" I Peter 4:17 tells us "**that judgment must begin at the house of God.**"

Believers still have the old nature. This old nature is daily sinning against God, and there is a constant need for cleansing so our fellowship with God will not be hindered. I John 1:7 declares: "**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.**" Our walking in the light does not produce the cleansing, but it only makes us continually conscious of our deep need for this cleansing. The present tense (*katharizei*) delineates the repeated experience of cleansing as we continue to walk in the light. The cleansing here is not the cleansing of justification (John 13:10; I Cor. 6:11). It is the cleansing of progressive sanctification, the repeated cleansing from the defilement incurred in daily life. One who lives in the light knows his own weaknesses and is continually availing himself of the cleansing blood of Christ.

The word "**all**" means sin in all its varied forms and manifestations. No sin is beyond the cleansing power of Christ's blood, for that blood is perpetually available to cleanse from every sin. It is the guilt of sin, not the sinning nature, which the blood re-

moves in I John 1:7.

The sins of the flesh mar our fellowship with God. Therefore, it is our duty to daily confess our sins to God. We must acknowledge our sinful nature as the source of these sinful actions: "**If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness**" (I John 1:9). The plural "**sins**" demands that specific sins be named and confessed. The object of this forgiveness is to remove that which hinders the believer's enjoyment of fellowship with God and restrain His righteous anger toward us.

God's response to the confession of our sins is assured by His nature. God is "**faithful and just.**" The adjective "**faithful**" means God can be trusted to do what He has promised. The other adjective "**just**" reveals that God forgives sin in full accord with His righteous nature with a view to Christ's atoning blood. God forgives our sins, or more literally, He sends them away so that they no longer stand between us and God. Sin produces a defilement which only God can remove. He acts to remove "**all unrighteousness,**" showing the cleansing is complete, not partial. "**All unrighteousness**" is similar to "**all sin**" in I John 1:7. This total cleansing restores us to full fellowship with God; it puts us in a revived state before God and restrains His righteous anger.

REVIVAL FREQUENTLY NEEDED

"**Wilt thou not revive us AGAIN. . .**" The word "**again**" indicates that revivals are often needed. Christians and churches are prone by nature to backslide. Some Baptists say they do not believe in backsliding, but they practice it. When a church member experiences spiritual decline he becomes a clock-watcher. He wants short services, sermonettes, and a preacherette. The average unrevived church member does not realize his condition before God. In this lukewarm state he begins to ask, "What's wrong with this?" or "What's wrong with that?" He is very defensive, for he has lowered the biblical standard.

Christians and churches need revival again and again to get us back to full fellowship with God—to get us back to the biblical standard. A revived church member's whole heart and desire centers around Christ and His people. He has a zeal for Christ's cause. He is full of the joy of the Lord, and not a bit of it comes from the entertainment world! He constantly seeks those things which are above. He is pressing on to win the crowns. With him "**the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the**

Holy Ghost" (Rom. 14:17).

William P. Mackay has well expressed the need of revival in his beloved hymn:

*Revive us again; fill each heart with Thy love;
May each soul be rekindled with fire from above.*

*Hallelujah! Thine the glory, Hallelujah! amen;
Hallelujah! Thine the glory, revive us again.*

REVIVAL RESTORES THE JOY OF THE LORD

"**Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?**" Revival is not some worked up excitement in the flesh by the hearing of funny stories. Revival is an invasion from Heaven which makes believers rejoice in the Lord. Joy in the Lord is the ripest fruit of grace; it is the greatest evidence of a people experiencing real revival. Any revival which does not lead to happiness in God is a sham. A genuine revival without joy in the Lord is as impossible as spring without flowers. A low religious life and a joyous one are incompatible. There will be reviving if there is to be rejoicing.

The Christian who lives in an unrevived condition seems more a distress than a delight. He is like a man with a headache. He doesn't want to give up his head, but it hurts to keep it. A believer who is not rejoicing in the Lord is a gloomy, repulsive thing. A lukewarm church cannot be a joyful church. But a happy Christian and church makes others desire what they have. "**Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice**" (Phil. 4:4). "**. . . for the joy of the LORD is your strength**" (Neh. 8:10).

YOU CAN HAVE PERSONAL REVIVAL

Some of you reading this have left your first love. You are spiritually cold and powerless. You have to some degree lost sight of heavenly and eternal things. Most of your time and energy is spent on temporal and earthly things. You need a revival to raise you from your subnormal spiritual level. God often uses revival to bring the subnormal Christian into a normal Christian walk.

There is a definite pattern for believers to follow to experience individual revival. The message to the church at Laodicea is that while the church may not experience revival, the individual church member may in his own heart: "**Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me**" (Rev. 3:20).

First, acknowledge your need of revival. Say with the prodigal son: "**Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee**" (Luke

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Prayer for Revival

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15:18).

Second, confess your sins to God: **"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"** (Ps. 51:3-4).

Third, search the Scriptures and listen to what God says to you. Say with young Samuel: **"Speak; for thy servant heareth"** (I Sam. 3:10). The Bible can guide you into a victorious Christian life. It can keep you from a

life of sin (Ps. 119:11).

Fourth, spend time in prayer to God. Cry day and night unto Him. **"Pray without ceasing"** (I Thess. 5:17).

Fifth, follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit. **"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit"** (Gal. 5:25). **"And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption"** (Eph. 4:30).

Sixth, say "no" to every temptation of the world, the flesh, and the Devil. God will make a way to escape these things.

Seventh, persevere in the things of God. **". . .let us go on unto perfection. . ."** (Heb. 6:1). **"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our**

Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (II Pet. 3:18).

Don't live below your potential. Don't be half a Christian! Don't be a sleepy, sluggish, sloppy Christian! Don't be a dwarf when you can be a giant! Don't settle for a dunghill when you can have a throne! Don't accept defeat when you can have victory! Don't sit back and wait for some great moving of the Spirit in your church in a great revival. Do the things I have told you to do and you can personally experience a revival in your heart. You can have spiritual power and joy in the Lord.

CONCLUSION

1. I could be wrong, but I do not expect a worldwide end-time revival as some. I believe we are in the glean-

ing stage of things. There will be revivals in some church and individuals, but there will not be a great worldwide revival in this age. But we should pray for a Heaven-sent spiritual awakening in our churches and lives that will make Heaven rejoice and Hell to mourn.

2. When did you last pray for revival? Have you ever prayed for one in the manner that the psalmist did in my text? Are you presently experiencing revival? Or, do you need a great revival in your soul? Perhaps you need to say with B. B. McKinney (1886-1952):

*Send a great revival, Lord, in me,
Help me that I may rejoice in Thee;
Give me strength to win the victory,
Oh, send a great revival in my soul.*



The Peaceable Kingdom

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the cockatrice's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as waters cover the sea." (Isaiah 11:6-9)

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What about college fraternities? Is it wrong to join one? Do they all have secret initiation ceremonies? --- Florida



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“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness” (II Cor. 6:14)?

I believe that a child of God should not join himself to any kind of organization that is not totally committed to the worship of God in truth. The only organization that is totally committed to the worship of God in truth is the Lord's church.

A fraternity is a group of people having the same interest and have joined themselves together for fellowship. What little I have heard about a college fraternity would lead me to believe that a child of God should never join one. I have never known of a college fraternity that was formed for the purpose of worship. They are usually made up of a group of lost people with the purpose of entertaining the flesh. God's people are said to be strangers and pilgrims in this world, and that we are to abstain from fleshly lusts (I Pet. 2:11). Our life is to be dedicated to the worship of God. **“And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him”** (Col. 3:17). Lost people can never desire to worship God or give Him glory, but their desire is always of fleshly things. A child of God is instructed to crucify the flesh and it's affections and lusts (Gal. 5:24).

The prodigal son joined himself to a citizen of a foreign country and was put in the fields to feed swine (Luke 15:11-15). The Greek word that is translated “joined” is defined as: “to glue, to glue together, cement, fasten together” (Strong). When a child of God joins a fraternity, he becomes a part of all that they do. They may do some good but not for the purpose of worship. **“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God”** (I Cor.

10:31).

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I know very little about college fraternities so I wouldn't know whether they all have secret initiation ceremonies or not. All I know about fraternities is the movie I saw as a teenager called Animal House. If fraternities are anything like that one I don't believe a child of God should go anywhere near it much less be a member of it.

If the fraternity is associated with social drinking, unlawful activities, etc. then I believe it would be wrong for a child of God to be affiliated with it. God's people are to be separated from the world and its ungodly influence (II Cor. 6:14-7:1; Eph. 5:3-15).

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Having never been associated with any college fraternity, I must confess that my knowledge of college fraternities is very limited. As I understand it, college fraternities are organizations of male students with secret initiations and rites and a name composed of Greek letters. It is possible that some of these fraternities do not have secret initiations, but it is understood by most people that secret initiations are associated with the majority of them.

My recommendation to students, especially Christian students, would be this—Do not become involved with any fraternity requiring secret initiations or pledges, or ceremonies which call upon you to swear in secret.

There is also a matter of physical danger in the practice of hazing which subjects newcomers to humiliating

tricks and abuse.

The greatest danger comes from being identified with the mythical false gods of the Greeks. College students in many institutions of higher learning are faced with the problem of having the theory of ungodly evolution thrust upon them by teachers who do not believe in God, or if they claim to believe in God it is clear they do not have the backbone to take a stand for the inspired Word of God. College students are exposed to enough ungodly teaching which pose a real danger to our children and grandchildren without them becoming involved with fraternities which can be associated with false gods.

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I must admit that I know very little about college fraternities. The Bible college I attended did not have them. Nevertheless, I by observation have learned some things about them, and what I have learned of them causes me to be very leery of any of them. I know that they claim to do some good, of which I know nothing about, but what little good they may do does not warrant their existence.

I do not know if they all have secret initiation ceremonies or not, but those that do cause a great deal of harm, such as hazing, drunken parties etc. that kill in some instances and humiliate their fellow students.

