

The Baptist CHALLENGE

a voice of independent Baptists

VOL. XLIX, No. 7

July 2009

WHOLE NO. 536

The Immortal Fifty-Six

By Eld. D. W. Cutting

“This shall be written for the generation to come” (Psa. 102:18).

Fourth of July, 1776, is, on the American calendar, the birthday of the nation.

The morning of that first Independence Day was not hot, as is generally supposed, the temperature at one o'clock in the afternoon was only 76 degrees, but the day was cloudy and sultry. A thunder shower broke in the late morning, and through the clouds beamed the sun — harbinger of glorious things.

War had been raging for more than a year in the colonies. Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill had been fought. Ticonderoga and Crown Point had been taken. Washington was in command of the army. The enemy had been driven out of Boston. Yet the colonies were still bound together with but a rope of sand. The Quakers and Moravians were opposed to war as sinful. Pacifists and ob-

structionists were bold and outspoken. The Tories, loyal to the king, were in great number, wealth, and influence.

For fifty-four days, ever since May 10th, the Provincial Congress had been busy with its deliberations. “Should the colonies be free and independent States?” It was a tremendous question and fraught with danger to those who favored it. Any such declaration would be treason against the king, to be punished by loss of property, and possibly by an ignominious death. In the face of all this, however, most of the delegates were strongly in favor of separation. So much were they in favor that on June 7th, in the Continental Congress, Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, offered, and John Adams, of Massachusetts, seconded, the following Resolution: “That these united colonies are, and of right ought to be free and independent States; that they are absolved from all

allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between us and the state of Great Britain is, and of right ought to be, totally dissolved.”

Then Congress on June 11th named, by ballot, a committee to prepare a resolution which would state the reason for the proposed action of the colonies. This committee consisted of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Robert R. Livingston. This committee appointed a sub-committee of two, Jefferson and Adams, to prepare the first draft of the Declaration.

The Building of the Ship

The sub-committee met. Let John Adams tell the story:

“Jefferson proposed to me to make the draft. I said, ‘I will not.’ Jefferson said, ‘You should do it.’ I replied, ‘Oh, no.’ ‘Why not?’ ‘Reason enough.’

‘What can be your reasons?’ ‘First: You are a Virginian, and a Virginian ought to be at the head of this business. Second: I am obnoxious, suspected, and unpopular. You are very much otherwise. Third: You can write ten times better than I can.’ ‘Well,’ said Jefferson, ‘if you are decided, I will do as well as I can.’”

Interesting as is this bit of by-play between two great men at the birth hour of a great nation, we must not think this Alphonse-Gaston politeness quite the petty thing it seems on the surface. The task about to be performed would bring the man who undertook it one of two things — a tragic execution or undying fame. Only the better prepared man could assume the risk.

May I digress a moment, long enough to say that I think Thomas Jefferson was the best edu-

(See 1776 on page 18)

Does The Bible Contradict Itself?

The Two Accounts of Creation

By W. Arndt

Genesis 1 and Genesis 2:11

It has often been stated that the account of creation in Genesis 2:4ff contradicts the simple and yet grand narrative in the first chapter of the Bible.

Chapter one clearly places the creation of plant and animal life before the creation of man, and chapter two, it is charged, reverses the order and lets man be made first. This criticism is caused by a total misunderstanding of Genesis 2:4ff.

There is nothing here which could compel us to assume that the writer wishes to relate anew the creation of the universe. He is now concerned with the story of the first man, whose creation had been briefly mentioned in chapter one; and all the

details he dwells on are connected with this theme.

In chapter 2:5 Moses is not giving an account of the origin of plant life. It will be noticed that he speaks of "every plant of the field and every herb of the field," not of plant life in general. He is describing the region where the Garden of Eden was to be located and states that it was at this juncture of time, that is, in the hour when man was created, still a barren desert.

In verse 19 the creation of animals is referred to, but Moses does not say that it occurred after the creation of man. He alludes to it because he intends to introduce a new and significant detail, namely, the reviewing and naming of the animals on the part

“We Want Protection”

That is the cry that came over the radio Tuesday night March 23, 1954. This is the cry of the motorist who likes to speed and take chances. They want to force everyone to take out insurance.

What they really want is *money* not protection. More people have auto insurance today than ever before and more people are being killed.

Insurance doesn't protect. Actually it causes wrecks, injuries and death. People take more chances when they are insured.

of Adam, which showed that he was without a helpmeet for him.

In verse seven the story of the creation of man is told with greater fullness, and the reader is informed that when God entered upon the creation of human beings, He, to begin with, formed only man, deferring the creation of woman for some time.

Thus an unbiased study of these two chapters will force the conclusion upon us that their accounts are far from contradictory, that each one has its own particular theme, the second enlarging on points briefly touched upon in the first, and that such overlapping as occurs is due to the aim of the writer properly to introduce his new material. □

There is only one source through which we can obtain protection. You will find it in 1 Peter 3:12-13. There is no protection outside of God. His eye is on the sparrow.

Some people say, I can't tithe. When I get my insurance all paid, I don't have enough money to tithe. The United States is getting in a worse shape every day because we are leaving God out more every day. We, as a nation do not want to submit to God. We'll trust insurance before we will God. We can't get away with using God's tithe for paying insurance.

We are paying a tremendous price today for robbing God. "He that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes. Thus saith the Lord of hosts; consider your ways" (Hag. 1:6-7).

My uncle was killed in a car wreck and my aunt hospitalized. The insurance company didn't want to pay off because they had lived beyond their allotted time. A trick of the company to cheat people out of their hard earned money.

Imagine an insurance company charging God with neglect of duty. We haven't lived our allotted time until God says, "It's enough."

Insure with God. He never fails (2 Cor. 6:14-18; Mal. 3:7-18).

— Copied

THE BAPTIST CHALLENGE

M. L. Moser, Editor
Pastor Emeritus
CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
15601 Taylor Loop Rd.
Little Rock, Arkansas 72223
Church Phone: (501) 868-7703
Email: mlmoser1@juno.com
Editor's Phone: (501) 258-3221



A Baptist Catechism With Proofs

Compiled by C. H. Spurgeon

I am persuaded that the use of a good Catechism in all our families will be a great safe-guard against the increasing errors of the times, and therefore I have compiled this little manual from the Westminster Assembly's and Baptist Catechisms, for the use of my own church and congregation. Those who use it in their families or classes must labor to explain the sense; but the words should be carefully learned by heart.

May the Lord bless my dear friends and their families evermore, is the prayer of their loving Pastor.

—C. H. Spurgeon

* * * * *

Question 1: *What is the chief end of man?*

Answer: Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him for ever.

Scripture: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God (1 Cor. 10:21).

"Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee. My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever" (Psa. 73:25-26).

Question 2: *What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify Him?*

Answer: The Word of God which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify God and enjoy Him.

Scripture: "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone" (Eph. 2:20).

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16).

"That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ" (1 Jn. 1:3).

Question 3: *What do the Scriptures principally teach?*

Answer: The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

Scripture: "Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou has heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim. 1:12).

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man" (Eccl. 12:13).

Question 4: *What is God?*

Answer: God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.

Scripture: "God is a Spirit" (Jn. 4:24).

"Canst thou by searching find out God? canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection?" (Job 11:7).

"From everlasting to everlasting thou art God" (Psa. 90:2).

"Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen" (1 Tim. 1:17).

"The Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (Jas. 1:27).

"And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and He said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you" (Ex. 3:14).

"Great is our Lord, and of great power: His understanding is infinite" (Psa. 147:5).

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come" (Rev. 4:8).

"The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty" (Ex. 34:67).

Question 5: *Are there more Gods than one?*

Answer: There is but one only, the living and true God.

Scripture: "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord" (Deut. 6:4).

"The Lord is the true God. He is the living God" (Jer. 10:10).

Question 6: *How many persons are there in the Godhead?*

Answer: There are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one God, the same in essence, equal in power and glory.

(See **SPURGEON** on page 4)

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 3)

Scripture: “There are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one” (1 Jn. 5:7).

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost” (Mt. 28:18).

Question 7: What are the decrees of God?

Answer: The decrees of God are His eternal purpose according to the counsel of His own will, whereby for His own glory He hath foreordained whatsoever comes to pass.

Scripture: “Being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory” (Eph. 1:11, 12).

Question 8: How doth God execute His decrees?

Answer: God executeth His decrees in the works of creation and providence.

Scripture: “Thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created” (Rev. 4:11).

“And he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth” (Dan. 4:35).

Question 9: What is the work of creation?

Answer: The work of creation is God’s making all things of nothing, by the word of His power, and all very good.

Scripture: “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” (Gen. 1:1).

“Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear” (Heb. 11:3).

“And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good” (Gen. 1:31).

Question 10: How did God create man?

Answer: God created man, male and female, after His own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.

Scripture: “So God created man in his own image in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them” (Gen. 1:22).

“And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him” (Col. 3:10).

“And God blessed them, and God said unto them. Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth” (Gen. 1:28).

Question 11. What are God’s works of providence?

Answer: God’s works of providence are his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all His creatures, and all their actions.

Scripture: “The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works” (Psa. 145:17).

“This also cometh forth from the Lord of hosts, which is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in working” (Isa. 28:29).

“Upholding all things by the word of his power” (Heb. 1:3).

“His kingdom ruleth over all” (Psa. 103:19).

“Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father” (Mt. 10:29).

Question 12: What special act of providence did God exercise towards man in the state wherein he was created?

Answer: When God had created man, He entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon pain of death.

Scripture: “The law is not of faith: but the man that doeth them shall live in them” (Gal. 3:12).

“But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die” (Gen. 2:17).

Question 13: Did our first parents continue in the state wherein they were created?

Answer: Our first parents being left to the freedom of their own will, fell from the state wherein they were created, by sinning against God, by eating the forbidden fruit.

Scripture: “God hath made man upright: but they have sought out many inventions” (Eccl. 7:29).

“When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat; and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden” (Gen. 3:6-8).

Question 14: What is sin?

Answer: Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of the law of God.

Scripture: “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law” (1 Jn. 3:4).

Question 15: Did all mankind fall in Adam’s first transgression?

Answer: The covenant being made with Adam, not only for himself but for his posterity, all mankind descending from him by ordinary eneration, sinned in

(See **SPURGEON** on page 5)

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 4)

him, and fell with him in his first transgression.

Scripture: “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive” (1 Cor. 15:22).

“By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin: and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned” (Rom. 5:12).

Question 16: *Into what estate did the fall bring mankind?*

Answer: The fall brought mankind into a state of sin and misery.

Scripture: “By the offence of one, judgment came upon all men to condemnation” (Rom. 5:18).

Question 17: *Wherein consists the sinfulness of that state whereunto man fell?*

Answer: The sinfulness of that state whereunto man fell, consists in the guilt of Adam’s first sin, the want of original righteousness, and the corruption of his whole nature, which is commonly called original sin, together with all actual transgressions which proceed from it.

Scripture: “By one man’s disobedience many were made sinners” (Rom. 5:19).

“There is none righteous, no, not one” (Rom. 3:10).

“You hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins” (Eph. 2:1).

“Behold, I was shapen in iniquity: and in sin did my mother conceive me” (Psa. 51:5).

“For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies” (Mt. 15:19).

Question 18: *What is the misery of that state whereinto man fell?*

Answer: All mankind, by their fall, lost communion with God, are under His wrath and curse, and so made liable to all the miseries in this life, to death itself, and to the pains of hell for ever.

Scripture: “Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God, amongst the trees of the garden. So he drove out the man” (Gen. 3:8, 24).

“We were by nature the children of wrath, even as others (Eph. 2:3).

“Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them” (Gal. 3:10).

“The wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23).

“Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels” (Mt. 25:41).

Question 19: *Did God leave all mankind to perish in the state of sin and misery?*

Answer: God having, out of His good pleasure from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter

into a covenant of grace to deliver them out of the state of sin and misery, and to bring them into a state of salvation by a Redeemer.

Scripture: “Because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth” (2 Thess. 2:13).

“That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom. 5:21).

Question 20: *Who is the Redeemer of God’s elect?*

Answer: The only Redeemer of God’s elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was and continueth to be God and man, in two distinct natures and one person for ever.

Scripture: “There is one God, and one mediator, between God and men, the man Christ Jesus” (1 Tim. 2:5).

“The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us” (Jn. 1:14).

“God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory” (1 Tim. 3:16).

“For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily” (Col. 2:9).

Question 21: *How did Christ being the Son of God, become man?*

Answer: Christ, the Son of God, became man by taking to Himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost in the Virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.

Scripture: “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also himself likewise took part of the same” (Heb. 2:14).

“Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death” (Mt. 26:38).

“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin” (Heb. 4:15).

“Behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee” (Lk. 1:31, 35).

“Such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners” (Heb. 7:26).

Question 22: *What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?*

Answer: Christ as our Redeemer executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in His state of humiliation and exaltation.

Scripture: “Moses truly said unto the fathers, a prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me: him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you” (Acts 3:22).

(See **SPURGEON** on page 6)

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 5)

“Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec” (Heb. 5:6).

“Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion” (Psa. 2:6).

Question 23: *How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?*

Answer: Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by His Word, and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

Scripture: “No man hath seen God at any time; the begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him” (Jn. 1:18).

“These [things] are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God: and that believing ye might have life through his name” (Jn. 20:31).

“The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things” (Jn. 14:26).

Question 24: *How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?*

Answer: Christ executeth the office of a priest, in His once offering up Himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and to reconcile us to God, and in making continual intercession for us.

Scripture: “Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many” (Heb. 9:28).

“In all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest, in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people” (Heb. 2:17).

“He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them” (Heb. 7:25).

Question 25: *How doth Christ execute the office of a king?*

Answer: Christ executeth the office of a king in subduing us to Himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all His and our enemies.

Scripture: “Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power” (Psa. 110:3).

“For out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel” (Mt. 2:5).

“He must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet” (1 Cor. 15:26).

Question 26: *Wherein did Christ’s humiliation consist?*

Answer: Christ’s humiliation consisted in His being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross; in being buried, and

continuing under the power of death for a time.

Scripture: “And she brought forth her first born Son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger” (Lk. 2:7).

“God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law” (Gal. 4:4).

“He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief” (Isa. 53:3).

“And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me” (Mt. 27:46).

“He humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross” (Phil. 2:8).

“As Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale’s belly, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth” (Mt. 12:40).

Question 27: *Wherein consisteth Christ’s exaltation?*

Answer: Christ’s exaltation consisteth in His rising again from the dead on the third day, in ascending up into heaven, and sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the last day.

Scripture: “And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day, according to the scriptures” (1 Cor. 15:4).

“So then, after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God” (Mk. 16:19).

“He hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead” (Acts 17:31).

Question 28: *How are we made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ?*

Answer: We are made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ, by the effectual application of it to us by His Holy Spirit.

Scripture: “As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God” (Jn. 1:12).

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour” (Tit. 3:5-6).

Question 29: *How doth the Spirit apply to us the redemption purchased by Christ?*

Answer: The Spirit applieth to us the redemption purchased by Christ, by working faith in us, and thereby uniting us to Christ in our effectual calling.

Scripture: “By grace are ye saved through faith: and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God” (Eph. 2:8).

“That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith” (Eph. 3:17).

Question 30: *What is effectual calling?*

(See **SPURGEON** on page 7)

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 6)

Answer: Effectual calling is the work of God's Spirit, whereby, convincing us of our sin and misery, enlightening our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and renewing our wills, He doth persuade and enable us to embrace Jesus Christ freely offered to us in the gospel.

Scripture: "Who hath saved us, and called us with a holy calling" (2 Tim. 1:9).

"Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?" (Acts 2:37).

"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God" (Acts 26:18).

"I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh" (Ezk. 36:26).

"No man can come to me, except the Father, which hath sent me, draw him ... Every man that hath learned of the Father cometh unto me" (Jn. 6:44, 45).

Question 31: *What benefits do they who are effectually called, partake of in this life?*

Answer: They who are effectually called, do in this life partake of justification, adoption, sanctification, and the several benefits which in this life do either accompany, or flow from them.

Scripture: "Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified" (Rom. 8:30).

"Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself" (Eph. 1:5).

"Of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption" (1 Cor. 1:30).

Question 32: *What is justification?*

Answer: Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein he pardoneth all our sins, and accepteth us as righteous in His sight only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

Scripture: "Being justified freely by his grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 3:24).

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

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Cor. 5:21).

"As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous" (Rom. 5:19).

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ" (Gal. 2:16).

"And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith" (Phil. 3:9).

Question 33: *What is adoption?*

Answer: Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges of the sons of God.

Scripture: "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God" (1 Jn. 3:1).

"As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (Jn. 1:12).

"If children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ" (Rom. 8:17).

Question 34: *What is sanctification?*

Answer: Sanctification is the work of God's Spirit, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

Scripture: "God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit" (2 Thess. 2:13).

"And ye that put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness" (Eph. 4:24).

"For in that he died, he died unto sin once; but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God" (Rom. 6:11).

Question 35: *What are the benefits which in this life do either accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification?*

Answer: The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, are assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, increase of grace, and perseverance therein to the end.

Scripture: "Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith unto this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God ... Hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us" (Rom. 5:1-2, 5).

"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost" (Rom. 14:14).

"The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" (Prov. 4:18).

"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God, that ye may know that ye have eternal life" (1 Jn. 5:13).

"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation" (1 Pet. 1:5).

Question 36: *What benefits do believers receive from Christ at their death?*

Answer: The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory, and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves till the resurrection.

Scripture: "To the spirits of just men made perfect" (Heb. 12:23).

(See **SPURGEON** on page 11)



Campaign To Promote Islam Under Way in Numerous U.S. Cities.

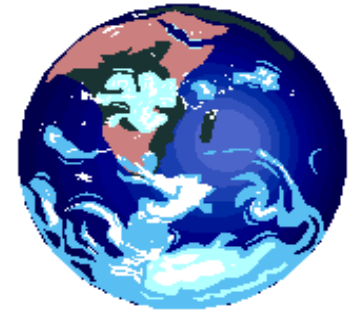
— Several Muslim groups are running an ad campaign in major cities across America to promote Islam and attract people to its “peaceful teachings.” The ad blitz includes billboards on subway systems and buses. Fifty buses in Broward County, Florida were plastered with the message: ISLAM. The Way of Life of Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad.” The attempt to turn various Old Testament personalities and Jesus into Muslims is part of the campaign effort. The Council of American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) paid for the Florida ads. One Muslim cleric stated that the whole World will be Muslim by 2080. — Ed. Only Christians worship the God of Noah, Abraham, and Moses. Non-Christians worship a god who does not exist. — CN

“Hate-Crimes” Bill Passes Judiciary Committee. — The U.S. House Judiciary Committee passed legislation on April

World News Roundup

23 that would create a new class of crimes based on the victim’s “actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.” Under “hate-crimes” laws like H.R. 1913, pastors could be prosecuted for preaching the biblical view of homosexuality. Similar laws have been used to prosecute religious speech in the U.S. at the state level and abroad. “The homosexual activists’ mantra is no longer tolerance — it’s embrace and promote,” said Ashley Horne, federal policy analyst at Focus on the Family Action. “Anything less will be silenced. Christians must speak up.” — EP

Vacuum Cleaner Lungs. — The following is from Creation Moments. “The air we breathe has always been filled with dust particles. And whether it is dust blown off the ground, smoke particles, or tiny particles of fabric or even paper in the house, these particles find their way deep into our lungs. In His wisdom, our Creator has provided us with tiny, but effective ‘vacuum cleaners’ in our lungs that collect and remove the particles that enter the lungs. These “vacuum cleaner” cells are actually a specific type of macro-



phage. They work in the deepest part of the lung, reaching out with tubular extensions to engulf any particle in much the same way that an amoeba eats. This ‘vacuum cleaner’ essentially eats the particles it finds, and every one of these ‘vacuum cleaner’ cells can clean an area forty times its own size. Scientists say that they still do not fully understand whether certain particles, like poisonous heavy metals, affect the working of these cells. They suspect that certain particles may prevent these ‘vacuum cleaners’ from effectively doing their work.” — FBIS

Pentagon Burns Soldiers Bibles — Military Chaplains Attacked. — A Pentagon spokesman under the Obama Administration has just acknowledged seizing and burning the privately owned Bibles of American soldiers serving in Afghanistan. The Bibles had been printed in the local Pashto and Dari languages, and sent by private donors last year to American Christian soldiers and chaplains, for distribution to American troops on overseas military bases during optionally-attended Christian worship services. Had the Bibles not been recently seized and des-

troyed, they could have legally been given as gifts during off-duty time to Afghani citizens who welcome our troops in their homes, as an expression of American gratitude for Afghani hospitality, promoting the democratic ideals of freedom of religion and freedom of the press. But the Muslim controlled Al Jazeera television network obtained video footage of the Bibles, held by American soldiers while listening to a chaplain on the Bagram Air Base (inside the base chapel) whose sermon encouraged outreach and personal evangelism. The American values of freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, and freedom of Christian speech offended some extremist Muslim groups, and angered a small group of American atheists, who demanded the chaplain be punished for “proselytizing” because he simply repeated Jesus’ words to “Go and make disciples of all nations” in church. (Can you imagine their outrage if we burned the Koran, instead of the Bible?).

(See **WNR** on page 20)

La Voz Del Desierto

Breve Historia de la Iglesia Bautista Central de Little Rock, Arkansas

En enero de 2009, la Iglesia Bautista Central de Little Rock, Arkansas celebró sus 87 años de ser una verdadera iglesia escritural, del Señor Jesucristo. Su historia es primordialmente la historia de dos de sus pastores, quienes pastorearon la iglesia por más de 50 años. La Iglesia Bautista Central tiene una deuda de gratitud, con estos dos pastores; ya que fueron ellos, bajo la dirección del Espíritu Santo, los que desarrollaron la iglesia que es hoy en día. Es imposible hablar sobre la Iglesia Bautista Central, sin incluir la historia de estos dos hombres, M.L. Moser, padre y M.L. Moser, hijo.

La Iglesia Bautista Central puede trazar su historia hasta el 1824. La primera iglesia Bautista de Arkansas y de Little Rock, fue organizada el sábado 24 de julio de 1824, con Silas T. Toncray como

pastor. En el 1873, dos iglesias de Little Rock se unieron, la Iglesia Bautista Unión y la Primera Iglesia Bautista, convirtiéndose éstas en la Iglesia Bautista Central. El 6 de enero de 1874, votaron para cambiar el nombre de Central a Primera Iglesia Bautista.

El 10 de enero de 1922, la Iglesia Bautista de la Gente (People's Baptist Church), fue formada por unos 200 miembros, quienes dejaron la Primera Iglesia Bautista, para formar la nueva Iglesia. El Hno. James O. Johnston, pastor de la Primera Iglesia Bautista, se convirtió en el pastor de la Iglesia Bautista de la Gente. De acuerdo a las minutas de la Asociación Bautista del Condado de Pulaski (Arkansas), la Iglesia Bautista de la Gente fue investigada a cabalidad por otras iglesias del área y aceptada como una iglesia Bautista

escritural. El siguiente informe fue registrado en los archivos permanentes de la Asociación: "Nosotros, el comité investigador, reporta que hemos investigado cuidadosamente y en oración, la organización y regularidades de la Iglesia Bautista de la Gente, y encontramos que la iglesia fue propiamente organizada y está funcionando como una Iglesia Bautista Misionera, y recomendamos que la carta peticionaria sea recibida y mensajes sean sentados con los usuales privilegios de este cuerpo." Los primeros servicios de la Iglesia Bautista de la Gente fueron celebrados el 15 de enero de 1922, en el Teatro Royal. Poco después el nombre fue cambiado a la Iglesia Bautista Central.

El 15 de julio de 1931 la iglesia llamó a M.L. Moser, padre, como su pastor. Este

nuevo pastor de 31 años, pastoreó la iglesia a su período más grande de crecimiento. Durante los primeros cuatro años de su liderazgo el crecimiento de la iglesia fue asombroso. Durante estos primeros cuatro años, la iglesia recibió exactamente 1,000 miembros nuevos, 750 llegando por bautismo. Más de la mitad de éstos fueron bautizados en el 1933. El pastor Moser Sr., se convenció bajo sus estudios, que no existía Justificación escritural para la Convención u otra organización de iglesias, ya que cada iglesia en el Nuevo Testamento, era una iglesia bautista independiente, y que una iglesia no podía unirse o afiliarse con cualquier organización que fuese una Convención, Asociación, Organizaciones de Compañerismo o cualquier otra organiza-

(See MOSER en la pag. 10)

MOSER . . .

(Vino de la pag. 9)

ción, sin perder o conceder por lo menos alguna de su independencia.

Al poco tiempo, la iglesia votó unánimemente para retirarse de la Convención Bautista del Sur y se ha mantenido como una iglesia bautista independiente no afiliada, desde entonces.

La Sra. Moser se convirtió en parte esencial del ministerio de su esposo a través de su música. En un artículo de primera página, en el periódico "Arkansas Democrat" del 23 de noviembre de 1953, la Sra. Moser es mencionada como una de las nominadas para "Arkansiana del Año." El artículo señala: "La Sra. M.L. Moser, esposa del Reverendo M.L. Moser, pastor de la Iglesia Bautista Central, notable líder de la iglesia en Little Rock por espacio de 22 años, durante los cuales ella se ha destacado como músico, tanto para la

iglesia como para los programas radiales dominicales." La Sra. Moser continuó tocando para la iglesia, hasta poco antes, de su muerte de cáncer.

En el 1965 el Hno Moser Sr renunció debido a problemas de salud. Luego de oración, la iglesia llamó al Hno. Moser Jr. como pastor durante el mes de octubre de 1965. El Hno. Moser Sr fue elegido como Pastor Emérito. El Hno. Moser Sr. murió en el 1985, y el Hno. Moser Jr. predicó en su funeral. Muchas líderes cívicos de la ciudad y del estado insistieron al funeral, incluyendo a Orval Faubus, el Gobernador de Arkansas, y Dale Alford, quien fue miembro de la Cámara de Representantes de los Estados Unidos. El Hno. Moser padre fue autor de los libros: 1) *Doctrina Bautista en un Año* 2) *Convencionismo — Una Sanguijuela Sobre el Trabajo de la Misión Bautista* 3) *La Seguridad Eterno del Creyente* 4) *Sobre Esta Roca*.

Para el 1968 era claro que la iglesia no podía quedarse en el centro de la ciudad de Little Rock. No

había suficiente terreno para estacionamientos, y el área en general, era de pocas familias viviendo en el área. Por lo tanto, la iglesia comenzó a mirar hacia el oeste, buscando una mejor localización para la iglesia. El acceso era sumamente importante ya que la mayoría de los miembros de la congregación provenían de todas partes del condado, así que era necesario conseguir un terreno en una de las carreteras principales de la ciudad, preferiblemente en o cerca de la carretera interestatal. Se compró una propiedad de cinco acres, cerca de la Calle 12 Oeste, una de las arterias vehiculares más transitadas de la ciudad, y a menos de una cuadra de la Interestatal 630. El primer edificio fue completado en el 1968, y la iglesia se mudó de la Calle Markham a la nueva localidad, en el otoño de 1968. El edificio era de dos plantas con entradas en la primera planta, tanto para la primera como para la segunda. El edificio tenía unos 22,000 pies cuadrados en cada planta, lo que proveyó a la iglesia espacio suficiente, en la primera planta para los servicios y las escuelas dominicales, y en la segunda planta para confraternización.