The Bible tells us that what Christians are to do is all to be done for the glory of God and by His authority (I Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:17, 23). I cannot see anywhere in the Bible God has given His authority to organize or belong to anything but God's kingdom, family, and church. Neither do I see where any college fraternity glorifies God but quite the contrary. Certainly there is no place in a Christian's life for secrets. Whatever good we know should be published to all possible and all foolishness should be put aside.

GARNER SMITH

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Are UFOs operated by fallen angels? aliens from outer space? what are they? -- Mississippi



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There has been so much said about UFOs, and so many stories told that appears to be false, that only a few people believe that they exist; yet there have been many reliable people that have seen a kind of aircraft that could be called a UFO.

I have believed for several years that our military has such a craft. It is not from some other planet operated by aliens, nor do I believe that it is a craft operated by fallen angels. I believe that our military has discovered the technology that makes this craft possible. Possibly by accident while experimenting with atoms and electricity in the manufacturing of weapons.

In the October 2000 issue of *Popular Mechanics* there is an article titled "Science Taming Gravity." A scientist in Huntsville, Ala., is working on a device that they believe will produce a gravity-like field that may be either attractive or repulsive. A 12 inch diameter high-temperature superconducting disc. (HTSD). She calls it "AC gravity." It will add to, or counteract, or re-direct gravity. A gravity-like force you can point in any direction. The tiny gravitational effect of each individual atom is multiplied by the billions of atoms in the device. Using about one kilowatt of electricity, her device could potentially produce a force field that would effectively neutralize gravity above a 1-ft. diameter region extending from the surface of the planet to outer space.

I believe that our government already has this technology and has kept it secret. If it was released to the people and used in the manufacturing of this kind of craft, it would completely change the transportation industry of our nation. I believe that the manufacturing of this kind of craft would be less complicated and far less expensive than what we use now. Travel by automobile, train, and air would become obsolete over night. The oil industry would be devastated.

The economy of our nation would be destroyed. Just think of how many people would lose their jobs if this was to take place. I have never doubted that the technology exists, but I doubt that the public will ever benefit from it.

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In my opinion, this question requires much speculation on our part. It is an established fact of Scripture that fallen angels exist, but I am not convinced that UFOs can be supported with Scripture. There has been, for the past several years, a great controversy over the subject of UFOs. There have been numerous claims of sightings, and even abductions by those in control of UFOs, whether they be aliens from outer space or fallen angels. Governmental officials generally deny the existence of UFOs and many people believe that so-called UFOs are merely secret aircraft being tested by the military.

Since I have never experienced a UFO sighting, and since I have no way of being privy to secret government experiments, I will not hazard a guess on UFOs. However, I am quite convinced that God can carry out His program without using unidentified flying objects or so-called aliens from outer space!

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To me UFOs are still UFOs. I find no information that gives me any true or satisfactory evidence as to what they are. I read of many ideas and see a lot of pictures with comments about

UFOs, but I still have no real proof of what they are.

I do believe that UFOs exist and even though there may be some sensationalism attached to some supposedly sightings, I think that some have actually been observed by sober minded people.

They could possibly be a partial fulfillment of the signs of the skies spoken of to exist in the latter days as recorded in the Scriptures, but here is no proof of this. I personally do not believe they are aliens from outer space. It is possible they could be part of some experiments of our military forces.

I do not mean to be frivolous or sarcastic, but I just simply do not have a good reasonable explanation of the UFOs.

GARNER SMITH



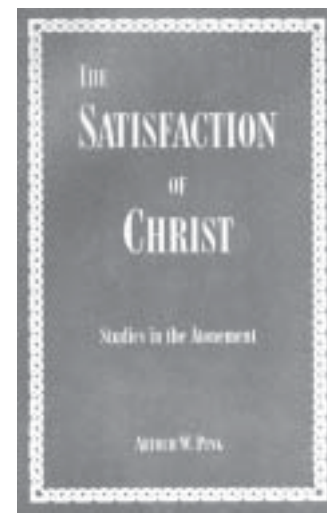
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Since I don't believe that there are aliens from outer space, and I don't really know much about unidentified flying objects it is difficult for me to answer this question. My uneducated guess is that if there are UFOs, then they are probably operated by fallen angels. Ephesians 6:12 declares: "**For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.**" I guess it is possible that the principalities, powers, and spiritual wickedness in high places could operate UFOs, but I can't be dogmatic at all concerning a question of this nature.

TOM ROSS

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The War I Can't Forget

Continued from page 441

our 155MM Howitzers arrived. We were in our first firing positions at Suwon at the end of the air field. In one of the first few fire missions, a man in Battery "B" was killed. We all heard the news but we did not see the blood. The next day or so we got word that some enemy heavy tanks were approaching our position. "C" Battery of which I was a member was called on to pull two of our 155MM howitzers out of position and move forward a few miles, set up a road block, and stop the enemy tanks should they appear. I was a member of one of the howitzer crews chosen for the task.

We moved into position with one howitzer on each side of the road, aimed the howitzers in on a spot in the road and waited. Part of each crew was to stay on the howitzer awake and ready to fire, while part of the crew was to get some sleep. Sometime in the early hours before dawn I was given permission to bed down, which I did in a small building near the road. Daylight came, but no enemy tanks. Then someone called my name and instructed me to get up and wake the other men with me. With my eyes not ready to open, and my body not yet ready to wake up, I tried as best I could to follow orders. The first person I tried to wake was dead, and so was the second. They were soldiers killed in the battle for Seoul. Unknown to me and the men with me, we had bedded down where the KIA's had been collected for removal from the battle field. When I saw American blood brought by weapons of war from an enemy, the reality of war set in.

Sometime in early October 1950 my unit was pulled out of the front lines and given orders to prepare for an invasion with the 1st Marine Division somewhere on the West Coast of North Korea. We moved toward the Port of Inchon and finally we were loaded on the landing crafts. Battery "C" men and equipment were aboard LST Q074, a US Navy Vessel with a Japanese crew. Bunks were in short supply and large demand, so three men were assigned to each bunk in eight hour shifts. I made friends with some of the crew and was allowed to eat in the crew's mess and sleep in their lounge.

After fourteen days aboard Q074, we sailed into Pusan Harbor and were transferred to a navy ship for the sea voyage north by way of the Sea of Japan to a place called Iwon. It is now November, and the weather has already turned bitter cold. We supported the Mariners for about three

weeks, and then we were told the war was all but over, and that we would be getting ready to leave Korea and would be home in the good old US of A by Christmas. However, we didn't know about the plans the Chinese had made that included us.

Thanksgiving Day 1950 until Christmas Eve 1950 will forever remain in this old soldier's mind as one continuous nightmare. Either Thanksgiving or the day after we were given orders to load up lock, stock and barrel, and be ready to move with gas tanks full and weapons at the ready. The weather was bitter cold, snow was falling, and we were headed in the wrong direction to be going home. When the orders came down we headed out for a place we would later refer to as the Frozen Chosen. After all these years, I cannot recall just how long it took us to make the move, but I can still see the narrow snow covered roads, the hairpin curves and steep mountainsides in my mind. After much weary travel fighting sleep and the cold, we arrived at our assigned position and began to take the enemy under fire sometime around the last of November or the first of December, 1950.

As time went on, things turned for the worst. The weather turned colder each day until it reached 30 degrees below 0. Just a short time after our arrival in the Frozen Chosen, we were surrounded and cut off by the enemy. Ammunition and food ran dangerously low and warm clothing was not to be had. I was afraid to go to sleep thinking I might freeze to death and afraid to go on guard duty for fear of being killed by the enemy. After a while, I didn't much care because I thought I would die one way or the other.

One cold day while we were engaging the enemy in all directions we were told that help, food and supplies were on the way. The overcast skies then turned gray with blowing snow and the air drops would be at least hindered, if not prevented altogether. We then heard the roar of aircraft engines which we couldn't see. It seemed they had missed us altogether as they were flying north and the sound of the aircraft began to fade. Then, all of a sudden three or four flying box cars approached from the north at what appeared to be less than a thousand feet and dropped cargo in various colored chutes. It appeared that Christmas had come early for the 92nd AFA BN, but it was not to be.

As we rushed to get the much needed food and supplies, we found much to our dismay that it was not for us. As I recall, it was all 30 caliber ammo for MI's—no food. A day or so later, some soldiers that had been

trapped just to the north of us broke out and began their march to the sea and safety. I watched as the column went by. Some of the men had burlap sacks tied around their feet for warmth. Many of them never made it to the waiting ships at Hungnam.

Soon it was time to start our march to the sea and the waiting ships. It was a fight all the way, and I shall never forget that day and some of the things I saw. We approached a place on the road where the enemy had held until that morning, and a place where much US equipment had been destroyed and many US service men had been slaughtered. As our column slowed to work our way around the dead and through the wreckage, I looked down from the ring mount of the half track on which I was riding, and there by the road lay a soldier that I had remembered seeing pass by our position a few days before. I shall never forget what I saw.

The young man had been killed by the enemy just a few miles from the waiting ships and safety. He had fallen to the cold ground on his back, his right hand still holding his weapon and near his left hand was his wallet with the wind turning the pictures. I still see him in my mind and still wonder if he died looking at pictures of his loved ones.

I shall never forget the planes from the carriers that flew so close to us dropping napalm on the enemy—so close to us that we could feel the heat. We finally arrived at the sea port of Hungnam and took up firing positions. We fired our 155MM howitzers until the very last minute before they had to be loaded on the ships. When the howitzers were gone we more or less fought as a rear guard until we were given orders to load on the landing crafts that would take us out to the waiting ship.

I was sick when I got to the ship on Christmas Eve, but was so glad to be there I did not mention it. I was placed on kitchen duty for the cruise to Pusan. When we arrived in Pusan, I had a temperature of 106 and was placed in the aid station and given penicillin every four hours for a few days. When the orders came down for us to start our march back toward the north, my temperature was down to 102 and I was declared fit to man a .50 caliber machine gun mounted on a half track for the trip to once again engage the enemy.