Luego de la construcción del edificio, el Hno. Moser Jr. pensó que él no podía dedicarle tiempo adecuado al ministerio de

"Publicaciones El Reto," al "El Reto Bautista" (**The Baptist Challenge**), al trabajo misionero en México, y al de pastorear la iglesia; por lo cual le solicitó a la iglesia que le permitieran retirarse como pastor, para poder dedicarse a tiempo completo al ministerio de las misiones de la iglesia. Por voto unánime, la iglesia votó a favor de esta petición, por lo cual en el 1990, el Hno. Moser Jr. se retiró como pastor de la iglesia.

Cuando el Hno. Moser Jr. se retiró, dejó la iglesia en completa armonía, sin deudas, con todas las cuentas pagadas y unos \$180,000 en el banco, más 1,500 acciones de la compañía Exxon, las cuales habían sido donadas por dos señores de Brooklyn, Nueva York, para el trabajo misionero en México; mientras él aún era misionero. Los dividendos de estas acciones se estaban usando para pagar el alquiler del seminario en México. Luego la iglesia nombró al Hno. Moser Jr., Pastor Emérito, debido a sus años de servicio a la iglesia, 13 años como misionero en México y 26 años como pastor de la iglesia, para un total de 39 años. Contando el ministerio de M.L. Moser Sr., ambos pastorearon la iglesia por sobre 59 años y tres meses, cerca de 60 años de servicio al Señor. □ □

Iglesia Bautista El Redentor
Central Lafayette #17, Arroyo, PR 00714
(787) 839-3669 y (787) 839-5792
Marcos A. Curet, Pastor

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 7)

“Having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ” (Phil. 1:23).

“We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord” (2 Cor. 5:8).

“Today shalt thou be with me in paradise” (Lk. 23:43).

“Them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him” (1 Thess. 4:14).

“He shall enter into peace: they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness” (Isa. 57:2).

“And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God” (Job 19:26).

Question 37: *What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?*

Answer: At the resurrection, believers being raised up in glory, shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the day of judgment, and made perfectly blessed both in soul and body in the full enjoying of God to all eternity.

Scripture: “Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father which is in heaven” (Mt. 10:22).

“When he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is” (1 Jn. 3:2).

“So shall we ever be with the Lord” (1 Thess. 4:17).

Question 38: *What shall be done to the wicked at their death?*

Answer: The souls of the wicked shall at their death be cast into the torments of hell, and their bodies lie in their graves till the resurrection, and judgment of the great day.

Scripture: “The rich man also died, and was buried, and in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue: for I am tormented in this flame” (Lk. 16:23-24).

“Like sheep they are laid in the grave: death shall feed on them” (Psa. 49:14).

Question 39: *What shall be done to the wicked at the day of judgment?*

Answer: At the day of judgment the bodies of the wicked being raised out of their graves, shall be sentenced, together with their souls, to unspeakable torments with the devil and his angels for ever.

Scripture: “Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt” (Dan. 12:2).

“All that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation” (Jn. 5:28-29).

“Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction” (2 Thess.

1:9).

“Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels” (Mt. 25:41).

Question 40: *What did God reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?*

Answer: The rule which God first revealed to man for his obedience, was the moral law, which is summarily comprehended in the ten commandments.

Scripture: “He wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments” (Dt. 10:4).

“If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments” (Mt. 19:17).

Question 41: *What is the sum of the ten commandments?*

Answer: The sum of the ten commandments is to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind; and our neighbor as ourselves.

Scripture: “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and prophets” (Mt. 22:37-40).

Question 42: *Which is the first commandment?*

Answer: The first commandment is, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”

Question 43: *What is required in the first commandment?*

Answer: The first commandment requireth us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God, and to worship and glorify Him accordingly.

Scripture: “Thou Solomon, my son, know thou the God of thy father” (1 Chr. 28:9).

“Thou hast avouched the Lord this day to be thy God, and to walk in his ways, and to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and to hearken unto his voice” (Dt. 26:17).

“Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve” (Mt. 4:10).

Question 44: *Which is the second commandment?*

Answer: The second commandment is “Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and shewing mercy

(See **SPURGEON** on page 12)

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 11)

unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments” (Ex. 20:4-6).

Question 45: *What is required in the second commandment?*

Answer: The second commandment requireth the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath appointed in His Word.

Scripture: “Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law” (Dt. 32:46).

“Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you” (Mt. 28:20).

“What thing soever I command you, observe to do it; thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it” (Dt. 12:32).

Question 46: *What is forbidden in the second commandment?*

Answer: The second commandment forbiddeth the worshipping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in His Word.

Scripture: “Take ye therefore good heed unto yourselves; for ye saw no manner of similitude on the day that the Lord spake unto you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire. Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven image” (Dt. 4:15-16).

“Let no man beguile you of your reward, in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshy mind” (Col. 2:18).

Question 47: *Which is the third commandment?*

Answer: The third commandment is, “Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain” (Ex. 20:7).

Question 48: *What is required in the third commandment?*

Answer: The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God’s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, word, and works.

Scripture: “Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name” (Psa. 29:2).

“Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of the saints. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? (Rev. 15:3-4).

“Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear than to give sacrifice of fools” (Eccl. 5:1).

“I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name” (Psa. 138:2).

“Remember that thou magnify his work, which men behold” (Job 36:24).

“If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD: then the Lord will make thy plagues wonderful” (Dt. 28:58-59).

Question 49: *Which is the fourth commandment?*

Answer: The fourth commandment is “Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it” (Ex. 20:8-11).

Question 50: *What is required in the fourth commandment?*

Answer: The fourth commandment requireth the keeping holy to God such set times as He hath appointed in His Word, expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy sabbath to Himself.

Scripture: “Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord” (Lev. 19:30).

“Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee” (Dt. 5:12).

Question 51: *How is the Sabbath to be sanctified?*

Answer: The Sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days, and spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God’s worship, except so much as is taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.

Scripture: “Six days shall work be done; but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation: ye shall do no work therein” (Lev. 23:3).

“A Psalm or Song for the Sabbath day.” “It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High. To shew forth thy loving-kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night” (Psa. 92:1-2).

“What man shall there be among you that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold of it, and lift it out? How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days” (Mt. 12:11-12).

Question 52: *Which is the fifth commandment?*

Answer: The fifth commandment is “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 12)

the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee” (Ex. 20:12).

Question 53: *What is required in the fifth commandment?*

Answer: The fifth commandment requireth the preserving the honor, and performing the duties belonging to every one in their several places and relations as superiors, inferiors, or equals.

Scripture: “Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands as unto the Lord” (Eph. 5:21-22).

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord. Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh” (Eph. 6:1, 5).

“Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers” (Rom. 13:1).

“Ye masters, do the same things unto them knowing that your Master also is in heaven” (Eph. 6:9).

“Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another” (Rom. 12:10).

Question 54: *What is the reason annexed to the fifth commandment?*

Answer: The reason annexed to the fifth commandment is, a promise of long life and prosperity—as far as it shall serve for God’s glory, and their own good—to all such as keep this commandment.

Scripture: “Honour thy father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth” (Eph. 5:2-3).

Question 55: *Which is the sixth commandment?*

Answer: The sixth commandment is, “Thou shalt not kill” (Ex. 20:13).

Question 56: *What is forbidden in the sixth commandment?*

Answer: The sixth commandment forbideth the taking away of our own life, or the life of our neighbor unjustly, or whatsoever tendeth thereunto.

Scripture: “Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm” (Acts 16:28).

“Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed” (Gen. 9:6).

“If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain: if thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it?” (Prov. 24:11-12).

Question 57: *Which is the seventh commandment?*

Answer: The seventh commandment is “Thou shalt not commit adultery” (Ex. 20:14).

Question 58: *What is forbidden in the seventh commandment?*

Answer: The seventh commandment forbideth all unchaste thoughts, words, and actions.

Scripture: “Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her, hath committed adultery with her already in his heart” (Mt. 5:28).

“Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man” (Col. 4:6).

“Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient” (Eph. 5:4).

“Flee also youthful lusts; but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart” (2 Tim. 2:22).

“Fornication, and all uncleanness, let it not be once named among you” (Eph. 5:3).

Question 59: *Which is the eighth commandment?*

Answer: The eighth commandment is “Thou shalt not steal” (Ex. 20:15).

Question 60: *What is forbidden in the eighth commandment?*

Answer: The eighth commandment forbiddeth whatsoever doth or may unjustly hinder our own, or our neighbor’s wealth, or outward estate.

Scripture: “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” (1 Tim. 5:8).

“He that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough” (Prov. 28:19).

“The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death” (Prov. 21:6).

“Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth” (Eph. 4:28).

Question 61: *Which is the ninth commandment?*

Answer: The ninth commandment is, “Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour” (Ex. 20:16).

Question 62: *What is required in the ninth commandment?*

Answer: The ninth commandment requireth the maintaining and promoting of truth between man and man, and of our own, and our neighbor’s good name, especially in witness-bearing.

Scripture: “Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbour” (Zech. 8:16).

“Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as evil-doers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ” (1 Pet. 3:16).

“Then said Paul, I stand at Caesar’s judgment seat; to the Jews have I done no wrong” (Acts 25:10).

“Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself:

(See **SPURGEON** on page 14)

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 13)

yea, and we also bear record" (3 Jn 12).

"A faithful witness will not lie. A true witness delivereth souls" (Prov. 14:5, 25).

Question 63: *Which is the tenth commandment?*

Answer: The tenth commandment is "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house; thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbour's" (Ex. 20:17).

Question 64: *What is forbidden in the tenth commandment?*

Answer: The tenth commandment forbiddeth all discontentment with our own estate, envying or grieving at the good of our neighbor, and all inordinate emotions and affections to any thing that is his.

Scripture: "Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer" (1 Cor. 10:10).

"Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another" (Gal. 5:26).

"Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry" (Col. 3:5).

Question 65: *Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?*

Answer: No mere man, since the fall, is able in his life perfectly to keep the commandments of God, but doth daily break them in thought, word, and deed.

Scripture: "There is not a just man upon earth that doeth good, and sinneth not" (Eccl. 7:20).

"The imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth" (Gen. 8:21).

"The tongue can no man tame: it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison" (Jas. 3:8).

"In many things we offend all" (Jas. 3:2).

Question 66: *Are all transgressions of the law equally heinous?*

Answer: Some sins in themselves, and by reason of several aggravations, are more heinous in the sight of God than others.

Scripture: "He that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin" (Jn. 14:11).

"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 Jn. 5:15).

Question 67: *What doth every sin deserve?*

Answer: Every sin deserveth God's wrath and curse, both in this life and that which is to come.

Scripture: "Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience" (Eph. 5:6).

"Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup" (Psa. 11:6).

Question 68: *How may we escape His wrath and curse due to us for sin?*

Answer: To escape the wrath and curse of God due to us for sin, we must believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, trusting alone to His blood and righteousness. This faith is attended by repentance for the past and leads to holiness in the future.

Scripture: "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (Jn. 3:16).

"Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 20:21).

Question 69: *What is faith in Jesus Christ?*

Answer: Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive, and rest upon Him alone for salvation, as He is set forth in the gospel.

Scripture: "We are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul" (Heb. 10:39).

"As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (Jn. 1:12).

"And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Jesus Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith" (Phil. 3:9).

"The Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; he will save us" (Isa. 33:22).

Question 70: *What is repentance unto life?*

Answer: Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sins, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth with grief and hatred of his sin turn from it to God, with full purpose to strive after new obedience.

Scripture: "Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life" (Acts 11:18).

"When they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles. Men and brethren, what shall we do? (Acts 2:37).

"Rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil" (Joel 2:13).

"Turn thou me, and I shall be turned for thou art the Lord my God. Surely after that I was turned, I repented and after that I was instructed. I smote upon my thigh: I was ashamed, yea, even con-

(See **SPURGEON** on page 15)

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 14)

founded because I did bear the reproach of my youth" (Jer. 21:18-19).

"I thought on my ways and turned my feet unto thy testimonies" (Psa. 119:59).

Question 71: *What are the outward means whereby the Holy Spirit communicateth to us the benefits of redemption?*

Answer: The outward and ordinary means whereby the Holy Spirit communicateth to us the benefits of Christ's redemption, are the Word, by which souls are begotten unto spiritual life; Baptism, the Lord's Supper, Prayer, and Meditation, by all which believers are further edified in their most holy faith."

Scripture: "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized. And they continued stedfastly in the apostle's doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread and in prayers" (Acts 2:41-42).

"Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth" (Jas. 1:18).

Question 72: *How is the Word made effectual to salvation?*

Answer: The Spirit of God maketh the reading, but especially the preaching of the Word, an effectual means of convincing and converting sinners, and of building them up in holiness and comfort, through faith unto salvation.

Scripture: "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple" (Psa. 19:7).

"Ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the Word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost" (1 Thess. 1:6).

"I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Rom. 1:16).

Question 73: *How is the Word to be read and heard that it may become effectual to salvation?*

Answer: That the Word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation, and prayer, receive it with faith, and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

Scripture: "Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors" (Prov. 8:34).

"Wherefore laying aside all malice and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (1 Pet. 2:1-2).

"Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law" (Psa. 119:18).

"The word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with

faith in them that heard it" (Heb. 4:2).

"They received not the love of the truth that they might be saved" (2 Thess. 2:10).

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Psa. 119:11).

"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed" (Jas. 1:25).

Question 74: *How do Baptism and the Lord's Supper become spiritually helpful?*

Answer: Baptism and the Lord's Supper become spiritually helpful, not from any virtue in them, or in him who doth administer them, but only by the blessing of Christ, and the working of the Spirit in those who by faith receive them.

Scripture: "So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase" (1 Cor. 3:7).

"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Pet. 3:21).

"I have planted, Apollos watered: but God gave the increase" (1 Cor. 3:6).

"By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free: and have been all made to drink into one Spirit" (1 Cor. 12:13).

Question 75: *What is Baptism?*

Answer: Baptism is an ordinance of the New Testament, instituted by Jesus Christ, to be unto the person baptized a sign of his fellowship with Him, in His death, and burial, and resurrection, of his being ingrafted into Him, of remission of sins, and of his giving up himself unto God through Jesus Christ, to live and walk in newness of life.

Scripture: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Mt. 28:19).

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ, were baptized into his death" (Rom. 6:3).

"Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him" (Col. 2:12).

"As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Gal. 3:27).

"John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins" (Mk. 1:4).

"And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:16).

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection" (Rom. 6:4-5).

(See **SPURGEON** on page 16)

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 15)

Question 76: *To whom is Baptism to be administered?*

Answer: Baptism is to be administered to all those who actually profess repentance towards God, and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and to none other.

Scripture: "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you" (Acts 2:38).

"And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins" (Mt. 3:6).

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (Mk. 16:16).

"When they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women — See, here is water: what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest" (Acts 8:12, 37).

"Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord" (Acts 10:47-48).

Question 77: *Are the infants of such as are professing believers to be baptized?*

Answer: The infants of such as are professing believers are not to be baptized, because there is neither command nor example in the Holy Scriptures for their baptism.

Scripture: "And in all things that I have said unto you be circumspect" (Ex. 23:13).

"Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar" (Prov. 30:6).

Question 78: *How is baptism rightly administered?*

Answer: Baptism is rightly administered by immersion or dipping the whole body of the person in water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, according to Christ's institution, and the practice of the apostles, and not by sprinkling or pouring of water, or dipping some part of the body, after the tradition of men.

Scripture: "And Jesus, when he was baptized went up straightway out of the water" (Mt. 3:16).

"And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there and they came and were baptized" (Jn. 3:23).

"Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen" (Mt. 28:19-20).

"When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John (though Jesus himself baptized not, but His disciples)" (Jn. 4:1-2).

"And they went both down into the water, both Philip and the

eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip" (Acts 8:38-39).

Question 79: *What is the duty of such as are rightly baptized?*

Answer: It is the duty of such as are rightly baptized, to give up themselves to some particular and orderly church of Jesus Christ, that they may walk in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.

Scripture: "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47).

"And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples" (Acts 9:26).

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ" (1 Pet. 2:5).

"And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless" (Lk. 1:6).

Question 80: *What is the Lord's Supper?*

Answer: The Lord's Supper is an ordinance of the New Testament, instituted by Jesus Christ; wherein, by giving and receiving bread and wine, according to His appointment, His death is shown forth, and the worthy receivers are, not after a corporeal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of His body and blood, with all His benefits, to their spiritual nourishment, and growth in grace.

Scripture: "I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat, this is my body which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of me, for as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come" (1 Cor. 11:23-26).

"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we brake, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? (1 Cor. 10:16).

Question 81: *Should all Christians commune together at the Lord's Supper?*

Answer: No! The believer communes with Christ. It is not a Christian supper to express Christian fellowship, but the Lord's Supper, to be observed in remembrance of Him and to show His death till He come.

Scripture: "This do in remembrance of me" (Lk. 22:19).

"Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me ... This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come" (1 Cor. 11:24-26) [Inserted by T.T.E.]

(See **SPURGEON** on page 17)

SPURGEON . . .

(Continued from page 16)

Question 82: *Who ought to partake of the Lord's Supper?*

Answer: Only those who have believed and have been baptized, and who maintain an orderly church walk. Jesus was baptized before He partook of the Lord's Supper, and baptism uniformly preceded participation in the Supper in the times of the Apostles. Those also who walked disorderly were excluded.

Scripture: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Mt. 28:19-20).

"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:41-42).

"With such a one, no not to eat" (1 Cor. 5:11).

"For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body" (1 Cor. 11:29). [Inserted by T.T.E.]

Question 83: *What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord's Supper?*

Answer: It is required of them who would worthily partake of the Lord's Supper, that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord's body, of their faith to feed upon Him, of their repentance, love, and new obedience, lest coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgment to themselves.

Scripture: "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation unto himself, not discerning the Lord's body" (1 Cor. 11:28-29).

"Examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith" (2 Cor. 13:5).

"If we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged" (1 Cor. 11:31).

"When ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you. When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's Supper" (1 Cor. 11:18-20).

"Let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth" (1 Cor. 5:8).

"Whosoever shall eat this bread and drink this cup of the Lord unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. He that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation (or judgment) to himself" (1 Cor. 11:27, 29).

Question 84: *What is meant by the words "until he come," which are used by the apostle Paul in reference to the Lord's Supper?*

Answer: They plainly teach us that our Lord Jesus Christ will come a second time; which is the joy and hope of all believers.