Christmas 1950 is now history. We are in a new year and still going the wrong direction to be going home. The weather, though not as cold as it was in the Frozen Chosen, is still a problem. We worry about freezing to death and even more so after two men went to sleep in a fox hole and froze

to death one bitter cold night. We are moving a lot, and this helps in fighting the cold and the time on our hands. Each new position requires us to dig personal fox holes, powder and ammo pits which is both time consuming and tiring, but helped us to sleep better when we did get to bed down.

January 1951, and the snow turn into February 1951 with more snow and cold. Finally it's March and spring is just around the corner, but no word about the end of the war and going home.

The last of March 1951, and replacements start arriving. One of those replacements is Pfc. Calvin C. Grant, who receives word after his arrival that his wife Mary has given birth to their daughter, Patricia, in Danville, Virginia. I shall never forget the joy that Calvin expressed to all of us, and the joy we had for he and his family at the announcement of Patricia's birth. We did not know at that time that Calvin C. Grant would never see his daughter, and Patricia would never see her daddy. Calvin C. Grant was killed in action defending our position against enemy soldiers trying to overrun and destroy the 155MM howitzers of "C" Battery on April 24, 1951.

April, 1951 came with the arrival of replacements and talk of a truce. A program called rotation would allow some men to leave for home very soon. Also with April came the rain, but no May flowers—just mud. I had hopes every day that I might be told to pack up and go home. But the rains, mud, and extreme heat kept coming. I kept hoping—however, May turned to June, and June to July and on into September, and a few of us that left Fort Hood, Texas with the unit are still with it.

Two things stand out in my mind about September 1951. The first was that I was promoted to SFC(E6) in the early part of the month. The second was that I turned nineteen on September 26.

October and cool weather came, and I was thinking that winter is not far off and not sure that I can survive another winter in Korea. November and the snow came, and I am wondering will I even make it home for Christmas, 1951.

December found me still in Korea fighting a fight that I didn't start and wanting very much to go home. Then the day came, the list was read and my name was on it, and I said goodbye to the best group of soldiers that ever put a pair of combat boots on. A few days later I departed Korea from the same place that I had entered the country, and on the same ship that I

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The War I Can't Forget

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had left the US. And yes, I did make it home for that Christmas.

I was discharged on January 18, 1952, but could not get over the war and re-adjust to civilian life. I had a serious drinking problem, but even that wouldn't let me forget and put the war behind me. I held several jobs and even went back to school for a while. But all this time I was like an old man in my peer group and just could not fit in nor cope. On November 11, 1952, I reenlisted in the Army, and would pull one more tour in Korea before the war ended.

At war's end I wore a battle star for every major campaign fought in Korea. I stayed with the Army until I retired on December 1, 1969. I was a heavy drinker until the Lord saved me in the Winter of 1968. But all the drinking still did not let me forget. The years have come and gone, but I have not forgotten. My wife and children have helped to ease the pain, my work helping others has also helped, but I have not forgotten. I still find myself crying from time to time when November and December rolls around each year. It is not as bad as it once was, but it is still there. Yes, I still remember the Korean war and many of the brave young men that fought there. Some of the names I remember I can't put a face with now, but I do remember.

In the Summer of 1999, at the encouragement of my daughter, after almost forty-eight years since I had last spoken to a member of my combat unit, I began an Internet search for my war buddies, in the hope that if I made contact with some of them it would be a healing for me.

I recalled a best friend had been from South Carolina, and I found his address and phone number and called. I left a message on an answering machine and waited. That evening my phone rang and at the other end a young lady informed me that the man I was seeking was indeed my friend and her granddaddy, but that he had passed away in 1997. I was saddened at the news and angry at myself for procrastinating. It was a setback for a while.

A few days later I received a call from my sister-in-law informing me of an ad in the DAV for that month about the 92nd AFA BN having a reunion at Columbus, Georgia in October. She gave me a phone number to call for information. My heart was beating fast as I dialed the number and waited for the voice on the other end. When the phone was answered I told the person who I was and the reason for the call. He told me his name was Guy

McMenemy and that he had been my gunner in Korea. My heart filled with unspeakable joy at the sound of his voice. We talked for a while and he said he would send me information about the reunion and a roster of names of all the members that they had been able to locate. The list included names, addresses and phone numbers. I set out to contact as many of them as I could put names and faces together. I was able to contact several of the men that I had fought with and the healing seemed to begin almost at once.

I was excited about making the plans to attend the reunion, and my family shared that excitement with me. My daughter took time off from work and she, my wife and I attended the reunion. What a joy it was to see so many of those that had shared the sacrifices, hardships of war, cold, mud, heat, rain, sorrow and pain of being in a far away place that was so distant from family, friends and the comforts of home.

As a result of the unit reunion and the encouragement of my dear daughter, I endeavored to find the family of Calvin C. Grant. My daughter located two families with the last name of Grant, but they had a North Carolina address and Grant had been from the State of Virginia. The first number I called did not answer. I called the only other number I had and the lady that answered the phone was a sister-in-law to Calvin. She informed me that Calvin's wife had remarried and that she and the daughter were still living in Virginia. She stated that she would contact them for me and find out if it would be okay for me to get in touch with them. She called back in a few days and told me it would be okay to call, and I did. Once again I felt a little more healing and a closing to a chapter in my life that was long overdue.

Forty-eight years is a long time, but not long enough to make me forget. I can still today see some of the scenes of the Korean War as if it had only been yesterday. Once in a while it seems I can hear Lt. Turner saying "fire mission" and hear SFC David Cowan saying into the EE8 telephone "Number 3 is ready SIR." Sometimes I wake in the middle of the night thinking someone has given CSMO (close stations march order).

Now I am at a place in my life, in the army of the Captain of my salvation, and I will no doubt soon hear the last CSMO in this life. This old tent will be folded up and I will make my last move. I will then never hear, fire mission, number three is ready, nor the blast of the howitzer again. But until then, and only then will I be able to forget Korea, the forgotten war that I can't forget.



Readers of the BBB are urged to submit religious news items which they may read in their local paper or some other publication. In sending these please give the name of the publication as well as the date it was printed. We will not be able to print all which are submitted, but we welcome any item you may feel we should read. Send them to The Berea Baptist Banner, PO Box 39, Mantachie, MS 38855-0039.

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BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIANS BACKING GEORGE W. BUSH

VENTURA, Calif. (EP)—If George W. Bush were given one wish, he might wish that only born-again Christians be allowed to vote in November. In a survey conducted among likely voters just prior to Labor Day, Bush held a significant lead over Al Gore, 42 percent to 33 percent. However, among likely voters who are born-again Christians, Bush led Gore by better than a two to one margin—54 percent to 23 percent—with 3 percent preferring alternative candidates and 20 percent undecided. In comparison, among likely voters who are not born-again Christians, Gore held a 40 percent to 32 percent advantage.

Among those who are likely to vote and are certain whom they will vote for, the margin of Bush's lead was even greater. Bush held a 56 percent to 42 percent lead over Gore, with just 2 percent sure to vote for alternative candidates.

The influence of faith was especially evident among voters whose minds are made up who intend to cast a ballot. Among born-again voters who are likely to vote and are certain whom they will vote for in November, Bush leads Gore 71 percent to 28 percent, a five-to-two margin. Among the non-born-again voters who are likely to vote and are certain about whom they will support, Gore led Bush 53 percent vs. 45 percent.

Evangelicals are the most intensely supportive voting block behind Bush. Among the evangelicals who are likely to vote and are certain whom they will vote for, Bush led Gore 85 percent to 13 percent. Evangelicals represent the only subgroup of voters among whom at least three-quarters are siding with the Texas Governor. The only group from which at least three-quarters are backing the Vice President is blacks (88 percent). Both of these groups are small in absolute numbers, however. Evangelicals, who represent a little less than 8 percent of the population, are likely to constitute 10 percent of the voters in November. Blacks, who are just less than 13 percent of the nation's population, are likely to represent a bit less than 11 percent of the voting public.

Among Catholics, the race is a toss-

up. Half of the Catholics who are likely to vote and are certain of whom they will vote for in November are supporting Gore, and half are supporting Bush.

"They run and prepare themselves. . ." (Ps. 59:4).

FCC GETS FRESH MAIL ON 26-YEAR-OLD HOAX

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—Atheist leader Madalyn Murray O'Hair is tormenting the FCC from beyond the grave.

O'Hair disappeared five years ago and is presumed dead. But that hasn't stopped a fresh tide of letters to the Federal Communications Commission protesting an alleged plan by O'Hair to end all religious broadcasting.

This rumor began in 1974, and has proven unstoppable. This year, the volume of mail has increased because of a new version of the rumor which claims that O'Hair's group, American Atheists Inc., is trying to ban broadcasts of the hit CBS series "Touched by an Angel."

The original rumor claimed that atheists had gathered thousands of signatures on "petition 2493" to ban all religious broadcasting. According to the rumor, the FCC had scheduled a hearing on the matter. The rumor is spread through a photocopied counter-petition which Christians were urged to sign and send to the FCC.

Like many rumors, the FCC hoax has a tiny kernel of truth. Once upon a time, there really was an FCC petition 2493. Presented to the FCC in December, 1974, the petition of California men Jeremy Lansman and Lorenzo Milam, asked the FCC to temporarily freeze the awarding of TV and FM channels to religious and government institutions while it studied whether existing non-commercial stations were fulfilling their obligations to broadcast truly educational programming.

Their petition was denied nine months later. Richard Wiley, who was chairman of the FCC when the petition was submitted, said, "We dismissed it while I was chairman of the FCC. There's never been anything

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Clearing the Clintons is No Surprise

By G. Russell Evans

Norfolk, Virginia

So, what else is not new? Certainly clearing the Clintons of wrong-doing in their Whitewater escapades is no surprise. Did anyone doubt that Independent Counsel Robert Ray would exonerate Bill and Hillary for their real estate rip-offs in Arkansas in the 1970s and 1980s that cast taxpayers almost \$69 million?