The Scarlet Thread

By G. C. Kinney

"The blood is the life"
(Deut. 12:23).

The trend of the theology of this age is to place special emphasis upon the "Beautiful Life of Christ," leaving out the one essential thing, "The Blood."

While Christians are not supposed to lose sight of this great truth, yet, it is to be feared that many of, not only lay-members but leaders, are doing it, and I am not unmindful of the great clouds of danger that hover over present day theology.

The object of these messages is to magnify "The Blood," showing the important place it occupies in all worship; beginning with the blood in Eden, then in the sacrifice of Abel, the Passover, the great day of Atonement, finding its complete fulfillment in the sacrifice made on Calvary, and running like a mountain stream on through Revelation, cleansing every vestige of sin it touches. Indeed it stains most every page. It is the "Scarlet Thread" that binds every chapter.

According to Divine teaching, blood atones for.

human guilt, satisfies an angry broken law, and bridges that great chasm dug by sin between God and man, making it possible for them to dwell together in peace.

The Bible hinges around the Atonement of Christ. It is God's atonement. In Him it finds its origin. And He it is who makes His application.

The author of these articles is a minister of the gospel upon whose ministry God has graciously set His seal. He has made a thorough study of the Bible, searching dilligently to gather these great truths. The reader will find it interesting and will be profited by reading each reading each article. I commend it to you.

-- Harry H Wise

Just as a sunbeam travels through space for ninety-million miles and in entering a home strikes a flaw in a window pane and falls obliquely on the floor, so may the eternal truth which travels direct from

(See **BLOOD** on page 18)

Scripture: "This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11).

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the arch-angel and with the trump of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first" (1 Thess. 4:16). □ □ □

BLOOD . . .

(Continued from page 17)

the throne of God and falls upon the mind warped with prejudice, twisted with self opinions and narrow vision be deflected. Truth becomes error to the dishonest soul.

This is the day when much is being said and written upon the “Beautiful Life” of Christ, but there is the rejection of the foundation stone of the building — the sacrifice of Christ.

Only a few months ago forty-two churches of different denominations in an eastern city where most all heresies start, joined themselves in a covenant to omit all songs that spoke of the “*Slaughter House Religion*.” They said that it was offensive to good taste and that such subjects as Eternal Punishment and the Judgment should not be preached, for it drove their young people from the church society.

In spite of the scoffs of wicked men and the “back-bonelessness” of preachers who listen to the whims of worldly professors, there is a “Scarlet Thread” that links the first book of the Bible to the last.

In the dawn of the age, fundamental truth was so imbibed in man that he knew it meant death to meet God without blood. After man fell, he tried to clothe himself with “fig leaves” (Gen. 3:7), this being the best he could do

for himself. All persons who try to get to heaven by their own efforts are making for themselves garments of “fig leaves.” The sinner must be covered with something more substantial than leaves, so when God beheld man’s efforts and failure, He then slew innocent animals (Gen. 3:21), and made a covering for the guilty.

The thought of substitution is embedded in the childhood of the race. Innocent animals were only setting forth the central figure of how Christ, the innocent, spotless “Pet Lamb” of God should take the place of the guilty sinner and die in his stead.

The people of the Old Testament were saved not by keeping the law, for none of them kept it (Jn. 7:19); but they were saved by believing in the One who was to come, as we are saved in believing in the One who has already come. Christ was a Lamb slain before the foundation of the world (Rev. 5:6; 1 Pet. 1:20).

The atmosphere of this present age is saturated with so-called “Higher Criticism,” which is none other than infidelity both in the pulpit and in the pew.

Much of the emptiness of churches, the dryness of sermons, the deadness of singing, the powerlessness of prayer can be accounted for by placing the emphasis upon the less important to the neglect of the all-important—the Blood—the lost chord of the age. □ □

1776 . . .

(Continued from page 1)

cated man in the colonies. Franklin was his equal in intellect, but not in the versatility of interests in which his intellect was employed. Patrick Henry had more dash and brilliancy, but lacked the will to devote himself to the mastery of any subject. Washington’s approach to any question was solid, deliberate, correct, but he lacked the far-seeing vision of Jefferson. The Declaration of Independence and the purchase of the Louisiana Territory showed the breadth and the farsight of Jefferson’s vision.

When Jefferson set about his task of writing the Declaration he ordered a sort of a desk top made by a carpenter, which he must have placed on a table, because it was only fourteen inches long, ten inches wide, and three inches high. Where was the Declaration written? Let Jefferson tell that. From Monticello, on September 16, 1825, he wrote to Dr. James Mease, of Philadelphia:

“At the time of writing that instrument (the Declaration) I lodged in the house of a Mr. Graaf: a new brick house, three stories high, of which I rented the second floor, consisting of a parlor and bedroom, ready furnished. In that parlor I wrote habitually, and in it wrote this paper particularly. The proprietor, Graaf, was a young man, son of a

German, and then newly married; I think he was a bricklayer. His house was on the south side of Market street, probably between 7th and 8th; and if not the only house on that part of the street, I am sure that there were very few others near it. I have some idea that it was a corner house. I have no other recollections throwing any light on the question or worth communication.”

Since it was forty-nine years since he had written the immortal document and Jefferson was now eighty-two (the year before his death) his memory of place and events was excellent.

It has puzzled many why Franklin, the man of ripe age, three-score and ten, the oldest of the signers, was not selected to write the Declaration instead of Jefferson, who was only thirty-three, and comparatively unknown. It was fear, not the fear that Franklin was not capable, or was not sufficiently in earnest—it was the fear of Franklin’s humor. Jefferson said they were afraid Franklin would “put a joke in.” So Franklin’s associates passed him by and selected this lank, red-haired, freckle-faced young Virginian. As it was Franklin had his joke anyhow. When Hancock said, as they were about to sign the Declaration, “We must be unanimous; there must be no pulling different

(See 1776 on page 19)

1776 . . .

(Continued from page 18)

ways: we must all hang together.” “Yes,” replied Franklin, “we must all hang together or we will be pretty sure to hang separately.”

“What I Have Written—”

On July 2d Richard Henry Lee’s Resolution of Independence, submitted almost a month before, was acted upon and passed.

To John Adams that date, July 2d, seemed most important, and the date that should be celebrated. He so wrote to his wife from Philadelphia on July 3d that “it ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty,” etc. The Congress then resolved “to take into further consideration the Declaration of Independence” on the following day. This “declaration” was Jefferson’s immortal document. Congress met “the next day,” considered, and adjourned “to 9 o’clock tomorrow,” which day was the “Fourth.”

A great crowd of people had assembled outside the hall, as it had been predicted the “Declaration” would be adopted that day. They could see Hancock’s big high-back chair, behind the mahogany table, with its great silver inkhorn. Red-faced John Adams and Roger Sherman, the shoemaker, stood

near the window. Jefferson, who took no part in the debate, and whose “Declaration” had been cut down one-fourth, was plainly nettled. Franklin strove to mollify his feelings by telling him a humorous story of one John Thompson, a hatter, whose sign was too long. Robert Morris, the financier, and Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, who outlived all the signers, were near the door.

Thomas Jefferson says in his *Notes*, “The debates having taken up the greater parts of the 2d, 3d, and 4th days of July were in the evening of the last closed. The Declaration was reported by the committee, agreed to by the house, and signed by every member present except Mr. Dickinson.” The Declaration was adopted and ordered to be “authenticated,” that is to say, signed by the President of the Congress (John Hancock) and the Secretary (Charles Thompson).

Did they all sign the document that day? Thomas Jefferson declared that they all did. Thomas McKean declared that not one did. On July the 4th, 1786, Benjamin Franklin wrote to Mrs. Jane Mecon: “There is much rejoicing in town (Philadelphia) today, it being the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, which we signed this day ten years ago, and thereby hazarded lives and fortune.” Forty years later Adams and Jefferson had a long correspondence

about this very question. One thing is certain — that copy of the Declaration is not now in known existence. On the night of July 4th, after the adjournment of Congress, the paper was sent as “copy” to John Dunlop, the official printer, who was to strike off prints to be circulated through the colonies. Whether that same copy was sent to be engrossed a month later or whether one of the “prints” was sent to the engrosser no one knows. It was either mislaid or lost. But Jefferson’s original draft, thank fortune, with some interlinings in the penmanship of Adams and Franklin, is still in existence in the State Department at Washington.

On July 9th a resolution was adopted that the Declaration “be fairly engrossed on parchment,” that the same when engrossed “be signed by every member of Congress.” This carefully en-

grossed copy, now our official “Declaration,” was presented August 2d. On it Hancock may have duplicated his wonderful signature of July 4th, written large so that “John Bull can read without spectacles.” How many signed on August 2d the “Journal” does not say, but since only six are known to have signed at a later date the probability is that John Hancock and forty-nine others signed August 2d. The act of signing the official parchment was performed by the delegates through August and September. One signature was affixed as late as November.

Some changes in the personnel of Congress having taken place between July 4th and August 2d, you will look in vain on the engrossed copy for some familiar names of those who took part in the pro-

(See 1776 on page 20)

Our New Socialist Party

The American people will never knowingly adopt socialism. But, under the name of “liberalism”, they will adopt every fragment of the socialist program, until one day America will be a socialist nation, without knowing how it happened.