It was a sure thing—as certain as Hillary's "cattle futures" conversion of a thousand dollars into a hundred thousand in 1978 with Tyson Foods lawyer James Blair by her side. So was Ray's 6-page rationalization of "insufficient evidence to prove to a jury beyond a reasonable doubt that President and Mrs. Clinton knowingly participated in criminal conduct."

FAMILIAR WORDS

These words sound very familiar. We heard them almost verbatim three months earlier when Ray white-washed Hillary in the firing and smearing of loyal White House Travel Office employees when the evidence of Hillary's involvement was overwhelming. We heard them at least a dozen times in the past seven and a half years when Attorney General Janet Reno consistently refused to investigate the president and the vice president for potential crimes that seemed so obvious to the rest of us.

President Clinton wants a noble legacy. Hillary wants to be U. S. senator from New York. People in the way better watch out.

HILLARY MORE LIBERAL

Hillary is even more liberal than the president and is involved in most of the Clinton scandals, particularly the Whitewater and Castle Grande fraudulent real estate deals before they came to Washington.

The Whitewater scandal is the convoluted story of the Clintons and associates, using cheap land, shady deals, fraud and cover-up for money and fame, mostly financed by the US taxpayers at virtually no risk to the crooks—and particularly at no risk to the Clintons, now with the power and invincibility of the White House. Indeed, the untouchables! For the time being, that is.

HIGHLIGHTS OF WHITEWATER

Here are important highlights:

* In 1994, the Independent Counsel and Congress subpoenaed Hillary's billing records on Whitewater, but were stonewalled.

* Mysteriously, the records were found two years later on a table in the White House. Hillary claimed innocence, although her fingerprints were

on the records that contained billing for her legal work on Whitewater and Castle Grande.

* The billing records proved that Hillary had lied about her work with Madison S & L, the money source, operated by the Clintons and friends Jim and Susan McDougal and branded a "criminal enterprise" by federal bank investigators.

* Castle Grande was found to be a front for real estate development and designed to milk Madison S. & L. Hillary's records valued Castle Grande at \$400,000, but it was sold for \$38,000 after Madison collapsed.

* The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) said the Castle Grande agreement drawn by Hillary was designed to deceive bank examiners."

CONVICTIONS BY STARR

Before Bob Ray came along, Independent Counsel Ken Starr obtained felony convictions on three Whitewater kingpins:

* James McDougal, 18 counts, involving bank fraud and conspiracy.

* Susan McDougal, four counts, involving bank fraud and conspiracy; received an illegal \$300,000 taxpayer-backed loan from David Hale after Clinton pressured Hale to make the loan. Jailed for contempt of court for refusing, under grant of immunity, to involve Clinton.

* Jim Guy Tucker, two counts, involving bank fraud and conspiracy, close friend of the Clintons, governor of Arkansas.

CLINTON REACTIONS

The Clintons had little to say about this Bob Ray plum, designed to close the federal criminal case against them. The president ignored reporters' questions; but Hillary, always the campaigner, said from New York, "I'm glad this is finally over," and criticized the time spent and money used, about \$52 million.

Let us thank the Clintons for the expense and time, mostly caused by their stonewalling, denying and failing to cooperate. Let us also note that the McDougals and Tucker were promptly prosecuted, convicted and punished—with no special treatment and no sweetheart privileges.

With two victories in the bag—dismissals of Travelgate and Whitewater—Independent Counsel Robert Ray now bravely tells us he'll investigate whether Clinton will be prosecuted after leaving office for lying about his Monica sex scandal and for refusing to produce e-mail records subpoenaed by the Whitewater inves-

tigators.

Let us not hold our breath waiting for any Ray prosecutions!

And let us note this: Isn't it a fact that, for all practical purposes, Bob Ray works for Janet Reno, Janet Reno works for Bill Clinton and all work to keep Bill and Hillary out of jail? So, who works for Justice?

Judicial Watch does—with Larry Klayman's 63 lawsuits lined up from P. O. Box 98160, Washington, D.C. 20090-8160. Let's send help!

(Capt. Evans columns are distributed by the Americanism League, Buena Park, CA.)

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since then. There was never any truth to this, and I don't think the current commission would see religion as not being part of the public interest, which would be the issue. That's the way we saw it when I was there, and I wouldn't expect the current commission to see it differently."

Current messages spreading the O'Hair-FCC rumor still have the number of that long-defunct petition—RM-2493. They often urge "concerned Christians" to respond, claiming, "We need on million signed letters." The current version of this hoax letter, dated January of this year, has found new legions of gullible readers through e-mail. It claims that "CBS may be forced to discontinue 'Touched by an Angel' because they use the word God in every program."

The FCC received an estimated 700,000 letters from Christians during the months it took for the original petition to be heard and rejected. That number had risen to 25 million by 1989. The agency continues to receive a couple of million pieces of mail each year, and answers hundreds of calls each month on the subject.

O'Hair is a natural bogeyman for such a hoax. She was involved in lawsuits in the early 1960s which banned religious activity—particularly Bible reading—from public schools.

American Atheists President Ellen Johnson told the *Washington Times*, "At least more Christians are bothering to ask whether it's true. Our members still see it circulating in some office, and they e-mail me. 'You won't believe what's circulating here.'" Johnson said atheist groups have protested against public funding of chaplains, tuition vouchers for religious schools, funding of faith-based social work, and the use of the slogan "In God We Trust" on currency, but has never asked for an FCC hearing on religious broadcasting. "I think there is somebody behind this," she said of

the FCC hoax. "Christians should be upset that it's making them look pretty foolish."

The current FCC rumor may have roots that stretch back farther than the Lansman-Milam petition, according to Bob and Gretchen Passantino, cult research experts who direct the California-based Answers in Action. "The rumor has gone through an evolution," says Gretchen. "It started out much earlier as a [rumored] petition by Madalyn Murray O'Hair to ban any astronauts from taking the Bible on space flights, or from saying religious things on space flights. It's kind of metamorphosed into the FCC thing."

The mail is likely to continue, according to Jan Harold Brunvand, a professor of English at the University of Utah and one of America's leading folklorists. Brunvand, author of *The Vanishing Hitchhiker* and other collections of urban legends, says, "I don't think it's going to die out or ever be debunked successfully. No matter how hard we try to debunk it, there will be people who haven't seen it and will help spread the rumor the next time around. These things are photocopied and can lie around in somebody's drawer for years and then be brought out again and posted on a bulletin board. The fact that it has a coupon and a petition number and address makes it seem real."

The ease with which one can respond also gives the hoax life, says Brunvand. "It's not very difficult to fill this thing out, put a stamp on an envelope and send it in. It's not asking for a lot of money, or to take radical action. People can lend their voice to the right side for the price of a stamp."

The Madalyn Murray O'Hair petition to the FCC is the best-known hoax circulating in the Christian community, but is certainly not the only one.

Another rumor driven by a photocopied sheet with shelf-life involves an alleged film being made about the sex life of Christ. The photocopied flyer, which resurfaces from time to time, claims that an organization known as "Modern People News" is planning to produce a film about the "sexual life of Jesus Christ." The flyer claims that Christ will be portrayed as a homosexual, and the part of Mary Magdalen will be played by a notorious French prostitute. Concerned Christians are asked to "do everything possible to halt production of this film." (Halting the film should be easy, since there's no such film being made.)

The roots of this rumor can be traced to November 1977, when *Mod-*

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ern Peole, a weekly magazine then based in Franklin Park, Illinois, published an article claiming that a group of European filmmakers planned to make a film depicting Christ as a bisexual. The article said that the part of Mary Magdalen would be played by a French prostitute.

In a later article, the magazine reported that the producers had given up on the film. But in 1980, a letter began to be circulated claiming that such a film was being made by a group called Modern People News. A year later, the office of the Illinois Attorney General had received more than 40,000 letters opposing the film—most of them photocopies of the anonymous letter.

The letter urging Christians to take action isn't dated, and doesn't include an address or telephone number of a sponsoring organization, making it difficult for its claims to be verified or for the letter itself to be recognized as outdated.

The third of the "big three" rumors making the rounds in Christendom involves Procter and Gamble. In this rumor, the president of the company is falsely alleged to have appeared on Phil Donahue's talk show and admitted that his company gives its profits to the Church of Satan, and that its familiar "moon and stars" logo is a satanic symbol. Variations have had the president of McDonald's appearing on "The Tonight Show," and Liz Claiborne appearing on "Oprah" to make similar admissions about their corporate ties to Satanism.

In reality, the president of Procter and Gamble has never appeared on any talk show to discuss Satanism. (Donahue once tried to get him to appear to debunk the rumor, but the company determined that being able to say he had never been on was more convincing.) The company has successfully filed lawsuits over the years against a number of people who were intentionally spreading this rumor—some of whom were multi-level marketing businesspeople selling products which compete with Procter and Gamble brands.

The company has an information kit it distributes to media which includes a letter from Donahue confirming that the rumor is false, and letters from a number of religious leaders, including Jerry Falwell and an executive with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

The "big three" hoaxes account for most of the pointless mail and phone calls in the Christian community, but there are many other examples of

"things we know that just aren't so" circulating:

* NASA scientists are reported to have been puzzled while calculating the historical orbits of the planets because of a "missing day." In this legend their dilemma was resolved when a Christian member of the team showed them passages in the Bible where God stopped the sun. The stoppages, we're told, exactly equal, led the unaccounted for "missing time" that had stumped the scientists. This rumor persists despite NASA's denials, and despite the scientific impossibility of a "missing day"—a finding that would presuppose a precisely known starting point for the universe.

* The Christian version of the "Vanishing Hitchhiker" story has a person, often a pastor, stopping to pick up a hitchhiker, who delivers a prophetic warning (often of Christ's imminent return), then vanishes. The "hitchhiker" is often assumed to be an angel or Jesus Christ. This story has also turned up in Australia and New Zealand.