He went on to say: “I no longer need to run as a Presidential Candidate for the Socialist Party. The Democratic Party has adopted our platform.”

— Norman Matton Thomas, Six-time presidential candidate of the Socialist Party of America.

1776 . . .

(Continued from page 19)

ceedings of July 2d, 3d, and 4th. Because of that change, some names still prominent in who's who of Pennsylvania are noticeably absent.

"These Are They—"

I wish you and I could go back one hundred and forty-nine years and look in at those brave Fifty-six Signers—or Adopters. They were going to be either patriots or traitors.

The oldest was Benjamin Franklin, who had reached his three-score and ten. The youngest was Thomas Lynch, Jr., not yet twenty-seven. Jefferson was thirty-three. There were eighteen lawyers, nine merchants, seven farmers, three physicians, two surveyors, a printer, a college president, and a clergyman. Nine were minister's sons. Twenty-five were college men. Several had private tuition, "as high and costly as given at any university in the world."

There was John Hancock in the President's chair; good Dr. Rush; the Rev. John Witherspoon, descendant of John Knox; John Dickinson, whose monument is Dickinson College, the writer's alma mater, at Carlisle, Pa.; Richard Henry Lee, the Demosthenes of the Congress, and who was the author of the resolution

calling for independence; John Adams, the forceful; Thomas Jefferson, who wrote the Declaration of Independence, was also the author of the "Statue for Religious Freedom" in Virginia, and Father of the University of Virginia; and — but why enumerate? They were all brave men, pledging to each other "our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor." Even those delegates, including the Pennsylvania delegation, who on July 2d did not think the time was yet ripe for an entire separation from the mother country were patriots and were convinced by July 4th.

The first of the signers to die was a Philadelphian, Judge John Morton, whose death occurred in April, 1777; the last was Charles Carroll, who died in November, 1832, almost ninety-six years of age. Button Gwinnett was killed in a duel with General McIntosh. Thomas Lynch, Jr., was drowned at sea. Of those who survived the Revolutionary War scarcely a man but was elected to some high office or honor by his fellows — Senator, Representative, Governor, Supreme Court Judge, Vice President, or President.

Not one ever tarnished his fair name by any act of recantation, but maintained the principles for which he stood in July, 1776. We will do well to pause this July 4th to do honor to those Immortal Fifty-six . □ □

WNR . . .

(Continued from page 8)

San Diego County Officials Shut Down Home Bible Study.

County Official Interrogates Pastor and His Wife — A San Diego pastor and his wife have been told they cannot have a Bible study in their home. The couple says they were interrogated by a San Diego County official, then threatened with ever increasing fines if they refuse to stop the Bible study. According to the couple's attorney, they were questioned about the Bible study. "Do you have a regular meeting in your home?" The pastor's wife replied, "Yes." "Do you say 'amen'?" the official asked. "Yes," she replied. "Do you pray?" Again she said, "Yes." "Do you say 'praise the Lord'?" Another "Yes." The official told the pastor and his wife they were in violation of county rules. The Bible study usually has an average of about 15 people. A few days later they got a written warning that listed the home Bible study an "unlawful use of land." They were notified to "stop religious assembly or apply for a major use permit," which could cost them thousands of dollars. Could a small poetry club meet regularly in a home? Apparently, yes. What about a Cub Scout meeting? Evidently, yes. What

if they meet regularly to watch Monday Night Football? Obviously, yes.

* * *

PepsiCo Supports Gay Magazine With Advertising. Company "In Your Face" Message to Those Opposing Gay Marriage.

— Taking an "in your face" approach, PepsiCo sent a public message of support for the homosexual agenda. The company ran a full-page ad in the June/July issue of *Out*, a semi-pornographic homosexual magazine. The magazine is filled with page after page of nude and semi-nude photographs of men in suggestive poses. AFA has asked PepsiCo to be neutral in the culture war, including homosexual marriage, but the company has consistently refused to do so. The ad supporting *Out* was a clear indication that the company is standing fast in its support of the homo-sexual agenda. Consider these actions: PepsiCo is a member of the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. (Ford, McDonald's and Wal-Mart withdrew from the NGLCC when asked to do so. PepsiCo refused) PepsiCo requires its members to attend diversity training classes promoting the acceptance of homosexuality. PepsiCo financially supports "gay pride

(See WNR on page 21)

WNR . . .

(Continued from page 20)

parades” in cities across America. PepsiCo gave a total of \$1,000,000 to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). HRC gave hundreds of thousands of dollars in an effort to legalize homosexual marriage in California. PepsiCo uses its TV commercials to promote the homosexual agenda.

* * *

Obama Extols Koran. Press Missed It. — A Christian writer says President Obama’s recent speech in Cairo praising Islam is further evidence the American president has a “low view” of biblical Christianity. Robert Knight, a senior writer for *Coral Ridge Ministries*, has written a column titled “Obama Nation’s Low View of Christianity.” Knight says he wrote the column as a service to everyone who wants thorough documentation — not just bits and pieces — of President Obama’s statements distorting Christianity. Knight argues that the most disturbing thing President Obama said in his Cairo speech was that the Middle East was the first place where Islam was “revealed.” “That word ‘revealed’ is very important,” Knight explains. “It means an unveiling, and it

means a divinely-inspired unveiling — which would indicate that the president is saying the Koran is a holy book. In fact, he referred to the Koran several times as the ‘Holy Koran.’ “Such a perspective from their elected chief executive, says Knight, should concern Bible-believing Christians.” If you’re a Christian, you don’t regard the Koran as a holy book of any sort,” he states. “You regard it as springing out of the Old Testament, because it incorporates a lot of the Torah, as does the Christian Bible — but then it goes off into a false religion.” Knight says to call the Koran a holy book goes beyond diplomacy, yet Obama understood the significance of what he was saying because “of all people, he knows the power of words.” However, Knight points out that most of the press in the United States missed or ignored the remark. — ONN

* * *

A Fight For Religious Freedom in the Classroom. — A Christian teacher in a public school is being hailed as “a hero of the faith.” John Freshwater, an eighth-grade teacher in Ohio, filed suit this week against the Mount Vernon City School District and district officials, claiming they violated his free-speech and civil rights when he was

released. The \$1-million lawsuit claims he was fired by the district last year over accusations that he preached Christianity in class. He also says he was harassed because of his religion and was discriminated against because of his involvement with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Finn Laursen is executive director of *Christian Educators Association International*, of which Freshwater is a member.” I am pleased to see a public school teacher like John Freshwater willing to go outside his comfort zone and fight for the religious freedoms our forefathers guaranteed is through the U.S. Constitution,” says Laursen. “It is imperative that all Christian educators, students, and parents be willing to step forward to insist on their rights — or those rights will slowly be forfeited.” John is proving to be a hero of the faith,” he adds. In firing Freshwater, the Mount Vernon school board cited an internal investigation that found he had preached his Christian beliefs in class. Freshwater, a teacher for 24 years, was also accused of using a scientific device to burn a cross image onto a student’s arm and of keeping a Bible on his desk.

* * *

PepsiCo Sponsors Four More Gay Pride Parades. — Following their

sponsorship of the New York Gay Pride Parade scheduled for June 27, PepsiCo has agreed to sponsor four more gay pride parades — Atlanta, Dallas, Phoenix and Cleveland. PepsiCo shows its employees caught in this destructive and harmful lifestyle no compassion, no support to help them leave it. Rather, PepsiCo spends huge sums of money to promote the lifestyle. AFA has asked PepsiCo to be neutral in the culture war regarding the homosexual agenda and the legalization of homosexual marriage, but PepsiCo adamantly refuses to do so. PepsiCo requires employees to attend sexual orientation and gender diversity training. It supports homosexual groups with gifts totaling over \$1 million. PepsiCo refuses to give any money to groups such as Parents and Friends of Ex-Gay and Gays (PFOX) that work to help individuals change their sexual behavior. — AFA

* * *

The Incredibly Sensitive Eye. — The following is from *Creation Moments*. “The human eye is so incredibly sensitive that it can actually detect a single particle of light—a photon. The truth is, the human eye is so sensitive that were it not for special features inside the eye that process the billions of

(See WNR on page 22)

WNR . . .