* Amsterdam and Brussels are popular locations for a rumored super computer that the anti-Christ will use to usher in his own world government. The computer, nicknamed "The Beast" by its operators, will contain information about every person on earth. Some versions of the story have "666" as the code command that activates the computer's plan for world domination.

* Another legend with a "666" component has a retired pastor or missionary going to the social security office to get a check for a missed payment. In this rumor, the director of the office provides a check with the number "666" in the lower left corner, then hurriedly takes it back, explaining that a mistake has been made that those checks aren't to be distributed yet.

* Scientists in the Soviet Union are alleged to have drilled a hole straight to Hell. In this story, scientists on an oil drilling platform in the North Sea drilling the deepest hole ever stopped when they heard human screams of anguish and smelled sulfur, leading them to conclude that they had drilled right into Hell. This supermarket tabloid story was once reported as truth by the Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN). A bogus English-language translation of a non-existent Norwegian newspaper account of the incident was sent to TBN as a hoax by someone who wanted to see if the network would bother to check its sources.

"Remove from me the way of lying" (Ps. 119:29).

NATIONAL CANDIDATES LAG IN CHARITABLE GIVING

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—Democratic vice presidential candidate Joseph Lieberman donated 3 percent of his income to charity over a 10-year-period, according to articles in the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*.

Lieberman reported that in 1990, he and his wife Hadassah donated \$2,932 to charity out of a reported income of \$103,492. By 1999 their charitable giving had increased to \$13,804 out of a reported income of \$350,119.

Republican vice-presidential nominee Richard Cheney released only partial tax returns but according to the *Washington Post* Cheney gave charities "just over 1 percent" of his 1999 income of \$4,423,289. Cheney has described his level of charitable giving "appropriate" and called it "a private matter."

According to the Internal Revenue System, the national average for charitable giving is roughly two percent of income, but those with incomes of \$1 million or more typically gave 4.5 percent to charity.

Figures for 1999 charitable giving by presidential candidates Al Gore and George W. Bush are not presently available. In 1997 the Bushes gave over seven percent to charity, but in 1998 their giving dropped to less than two percent. The Gores only \$353 to charity in 1997, but responded to criticism by giving nearly 7 percent of their 1998 income to charity.

Many Christian organizations teach that believers should give 10 percent of their income to charity.

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings" (Mal. 3:8).

U. S. SENATE APPROVES TRADE BILL FOR CHINA DESPITE DEPLORABLE HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—With an 85-15 vote, the U.S. Senate approved a controversial bill that grants China permanent normal trade relations (PNTR). The bill limits tariffs on Chinese goods shipped to the U.S., requires China open its borders to more U.S. imports and ends the annual review of China's trade status—a process required of communist countries that trade with the U.S. A similar PNTR bill was passed by the House of Representatives in May and now requires President Bill Clinton's signature to become law.

"America has more influence in China with an outstretched hand than with a clenched fist," Clinton said before the Sept. 19 vote. "We have a chance, not a certainty, but a chance to strengthen our prosperity and our

security and to see China become a more open society."

The PNTR bill is being hailed by supporters as the largest step in U.S.-China relations in almost 30 years. However, human rights groups and opponents of the bill are concerned that granting PNTR to China will decrease the leverage the U. S. has concerning China's tragic human rights record.

"I believed that we will deeply regret this stampede to pass this legislation and the way in which we have taken all the human rights, religious freedom, right to organize—all of those concerns and we just put them in parentheses, put them in brackets, as if they don't exist," said Sen. Paul Wellstone (D-Minn.), one of the 15 who voted against the bill.

"The signal we send by granting PNTR now is a signal of abject weakness. It is a signal of greed," said Sen. Robert Byrd (D-W.V.).

Human rights groups both inside and outside of China report that the government severely tightened restrictions on religious freedom during the past year. An annual report recently released by the U.S. Commission on International Freedom confirmed these claims. For the second year in a row, the commission named China a "country of particular concern," in response to China's widespread, government sanctioned persecution against members of religious groups. Chinese Christians who are part of numerous underground church factions are forced to worship in secret. Believers discovered by police have faced torture, imprisonment, forced labor and "reeducation."

The report states that the Chinese government "tends to perceive unregulated religious gatherings as a potential challenge to its authority. . .it moved swiftly against houses of worship outside its control that grew too large or espoused beliefs that it considered threatenings to 'state security.' Police closed 'underground' mosques, temples, and seminaries, as well as large numbers of Catholic churches, and Protestant 'house churches,' many with significant memberships, properties, financial resources, and networks, and banned groups that it considered 'cults.' Some places of worship were destroyed. Leaders of unauthorized groups are often the targets of harassment, interrogations, detention, and physical abuse."

"This is possibly the worst year [for religious persecution] since the end of the Cultural Revolution," commission member Lawrence Goodrich told Religion Today. During the Cultural Revolution of the '60s and '70s China

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banned religious groups and began a cycle of persecution that continues now over thirty years later. "To ignore [the persecution] and say 'OK' on permanent trade relations—does that sent a wrong signal? Yes it does," said Goodrich.

Over the past year, members of the commission have delivered their findings of religious persecution in China to both the press and Congress. At a press conference in May, Vice Chairman Dean Young told reporters, "It's impossible to ignore the serious deterioration in religious freedom during the past year in China. We're not just talking about people being harassed, or arrested and fined for trying to live out their religious lives. We're talking about three-year labor-camp sentences without trial, about multi-year prison terms, about people—including women—beaten to death by police," said Young. "With China trying to join the World Trade Organization and obtain Permanent Normal Trade Relations status from the United States, how should this egregious, systematic persecution of religious people of practically every major faith be factored into an American response?"

Before the PNTR bill was passed Elliot Abrams, chairman of the commission, expressed concern about the PNTR vote. "The Administration has continued to push for permanent normal trade relations status for China without requiring any improvements in that government's egregious and deteriorating record on religious freedom," said Agrams.

Despite overwhelming evidence of religious persecution, Chinese officials continually deny the charges. "Relying solely on rumors and lies to accuse other governments and interfere in internal affairs of other countries is a mistake repeatedly made by the U.S. State Department report. This bad habit should be addressed," a government spokesman told the Xinhua News Agency.

On a recent visit to New York for a summit of religious leaders, Michael Fu Tieshan, bishop of Beijing, told the French Press Agency, "We often hear the same people, the same forces who like to point their finger at the current state of religion in China but facts speak louder than anything else. . .there is no religious persecution in China."

"Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD?" (II Chron. 19:2).

**WEIGH DOWN WORKSHOP
AUTHOR**

CHALLENGED OVER DOCTRINAL VIEWS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (EP)—The author of the *Weigh Down Diet*, a popular Christian weight loss plan, lost a book contract with Thomas Nelson publishers because of her controversial views on the Trinity, according to a report by *Christianity Today*.

Gwen Shamblin's business has grown from a garage-based startup to a multimillion-dollar corporation in the last eight years. Her 1997 book *The Weigh Down Diet* sold more than a million copies, and there are 30,000 Weigh Down Workshop groups meeting each week around the world, thousands of which are affiliated with evangelical churches.

The current controversy flared up after Shamblin sent a weekly e-mail message to followers Aug. 10, explaining her view of the Trinity. "As a ministry, we believe in God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit," Shamblin wrote. "However, the Bible does not use the word 'trinity' and our feeling is that the word 'trinity' implies equality in leadership, or shared Lordship. It is clear that the scriptures teach that Jesus is the Son of God and that God sends the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit does not send God anywhere. God is clearly the Head."

Shamblin quickly discovered that her view is rejected by much of the Christian world. She was removed from the Women of Faith web site and several influential evangelical churches dropped her program. On Sept. 6, Thomas Nelson canceled her new book, *Out of Egypt*, which had been scheduled to ship in late September.

"Gwen has touched the lives of untold thousands of people," Michael S. Hyatt of Thomas Nelson told *Christianity Today*. "We had the joy of publishing *Rise Above* and seeing it appear on the bestseller list. However, because of the recent controversy created by her doctrinal position we do not feel that we can go forward with this project."

L. L. Don Veinot Jr., president of the apologetics ministry Midwest Christian Outreach, spoke with Shamblin after the controversy erupted. He told *Christianity Today*, "Her views are closer to that of Jehovah's Witnesses than anything resembling the historic biblical faith." He added, "The material on the Web site makes a distinction between the Father and Son that is heretical. She is clearly anti-Trinitarian."

Shamblin's e-mail insisted, "If God wanted us to refer to Himself, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit as the 'trinity,' He would not have left this word completely out of the Bible." To that, Veinot replies that the word "Bible"

is not in the Bible.

Shamblin told *Christianity Today* that she believes people are making too much of her views on the Trinity. "A few people have been on a witch hunt in the last month," Shamblin said. "People don't care about this. They don't care about the Trinity. This is going to pass. What the women want is weight loss. They care about their bodies being a temple and their lives turned over to the Lord. That's what my ministry is about."

Shamblin's views probably reflect her background in the Church of Christ, which has historically had an ambiguous view of the Trinity.

In a related story, a former Weigh Down employee says he was fired for questioning Shamblin's doctrinal views. "She told me I couldn't embrace the message of grace and then she fired me," said Carney Hawkins, who worked for Shamblin for four years. Hawkins told *Christianity Today* that co-workers were ordered to shun her. "Anyone who leaves is labeled a devil. She orders them not to speak or fellowship with those who leave the ministry. There is a spirit of fear."

". . . be vigilant. . ." (I Pet. 5:8).

NEW VATICAN DOCUMENT REAFFIRMS DOCTRINE THAT CATHOLIC CHURCH IS THE ONE TRUE CHURCH

ROME, Italy (EP)—The Catholic Church reaffirmed its doctrine of being the only "true" church on Sept. 5 with the release of "Dominus Iesus, on the Unicity and Salvific Universality of Jesus Christ and the Church." The document is reportedly aimed at fringe Catholic theologians who believe in religious relativism—the belief that all religions offer equally valid paths to salvation. However, the leadership of the world's Protestant churches and denominations reacted with concern to the arguments contained in *Dominus Iesus*.

The document, a 36-page exposition approved by Pope John Paul II, was released by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger at a press conference. Ratzinger is director of the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. *Dominus Iesus* was released along with a note from the cardinal himself, stating that Catholic bishops and theologians who refer to Protestant churches as "sister churches" were causing ambiguity. Instead of referring to Protestant churches as "churches," both documents use the term "ecclesial communities."

"*Dominus Iesus*" also affirms that Catholicism is the only true church, arguing that other churches which lack the "valid Episcopate and the genuine and integral substance of the Eucharistic mystery are not churches

in the proper sense." Whatever truth other denominations possess is derived from the Catholic church and its traditions, it says. The only other churches the document recognizes as keeping closely to the Catholic tradition are those in the Orthodox tradition.

The document goes on to say, "If it is true that the followers of other religions can receive divine grace, it is also certain that objectively speaking they are in a gravely deficient situation in comparison with those who, in the church, have the fullness of the means of salvation."

While the doctrines contained within "*Dominus Iesus*" are nothing new to Catholicism, the timing of the document's release is surprising. Recently, the Catholic Church has made several ecumenical overtures. Catholics offered an olive branch to the Lutheran church in the form of the Joint Declaration on Justification, signed by representatives from both churches last year. Ecumenical talks were also held between Catholic and Anglican representatives during the past two years. However, both Anglican and Lutheran denominations are now dismissed as ecclesial communities, rather than churches, according to "*Dominus Iesus*."

George Carey, archbishop of Canterbury and leader of the world's Anglicans and Episcopalians, told Reuters. "The idea that Anglican and other churches are not 'proper churches' seems to question the considerable ecumenical gains we have made." Carey also said he does not agree that the Anglican Church is preaching a form of Christianity that is deficient when compared to Catholicism.

Evangelicals reacted to the statement with a similar defensiveness. In response to the document Jerry Rankin, president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, said "I think most Southern Baptists would strongly agree that the trend toward religious relativism and pluralism should be rejected. The way to salvation is a narrow path. We emphatically disagree with the Vatican, however, on the direction that path takes. Salvation comes by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ and Christ alone—not through any institutional church body, be it Baptist, Catholic or otherwise."

Christians in Germany, the birthplace of Protestantism, said the doctrines emphasized by "*Dominus Iesus*" will inhibit future ecumenical efforts. "The declaration suggests that the Catholic and the Protestant church are not on equal terms with each other," Manfred Kock, chairman of

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the council of the Evangelical Church of Germany, told Reuters. "This will not help discussions between the two churches."

A statement from the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) indicated that the release of "Dominus Iesus" requires more discussions between the two churches. "We are disappointed that 35 years of ecumenical dialogue between Roman Catholics and Lutherans seem not to have been considered in the formulation of the letter and documents issued by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The impact of these statements is more painful because they reflect a different spirit than that which we encounter in many other Lutheran-roman Catholic relationships," said Ishmael Noko, general secretary of LWF. "The Lutheran World Federation remains committed to ecumenical dialogue. We believe that ecumenism is not optional but essential to the church. Temporary setbacks should neither be allowed to cloud or darken our vision for Christian unity as willed and prayed for by Christ Himself."

Concern for the cause of ecumenism in the wake of the document was expressed by the leadership of the World Council of Churches (WCC). "All churches have gained enormously from the recent entry—through the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s—of the Roman Catholic Church into the ecumenical movement. . . In the wider ecumenical movement, many sensitive conversations are underway about the relationships of the churches to one another. What a loss if these were hindered—or even damaged—by language which precludes further discussion of the issues," said Tom Best, a member of the WCC's Faith and Order Team.

Editor's comment: Rome never changes. When it is to her advantage she will for a brief time put on a new face.

"And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of the abominations and filthiness of her fornication" (Rev. 17:4).

RESEARCH SUPPORTS CLAIM THAT PATRIARCH OF RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH WAS A KGB AGENT

TALLINN, Estonia (EP)—Long-standing allegations that Aleksii II, a patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church, served the notorious Soviet KGB spy agency were confirmed re-

cently by the Keston Institute, a religious rights agency that deals specifically with communist and former communist countries.

In KGB documents seized after the fall of Soviet communism, researchers for the Institute found evidence that Aleksii Ridiger, then a priest in the Soviet state of Estonia, was recruited by the KGB and regarded as a person of influence. According to an article by the Keston News Service, Aleksii was given the post of bishop less than three years after his recruitment with the KGB. Keston also reports KGB documents revealed that travels made by an agent identified by the code name Drozdov match those of Aleksii.

Aleksii and other members of the Orthodox church have denied the allegations. Father Vsevolod Chaplin, Moscow spokesman for the church, told Keston "There is no data indicating that Patriarch Aleksii II was an associate of the special services, and no classified documents bear his signature." Chaplin claimed that the accusations originated with a disgruntled former member of the church. "I do not think that direct dialogue between the current patriarch and the KGB took place," he said.

However, the Institute has evidence that Aleksii not only collaborated with the KGB, but that the agency awarded him a certificate of honor in 1988 for 30 years of service. Most of the documents used by the Institute to confirm these findings were hidden away in 1991 in the archives of the FSB, the replacement agency of the KGB, after leaders of the church protested the new release of damaging information. Full documentation of the evidence cannot be confirmed because of this restricted access, but institute researchers are convinced that the documents they saw were real.

"It would be naive to believe that Aleksii could have attained such high office in a religious organization tolerated by the Soviet state without being aware of the true affiliation of those he had to report to," said Felix Corley of the Keston News Agency. "In view of the compelling evidence that Aleksii was recruited as a KGB agent, it remains a mystery why such a senior figure in the Moscow Patriarchate would deny it rather than initiate a serious debate as to whether such collaboration had been inevitable, and whether or not it had caused the Russian Orthodox Church or others any harm."

According to an article in the *Irish Times*, Aleksii's leadership is characterized by strong opinions and conflicting priorities. The patriarch is a strong supporter of Russian President

Vladimir Putin, another former KGB agent. Under Aleksii's leadership, the Orthodox church has gained the right to import alcohol and tobacco into Russia at special duty rates. Aleksii also opposes any visit by Pope John Paul II to Russia.

It appears that Aleksii wasn't the only religious leader on the bankroll of the KGB during the Soviet era. Leaders of several religious groups, including Baptist, Armenian, Catholic, Muslim, Adventist and Buddhist groups, are identified as KGB agents in agency documents. The Keston researchers conclude that the widespread infiltration of religious leadership was one way the KGB kept tight control of the population of the Soviet Union.

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matt. 7:15).

GLEANINGS HERE AND THERE

PRINCETON, N.J. (EP)—Although evangelical parents spank their children, they aren't likely to abuse them physically or emotionally, according to a Princeton University study. The study by Brad Wilcox of Princeton's Center for Research on Child Wellbeing and John P. Bartkowski of Mississippi State University found that while many evangelicals use corporal punishment, evangelical parents are also more likely to praise their children and treat them with affection. Although some scholars have suggested that evangelical parents are abusive and authoritarian, Wilcox said, "Our findings call into question those assertions and suggest that conservative Protestant parents have a neo-traditional style of parenting that may well be perfectly fine." The study also found that evangelical parents are less likely to yell at their children.

LAS TUNAS, Cuba (EP)—Despite recent gains in religious freedom, the eviction of a pastor and his family from their home shows Cuban Christians still suffer from persecution, reports Voice of the Martyrs (VOM). The family of Pastor Jorge Ferrer Jr. was violently interrupted on Oct. 3 when police entered their house and threw all of the family's property out onto the street. Ferrer's father and two children were home at the time and were forced outside as police ransacked the building. Since the attack a guard has been posted at the home and the family has not been allowed back inside. When he inquired about the attack, authorities informed Ferrer they made a "grave error" by letting him buy the home. According to

VOM, Ferrer is being persecuted because of his ministry, the Evangelical League of Cuba, is heavily involved in evangelism. Ferrer's congregation has since held prayer vigils outside, but it is uncertain if the family will be allowed to re-enter the home in the near future.

WASHINGTON D.C. (EP)—The U.S. House of Representatives voted 380-15 to pass the Born-Alive Infant Protection Act. Rep. Charles Canady (R-Fla.), sponsor of the bill, said it is necessary because of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision favoring partial-birth abortion. "There's an implication in those recent decisions that threatens the child who is actually born alive, because if it can be argued that the mother's health justifies killing a partially born child it could also be argued that the safest way to carry out an abortion is simply to deliver the child and then kill the child," Canady said. According to a Chicago-area nurse, at least one hospital is already practicing "live-birth abortions," in which labor is induced to create a premature delivery of a live baby, who dies in the birth process or shortly afterward.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (EP)—A judge ordered an Indiana church to surrender its property to the Internal Revenue Service for taxes. Members of Indianapolis Baptist Temple have been given until Nov. 14 to vacate the facility, which will be seized because of unpaid taxes of almost \$6 million. The church's battle with the government began in 1984 when Pastor Emeritus Greg Dixon "ordained" all church employees as ministers and refused to withhold income tax and social security tax from their wages. Dixon, who has appealed the judge's decision, said, "I'm not going to pastor in a church that is controlled by the government. I see this as a battle the Lord has given us. If we can win it, in the long run we will help all churches."