(Cpmtomied frp, [age 21])

pieces of information coming into the eye every spilt second, we would be overwhelmed. While the eye can detect even one photon of light, it will not pass an image on to your brain until at least six photons strike in the same area of the eye. If this weren't the case, on a dark night we would see nothing but static, since less than six photons could not be focused into an image and would appear to us as just static. This special provision makes one wonder if the eye was not designed by an all wise Creator. After all, how could mindless chance and mutations know about the basic laws of physics that control light's behavior? The range of the eye's sensitivity is also a million times greater than our modern photographic films, providing us with a dynamic range of 10 billion to one. While the greatest sensitivity is needed on dark nights, an internal control in the eye reduces that sensitivity for bright daylight. Science doesn't rule out God at all! Our knowledge of the eye's working demands the conclusion that we are the creation of a wise and powerful God!" — FBIS

* * *

Teacher Fired For Conservative Website.
— Pete Chagnon a Kan-

sas teacher says he was wrongfully terminated for his conservative views. Tim Latham has been teaching history and U.S. Government for over 19 years. But after teaching for just one year in the Lawrence School District in Lawrence, Kansas, Latham says his contract was not renewed because school officials did not like his conservative views — particularly a teacher website that Latham hosted and paid for himself. A teacher coach confronted him on that issue." She had concerns about it. I've never had a complaint about it — nothing but compliments. Parents love it because of their access to assignments, grades, etc. And she wanted a lot of the stuff that was on it removed. And when I asked why, I was told because it was too patriotic." Latham had an introductory video on the site where he stated that he wanted students to truly love the American way of life, and he says he was told to remove that as well because not everybody loves the American way of life. According to Latham, other complaints included that he was picking on Obama too much. When he asked for an explanation as to why his contract was not renewed he was told, "You refuse to conform" and "you just don't fit in." "Those are word-for-word quotes given to me by the director of human resources, who says he is

quoting what the administration told him — I refuse to conform and I just don't fit in," Latham notes. He has since filed a grievance and is considering litigation if he does not get a satisfactory response. Latham had an introductory video on the site where he stated that he wanted students to truly love the American way of life, and he says he was told to remove that as well because not everybody loves the American way of life. According to Latham, other complaints included that he was picking on Obama too much. When he asked for an explanation as to why his contract was not renewed he was told, "You refuse to conform" and "you just don't fit in." He has since filed a grievance and is considering litigation if he does not get a satisfactory response. — ONN

* * *

Former Gitmo Detainee Accused of Killing 3 Missionaries. — A best-selling author and critic of Islam says he can't understand why U.S. President Barack Obama and the United Nations are not expressing more outrage over the execution-style murder of three Christian missionaries in Yemen, apparently by al Qaeda. According to a spokesman from the Yemeni Embassy in Washington, nine foreign nationals — four German adults, three small German

children, a British man, and a South Korean woman — were abducted on June 12 after they ventured outside the city of Saada without their required police escorts. Days later the bodies of German nurses Rita Stumpp and Anita Gruenwald, and Eom Young-sun of South Korea were found shot execution style in an area known to be a hotbed of Al Qaeda activity. The fate of the remaining six abducted people remains a mystery. Terrorism experts say the crimes bear the mark of Al Qaeda, and they fear they are the handiwork of the international terror organization's number two man in the Arabian Peninsula — Said Ali al-Shihri, an Islamic terrorist who once was in American custody but who was released from the U.S. detention center in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Robert Spencer is, director of Jihad Watch, says this illustrates the folly of Obama's plan to close GITMO and release potentially dangerous prisoners. "Freeing some of them is unconscionable, and essentially criminal. Barack Obama had begun to pursue a course based on the assumption that all the conflicts between the West and Islamic world are all our fault. Well what happened in Yemen indicates that that's a bankrupt and inaccurate point of view," he contends. "The Presi-

(See **WNR** on page 23)

Does Water Wash Away Our Sins?

By Roy Mason

The devil doesn't care how religious people are, just so they trust in something or someone other than Jesus for salvation. He uses all sorts of schemes and devices in order to get people to trust something else, at least in part, for salvation. But it is fatal to plus Jesus with anything. Just as well trust something else wholly for salvation as to trust something else a little bit for salvation.

Among all the things with which Satan tries to plus Christ, there is nothing more deadly than *baptism*. Just as well depend upon a stone god to bring about remission of sins, as baptism. A water god is as absurd as a stone god.

The Catholic Church started the doctrine of baptismal salvation, under the prompting of Satan. Since baptism was held to

WNR . . .

(Continued from page 22)

dent of the United States and the United Nations, if they were really doing their jobs, would be protesting." Spencer points out that Christians are not allowed to proselytize in the Muslim world, and he believes that is likely why the three were murdered. — ONN □□□□

have saving power, it wouldn't do to let an infant run the risk of going unbaptized, so they started the practice of sprinkling infants. Protestantism (and Baptists are *not* Protestants), brought infant baptism over from their mother church — the Church of Rome.

While various groups — like the Mormons for instance, hold to the necessity of being baptized for salvation, the so-called "Church of Christ" people are the most vigorous in teaching that baptism is necessary for salvation.

How They Seek To Justify Baptismal Regeneration

The following Scriptures are their stand by:

1. Acts 2:38. A.T. Robertson, world renowned Greek scholar says that the expression "for the" can with propriety be translated, "because of" and he cites numerous instances where the expression is so translated, and where any other translations would not make good sense. However, the best proof that Peter did not mean to teach that one is saved wholly or in part by baptism, is his own specific statement in Acts 10:43,

"Whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins." No mention whatsoever of baptism. If Peter didn't mean that remission of sin comes through faith in Jesus, then he contradicts himself.

2. 1 Peter 3:21. They quote the part that says, "baptism doth also now save us," and leave out the expression "in like figure whereunto." "Figure" signifies that baptism has an illustrative purpose here. As a matter of fact water did not save Noah (and the flood is being spoken of here). It was water that drowned and killed. It was the ark that saved, and the ark was a type of Christ. That is what we mean when we speak of people being "in the Ark of safety."

3. Mark 16:16. It is stated that "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved," but what is it that damns or condemns? The answer given is, "but he that *believeth not*." That makes plain that condemnation is for unbelief — not for failure to be baptized. Incidentally, the Church of Christ people who harp so on the 16th verse, pay no attention to the 17th and 18th verses, but condemn the Holiness people for their insistence on these verses.

What Is Against Baptismal Regeneration?

1. The types of the Old Testament. The Passover

for instance. The blood of the Lamb was sufficient to save from death, without anything being added. "When I see the *blood* I will pass over you."

2. The plan of salvation itself. God's plan is to save by grace, through faith alone. That is what is taught in Ephesians 2:8-10. The "not of works" rules out any human activity or merit — any work of any kind. Despite attempts to deny it, baptism is a form of human effort — it is *works*.

3. Specific examples of salvation apart from baptism. Note some samples of these: (1) "Thy faith hath saved thee, go in peace." Jesus said this to the sinful women. No mention of baptism. He saved this woman without even suggesting baptism. (2) The Penitent thief. Baptismal regenerationists have duck fits in an effort to squirm out of this, but there is no honest squirming out possible. The thief was saved and was promised that he was going that day where Jesus went. He wasn't saved under the Law — he was saved by grace through faith exactly as all others who are saved at all. (3) Cornelius and others (Acts 10:44-48). The Holy Spirit came on those people following their exercise of faith, and before baptism. Manifestly they were baptized because it was plain that they had been saved — not in order to help save them. □ □

The Doctrine of the Church In These Times

By Chester E. Tulga

The true church is marked by the faithful exercise of scriptural discipline (Mt. 18:15-18; 1 Cor. 5:1-5, 13; 14:33, 40; Rev. 2:14-15, 20). The doctrine of the external sanctity of the church is a lost doctrine, and a futile effort is being made to give to the church a standing in the world which its degree of holiness does not deserve. There is an attempt being made to give a holiness to the church which does not involve the holiness of the people in the church. Scriptural disciplines are necessary to purity of doctrine in the church, a godly testimony to the world, and a proper observance of the ordinances. To have no rule of doctrine and no rule of life as conditions of member-ship

or participation in the Lord's Supper, is to corrupt the meaning of both and destroy their spiritual usefulness.

Every organization which proposes to work smoothly, and yet efficiently, must have certain rules and regulations to be followed; certain laws for the individual members to obey. There is no society to which these remarks apply more appropriately and with more emphasis than the local church of Christian believers who profess before the world to have found a Savior from sin and superior way of life. When these laws fall into disuse, the message of the church is corrupted and the lives of its members cease to inspire confidence.

These disciplines can be

applied wisely or unwisely. E. T. Hiscox (**The New Directory for Baptist Churches**, pp. 101-102) says, "To some the word *discipline* has an unpleasant sound. It seems punitive. It savors of transgression, conflict and punishment. But church discipline is not to be taken in this narrow sense alone; nor does it develop these unlovely features, except, where, by the culpable neglect of pastors and others it has fallen into decay, good order and the well-being of the body have been long disregarded, and the church has become a lawless and disorderly company. Then a very hasty, and possibly an intemperate effort to make matters right, without sufficient prudence and precaution, may develop difficulties."

Whatever the difficulties, in many cases these disciplines of the Word of God must be used to restore the church to health and the Lord's Table to holiness. Hiscox says, "Many a church has found serious trouble in re-establishing a healthful order and discipline, after long continued neglect and disorder. But many a

Fellowships And Conferences

GARLAND, TX

July 27-29, 2009,
Rogers Baptist Church,
801 W. Buckingham Rd.,
Garland, TX 75040, Ron
Thomas, Pastor

* * *

RICHLAND, WA

August 10-12, 2009,
Lighthouse Baptist Church,
909 Abbot St., Richland,
WA 99352. Steven S.
Ragland, Pastor.

* * *

SIOUX FALLS, SD

October 4-7, 2009,
Empire Baptist Temple, 412
S. Hawthorne Ave, Sioux
Falls, SD 57104, (605) 339-
2038. Erich McCandless,
Pastor.

church has also found that a thorough course of Christian labor, and the re-establishment of a healthful scriptural discipline, has brought back to the body order and harmony, reinvigorated its wasted energies, has produced a better tone of practical piety, and become the precursor of a revival of religion." A true church uses scriptural disciplines lovingly and wisely (**The Doctrine of the Church in These Times**, C.E. Tulga, pp. 35-36). □

Remember the banana — when it left the bunch it got skinned!

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together; as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

Hebrews 10:25