WASHINGTON D.C. (EP)—Much has been made of Democratic vice presidential candidate Joseph Lieberman's strict adherence to his Jewish faith. Now he's being criticized by Jewish groups for saying that Judaism permits intermarriage. The *Jerusalem Post* reports that Lieberman was recently asked if Judaism bans interracial or interreligious dating and marriage. Lieberman responded, "No, there is no ban whatsoever" and explained Jewish attitudes toward marriage as part of a "natural tendency among a lot of Jews, as there is among Christians and a lot of ethnic

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groups to marry within, to keep the faith going." Orthodox Rabbi Avi Shafran disagreed, saying there is a "clear and irrevocable Torah prohibition" against intermarriage. Rabbi Jermoe Epstein, executive vice president of the Conservative United Synagogue of America, commented, "I do believe our tradition is quite clear, that Jews are expected to marry Jews."

ISTANBUL, Turkey (EP)—Underwater explorer Robert Ballard, famous for his discovery of the wreckage of the Titanic, has found evidence of human habitation 300 feet below the surface of the Black Sea. About 12 miles off the coast of Turkey, Ballard's team found the remains of a building composed of wooden beams, as well as stone tools on the sea floor. Researchers with the National Geographic Society-sponsored team estimate that the settlements are around 7,000 years old and are remarkably well preserved because of the unusually low oxygen content of the water. Ballard told the Associated Press that at some point in history the region experienced "a sudden and dramatic change from a freshwater lake to a saltwater sea." Biblical archeologists claim that the recent discoveries on the floor of the Black Sea support the biblical account of the Noahic flood.

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (EP)—Wendy Scott and Susan Parker were joined in a same-sex ceremony Sept. 9 at Wake Forest University's Wait Chapel. The ceremony was the first of its kind at the church-related school, and threatens to sever the school's final tie to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. Some members of the congregation left the church over the issue. When the Baptist State Convention meets in November, messengers will vote on whether to sever remaining ties to the university.

TOLEDO, Ohio (EP)—Michael Pitts, pastor of Cornerstone Church in Toledo, Ohio, was ordered to complete a drunken driving program and pay almost \$650 after being found guilty of driving while intoxicated, according to the *Toledo Blade*. Pitts, who is known as a television and conference preacher, pleaded no contest to the charges and had his driver's license suspended for six months. The newspaper reported that Pitts explained to his church that the arrest took place after he had "drunk a little wine with dinner" to celebrate the completion of a book project. But

police said Pitts failed several sobriety tests and refused to take a breath test.

GAITHERSBURG, Md. (EP)—Government scientists rejected a proposal to scale back the ban on blood donations from homosexual males. The Food and Drug Administration's advisors voted 7-6 to retain the ban, noting that they don't have enough evidence about how the ban might affect the risk of AIDS in the nation's blood supply. Men who wish to donate blood are asked if they have had sex with another man at any time since 1977. Those who answer yes are permanently barred from donating blood.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—Even though 49 Democrats crossed party lines to side with Republicans, the U.S. House of Representatives failed to override President Clinton's veto of the Marriage Tax Penalty Elimination Act. Wendy Wright of Concerned Women of America says the failure hurts married couples. "One of my own co-workers, who just two weeks ago was married, found out she's going to be paying an extra \$1,900, just for the privilege of being married," Wright said.

AUSTIN, Tex. (EP)—A former office manager for atheist leader Madalyn Murray O'Hair was indicted Sept. 19 in the 1995 disappearance of O'Hair, her son and granddaughter. A federal grand jury indicted David R. Waters, 53, for kidnapping, extortion and robbery resulting in the death of another person. Waters is currently in prison serving a 60-year term for another offense. O'Hair and two family members disappeared five years ago, along with a half-million dollars in gold coins. Extensive searches have failed to turn up any bodies, but officials believe the three were killed and dismembered after being kidnapped and robbed. O'Hair, who called herself the most hated woman in America, was involved in court actions in the 1960s to remove state-sponsored prayer and Bible reading from public schools. She was 77 when she disappeared.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (EP)—Presbyterian ministers and laypersons don't agree on the morality of gambling, according to a survey conducted by the Presbyterian Church (USA). The study found that among church members, 35 percent agreed and 51 percent disagreed that "all gambling is immoral." The numbers are almost exactly reversed for ministers, with 52 percent agreeing and 36 percent disagreeing that gambling is immoral.

The study also found widespread gambling among Presbyterians. Almost two-thirds of members (64 percent) and elders (65 percent) and almost half of pastors (44 percent) and specialized clergy (49 percent) reported participating in some form of legal gambling in the past year.

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam (EP)—In an attempt to stifle the spread of Christianity among the Hmong population of Vietnam, authorities are jamming Christian radio broadcasts. Compass Direct reports that the government started jamming Far East Broadcasting's daily Hmong dialect programs in late July. The jamming appears to be part of a new campaign the government has launched against Vietnamese Christians and missionaries to the country. It is illegal for anyone in Vietnam to listen to the broadcasts, which are sent from neighboring countries.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—The capital city of the United States was consecrated to goddesses and laid out according to astrological beliefs, according to British author David Ovason. In the new book *The Secret Architecture of Our Nation's Capital*, Ovason claims that nearly all of the men who surveyed and laid out Washington, D.C. were Freemasons, members of a secret brotherhood. He says the city's founders consecrated it to Virgo, who was also known as the Egyptian goddess Isis. Ovason also says officials buildings around the city bear Zodiac symbols.

ANDERSON, S.C. (EP)—The founder and president of Upstate Bible College and Theological Seminary in South Carolina lost his job after it was learned that he had mis-

represented his credentials and the school's accreditation status, and had also failed to mention his criminal background. Michael McCorvey is presently on probation, having been given a 10-year suspended sentence last December for obtaining property under false pretenses. McCorvey, 36, also has prior convictions for theft in Alabama and Florida. Before forming Upstate Bible College this past summer, McCorvey worked as director of extensions for Birmingham-Easonian Baptist Bible College in Alabama.

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (EP)—Many were surprised when feminist leader Gloria Steinem married liberal activist David Bale Sept. 2. Steinem had declared she would never marry, and had dismissed marriage as a form of slavery, calling it "mating in captivity." Now there are reports that Bale is scheduled to appear before an immigration court in Los Angeles on Feb. 23 to show cause why he should not be deported for overstaying his visa. Bale, a liberal activist for abortion advocacy and animal rights groups, is now entitled to conditional residency status. After two years if Bale can prove that the marriage is valid, he could receive a permanent residence card.

MONTPELIER, Vt. (EP)—Six Vermont legislators who backed the state's controversial "gay marriage" law were defeated in a Sept. 12 primary election. Five Republicans and one Democrat who supported the bill lost their reelection bids for party endorsement. However, four Republicans and one Democrat who were targeted for defeat because of their support for the law survived the primary election.

Evils of Union Meetings

By John Hall

(1849-1905)

Let us be very candid in our reflections about this modern union revival craze that has been sweeping over the country. If it is a good thing we very much desire to avoid throwing any hindrance in its way. We are decidedly in favor of any enterprise what we are sure will have the divine approval, and advance the glory of Christ, and make his cause to advance more rapidly. But in all candor we must say our present impression is not favorable to the union meeting idea. In our judgment the price paid for the service is entirely too much, and it can never be a profitable investment. Let us consider a few things:

1. A union meeting always sup-

poses an agreement to leave in the background such doctrines of the Bible as are supposed to be unpalatable to any of those who are in the meeting. This compromise of the truth is altogether dishonorable to our Lord, and without authority on our part. What right have we to agree to suppress a part of the truth He gave us to preach to the people?

2. A union meeting is a confession that all churches are equal in point of gospel preaching and authority, and that they can therefore unite on terms of perfect equality. That means that a church of Christ is no better than a church made by man. Such a reflec-

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Evils of Union Meetings

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tion is a sin.

3. There is no reason why any number of churches that may unite in perfect equality for two weeks should not unite on the same terms for all the time. There is just as much of principle involved. There is no more sin to unite for all time than it is for a day or a month.

4. There is a species of insincerity and hypocrisy involved in a union meeting. Those who lead pretend to a union that is not real. The people really differ and as soon as the union meeting is over they will go back to the old fight they have had all the time. The world may think that the differences have been merged, or surrendered, but it is a deception. The union is a mere pretense, and these mere pretenses are wicked in God's sight.

5. People who are in the union meeting are the very ones who ought to hear what God has to say on the very doctrines that have been set aside for the sake of the union. The true preacher tries to so adapt his preaching to his crowd as to say the things they need to hear, while they are present. But no such consideration ever enters into a union meeting for it would be out of place to say such things.

6. No preacher can be true to his own beliefs, if he has any, and be in a union meeting. The text he takes may call for a faithful proclamation of some of the very doctrines that have been set aside, and he cannot be faithful in refusing to declare those doctrines.

7. A union meeting goes on the presumption that some of the offensive doctrines of the Bible are not good for the conversion of men, and should therefore be left out. But all Scripture is profitable for doctrine, and for practice, and Paul said to Timothy, **"Take heed to the doctrine, for in so doing thou shalt save thyself and them that are near thee."**

8. Union meetings proceed on the popular idea that there is great need for people to get into the church in order to get a blessing. Church salvation is a leading heresy in the whole business. This is dangerous to the souls of men.

9. Union meetings also impress the people that religious denominations are wrong, and a hindrance to the conversion of the people. This is untrue. If this were true then Jesus made a mistake in establishing the sect that is everywhere spoken against, even in union meetings.

10. The whole business is of the

devil. It is a compromise with error, at the expense of truth. It is a reflection on those who are faithful, and puts a premium on those who oppose the truth. We are decidedly opposed to the whole thing, and do not believe its work is of any value at any point. Excuse us altogether when you start your union meeting, for we do not propose to be mixed up in the ungodly affair.



THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord.

We know that by His divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud

to pray to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

Abraham Lincoln, 1863

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Jordan Baptist Church, Sanford, Fla., and Pastor George R. Sledd will have their Mountain Missions Conference Dec. 7-10. Speakers will be Elders Tony Herald, Ron Rodgers, Bill Younger, Ronnie Watkins, Lonnie Poynter, Troy Sheppard, Leo Sexton, and others. For more information contact Pastor Sledd by e-mail: sledd@juno.com.

Bro. David Shortt, 8303 Gregory Place, Windsor, Ontario N85 4N3, Canada., writes telling me their small church needs a pastor. This pastor will have to work to support himself. If they cannot find a pastor fairly quickly, they may end up disbanding. You may e-mail Bro. Shortt at davidshortt@sprint.ca.

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When criminals actually went to jail.
When you weren't afraid to go out at night.
When taxes were only a necessary nuisance.
When a boy was a boy, and dressed like one.
When a girl was a girl, and dressed like one.
When the poor were too proud to take charity.
When the clergy actually talked about religion.
When clerks and repairmen tried to please you.
When college kids swallowed goldfish, not acid.
When songs had a tune, and the words made sense.
When young fellows tried to join the Army or Navy.
When people knew what the Fourth of July stood for.
When you never dreamed our country could ever lose.
When a Sunday drive was a pleasant trip, not an ordeal.
When you bragged about your hometown and home state.
When everybody didn't feel entitled to a college education.
When people expected less and valued what they had more.
When politicians proclaimed their patriotism, and meant it.
When everybody knew the difference between right and wrong.
When things weren't perfect—but you never expected them to be.
When you weren't made to feel guilty for enjoying dialect comedy.
When our Government stood up for Americans, anywhere in the world.
When you knew that the law would be enforced, and your safety protected.
When you considered yourself lucky to have a good job, and proud to have it.
When the law meant justice, and you felt a shiver of awe at sight of a policeman.
When you weren't embarrassed to say that this is the best country in the world.
When America was a land filled with brave, proud, confident, hardworking people!





WORLD SCENE

By G. Russell Evans - Norfolk, Virginia

Sentate Sell Out of Impeachment Exposed



If the people of our country really care, they will want the true story of the who, how and why of President Clinton's acquittal in the Senate impeachment trial in 1998. They got precious little of the real story from Big Media—long-time protectors of Bill and Hillary and Vice President Al Gore.

TRUE STORY OUT

Now, the true story has been out for several weeks in David Schippers's devastating book *Sell Out: Why Bill Clinton's Impeachment Was Over Before It Began*.

But again, this shocking exposure got no front page headlines, despite irrefutable evidence of perjury and obstruction of justice by Clinton and the cowardly and shameful handling of the "trial" by Senate leaders.

On the other hand, what did get front page treatment was *Washington Post* reporter Peter Baker's book *The Breach: Inside the Impeachment and Trial of William Jefferson Clinton*—a chronology of the terror in the White House and the "heroic" spinning by Clinton loyalists David Kendall and Harold Ickes to save the president.

THE SOFT PEDAL

Media treatment of these two books is significant: *Sell Out*, documenting shocking political betrayal and dishonor, was given the soft pedal and largely ignored.

The Breach, focusing on the White House disarray and wild schemes for survival, omitted the scandalous whitewash in the Senate—and consequently got headlines.

Thus, Big Media refocused public attention away from the Senate betrayal and onto the lesser story of White House reaction. Very clever.

TOUGH SENATORS

David Schippers, Republican Counsel to the House Judiciary Committee, found slick senators much tougher than the Cook County mob he had dealt with as a Chicago prosecutor. He had built a powerful case with mountains of evidence from Special Counsel Ken Starr's investigations. It was a sell out from day one when Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) told Chairman Henry Hyde (R-Ill.) of the House Judiciary Committee, "Henry, you're not going to dump this garbage on us."

Before the Senate "trial" even began, the 13 House impeachment managers were warned, "There's no way you can win." Senator Ted Stevens (R-

Alas.) told Schippers, "I don't care if you have proof that Clinton raped a woman and shot her dead, you're still not going to get 67 votes (needed for conviction)."

When reminded that a hundred senators had just sworn to God to render equal and impartial justice, Stevens was asked if they "will ignore that oath."

Said Stevens, "You're darn right they will."

TRUTH NOT WANTED

Mr. Schippers has proved conclusively that most of the U.S. senators did not want the truth out—they just wanted "out." He wrote, "In the U.S. Senate, politics trumped principles and polls triumphed honor."

Clinton got his acquittal. Lott, Stevens & Co. got their deal and the people now get the truth about the bogus impeachment "trial."

Schippers names the Republicans who betrayed the courageous work of the 13 House managers—now targeted by the Clinton political machine for defeat at the next election. Many senators blatantly refused to look at the evidence.

15 CRIMES CHARGED

The original Articles of Impeachment contained 15 alleged crimes by Clinton, involving abuse and harassment of Kathleen Wiley, Juanita Broadrick and Dolly Kyle Browning. Republicans helped water down the charges.

Janet Reno's Justice Department blocked important witnesses and shielded the White House against compliance with requests for information.

Coming in the next issue . . .

What Kind of Church is Your Church by Clyde Hancock
Do Voters Pick Greed Over Character by G. Russell Evans
The Stability of the Covenant by Milburn Cockrell

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Why would Republicans help? Clinton could smear them with raw data from their FBI files that he and Hillary had illegally obtained.

A key player on the Clinton side was House Majority Leader Dick Gephardt (D-Mo.) who tried to block the House impeachment vote with a parliamentary maneuver that failed. Next was his flowery speech accusing pro-impeachment colleagues of "the politics of personal destruction."

Later that day on the White House lawn, he called Clinton "one of the greatest presidents in history," and tried to smear the impeachment vote as a "disgrace to our country."

WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

The disgrace to our country is the arrogant sell out in the United States Senate. And "leaders" like Gephardt.

Sell Out is a story deserving full exposure. So, what will voters do about their senators who betrayed them and sold out American justice? Will they all be reelected because of the goodies they can send home? Probably so—because the politician has not yet been invented who cannot come up with a pompous and deceitful alibi.

(Capt. Evans' columns are distributed by the Americanism Educational League.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sister Mandi Ifans Lawson, the widow of the late Marion G. Lawson, has written a Christian fiction book "Haven in Winter." The book uses Welsh characters because of Sister Lawson's Welsh heritage. It sells for \$12.95 plus \$2.05 for postage and handling. Please order from her, not us. Her address is 74 Bay Court, Riverdale, GA 30296, or phone (770) 603-0290, or e-mail at Speedy736@aol.com.

BEREA BAPTIST BANNER Financial Report 8-31-2000 to 9-30-2000

Beginning Balance	\$4,929.73
RECEIPTS:	
B. C. of Brimfield, Brimfield, IL	15.30
Big Creek B. C., Wayne WV	300.00
Briar Creek B. C., Williamsburg, KY	125.00
Berea B. C., Mantachie, MS	200.00
Berea B. C., Stoning, IL	60.00
Berea B. C., Westpoint, TN	50.00
Berea M. B. C., Mansfield, OH	50.00
Central Avenue B. C., Tampa, FL	25.00
Citrus M. B. C., Inverness, FL	20.00
Don Titus, Mt. Morris, MI	8.05
Faith B. C., Seffner, FL	50.00
Faith M. B. C., Clarksville, TN	100.00
Grace B. C., Corbin, KY	60.00
Grace B. C., Georgetown, KY	38.00
Grace M. B. C., Tulsa, OK	90.00
Grace M. B. C., Mission, Marion, IL	25.00
Hillcrest B. C., Winston-Salem, NC	25.00
Indore B. C., Indore, WV	100.00
J. B. Wild, Flint, MI	20.00
Joe Jurzec, Lake-in-the-Hills, IL	50.00
Kenneth Weedon, Mabank, TX	70.94
Landmark M. B. C., Monck's Corner, SC	25.00
Leroy Bullard, Albuquerque, NM	75.00
Mt Pleasant B. C., Chesapeake, OH	100.00
New Testament B. C., Bristol, TN	10.00
New Testament B. C., Goshen, IN	50.00
Ocoonita M. B. C., Keokee, VA	40.00
Philadelphia B. C., Aztec, NM	25.00
Philadelphia B. C., Decatur, AL	50.00
Portland B. C., Plumerville, AR	50.00
Sovereign Grace B. C., Columbus, MS	50.00
Sovereign Grace B. C., Fulton, MS	100.00
Sovereign Grace B. C., Raleigh, NC	100.00
Sovereign Grace B. C., Northport, AL	100.00
Sovereign Grace B. C., Silsbee, TX	30.00
Sovereign Grace B. C., Galena, OH	50.00
South Park M. B. C., Seattle, WA	25.00
Temple B. Mission, Johnson City, TN	25.00
The Lord's C., Goose Creek, SC	50.00
Victory B. C., Courtland, VA	100.00
Subscriptions	135.00
Anonymous	170.00
Dividing Check	314.01
Sub Total	\$3,117.88
TOTAL	\$8,047.61

EXPENDITURES:

Wages	2,225.00
Printing	521.00
Postage	724.46
FICA taxes	176.27
Dividing Check	314.01
Supplies	274.34
Total Expenditure	4,245.08
	3,802.53
Bank charge	-8.58
ENDING BALANCE	\$3,793.95

BEREA BAPTIST BROADCAST Financial Report 8-31-2000 to 9-30-2000

Beginning Balance \$ 2,673.96

RECEIPTS

Grace B. C., Corbin, KY	100.00
Berea B. C., Mantachie, MS	100.00
Livingstone B. C., Barboursville, V	243.09
Berea B. C., Westpoint, TN	132.00
Briar Creek B. C., Williamsburg, KY	75.00
Calvary Ind. B. C., Everson, WA	100.00
Dividing Checks	100.00
	850.09
TOTAL RECEIPTS	3,524.05

EXPENDITURES:

Radio Time	547.00
Postage	16.30
Supplies	50.00
Dividing Check	100.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	713.30
	2,810.75
Bank Charge	-14.39
Order of checks	-53.10
BALANCE	\$2,743.26

CORBIN, KENTUCKY REPORT

Beginning Balance \$663.32
 RECEIPTS
 Total 663.32

EXPENDITURES:

WYWY	140.00
Total Expenditures	140.00
ENDING BALANCE	\$523.32