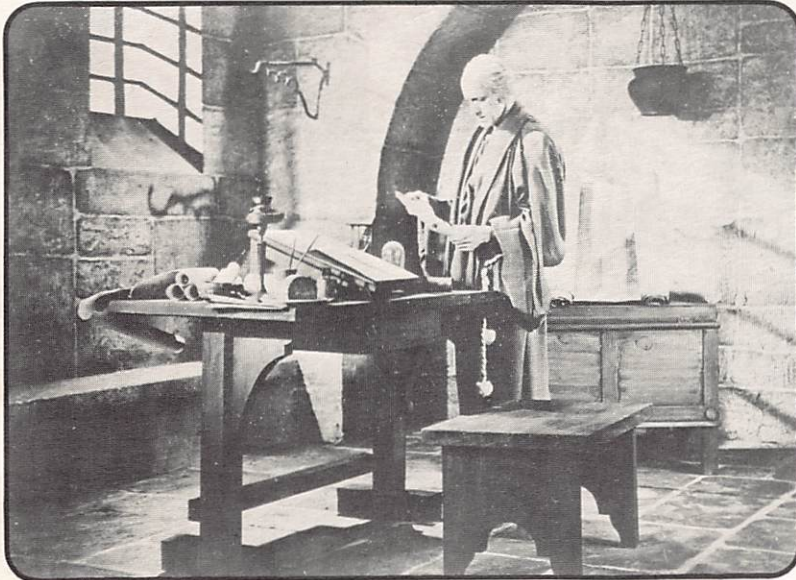


end times
messenger



SEPTEMBER/1978 VOL. 42 NO. 9



**GOD'S BOOK —
THE BIBLE** (Page 4)



**YOU AND
YOUR BIBLE** (Page 8)



— **SPECIAL BIBLE STUDY ISSUE** —



True Freedom

by Irvin W. Ellis

Have you ever had the feeling that you were being manipulated . . . that you were simply a "pawn" on the "chessboard of life"? That some unseen "Pied Piper" was leading you down the "garden path" in your selection of cars, clothes, finery and furnishings? That someone was "pulling the strings" so that you would do exactly what other 'mature,' 'progressive,' 'sophisticated,' 'liberated' and 'broad-minded' persons were doing?

It is no secret that motivational research specialists are employed by the advertising media, supposedly knowing **why** you buy **what** you buy, and applying this knowledge to not only changing your buying habits but also your life style.

Spiritual Slavery

Just as Israel was once held captive in Egypt (a type of the world), under the cruel domination of Pharaoh (a type of the devil), until they experienced deliverance through the Passover Lamb (a type of God's Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ), so you are by nature under the bondage and enslavement of sin.

Satan would like you to think that you are doing what **you want** to do, when in reality you are doing what he wants you to do and are actually in "... the snare of the devil," and are being "... taken captive by him at his will" (2 Timothy 2:26). He may have successfully convinced you that he doesn't even exist (which is the belief of some religious organizations) and that you have complete freedom to "do your own thing." This deception, however,

is only part of the satanic strategy for the Bible reveals that the devil has "... blinded the minds of them that believe not . . ." (2 Corinthians 4:4).

Satan is: — "... the prince of this world . . ." (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11).

— "... the god of this age . . ." (2 Corinthians 4:4).

— "... the prince of the power of the air . . ." (Ephesians 2:2).

The Promise of Freedom

If you are tired of the bondage of sin, the burden of sinful habits that are ruining your life, the slavery of Satan, then turn to the Great Deliverer, the Lord Jesus Christ, who waits to set you free and give you the liberty that you long for.

Jesus: — came to "... preach deliverance to the captives . . . to set (them) at liberty . . ." (Luke 4:18).

— "... gave Himself for our sins that He might deliver us from (the enslavement of) this present evil world . . ." (Galatians 1:4).

— "... took part of the same; (became identified with our humanity) that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil" (Hebrews 2:14).

Jesus can break the power of sin and the domination of the devil in your life, if you will simply acknowledge your need of Him and yield (without any inward reservations) to His cleansing, transforming power.

Are **you** enjoying the freedom that Christ came to give? If not, why not?



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STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Apostolic Church of Pentecost of Canada Inc., is a Fellowship of Full Gospel churches holding forth the message of the power of God and the Gospel of the Grace of God.

WE BELIEVE: 1. In the verbal inspiration of the Holy Scriptures. 2. In the existence of One True God who has revealed Himself to this world as the Father, as the Son and as the Holy Spirit. 3. In the Saviour of men, the Lord Jesus Christ, conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, very God and very Man. 4. In the creation, test and fall of man, as recorded in Genesis; his total spiritual depravity and inability to attain to divine righteousness. 5. In the Gospel of the Grace of God, how that Christ died for our sins, was buried and rose again the third day for our justification. 6. In the salvation of sinners by Grace alone, through faith in the perfect and sufficient work of Christ on our behalf upon the Cross of Calvary. 7. In Water Baptism of believers by immersion in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8. In the Baptism with the Holy Spirit as an experience subsequent to salvation, with the scriptural evidence; namely, speaking in tongues. 9. In the Gifts of the Spirit as enumerated in 1 Corinthians, being exercised and practiced as manifest in the early Church. 10. In the Lord's Memorial, commonly called Supper, for believers. 11. In the healing of the body by Divine Power, or Divine Healing in many aspects as practiced by the early Church. 12. In the eternal life of the believer and the eternal punishment of the unbeliever. 13. In the Spirit-filled life, a life of separation from the world, and the perfecting of holiness in the fear of God as an expression of Christian faith. 14. In the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ for His church.

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"So far the King James Authorized Version has had no serious contender for first place. It is still the Bible of the Nation."



GOD'S BOOK - THE BIBLE

by A.D. MARSHALL

The erudite Jerome lovingly called his Bible "Bibliotheca Divina" which means "Divine Library," for as he handled the precious collection of Holy Writ, he felt the throbings of the Divine pulsing through its eternal pages, its eternal thought bringing spiritual urgency and life to every fiber of his body. He knew it was God's Word. The Holy Spirit was the witness to his Spirit.

Every religion has a book. Let us name some:

The Veda of the Brahmins or Hindus;

The Zend-Avesta of the Zoroastrians or Parsees;

The Tripitka of the Buddhists;

The Koran of the Muslims;

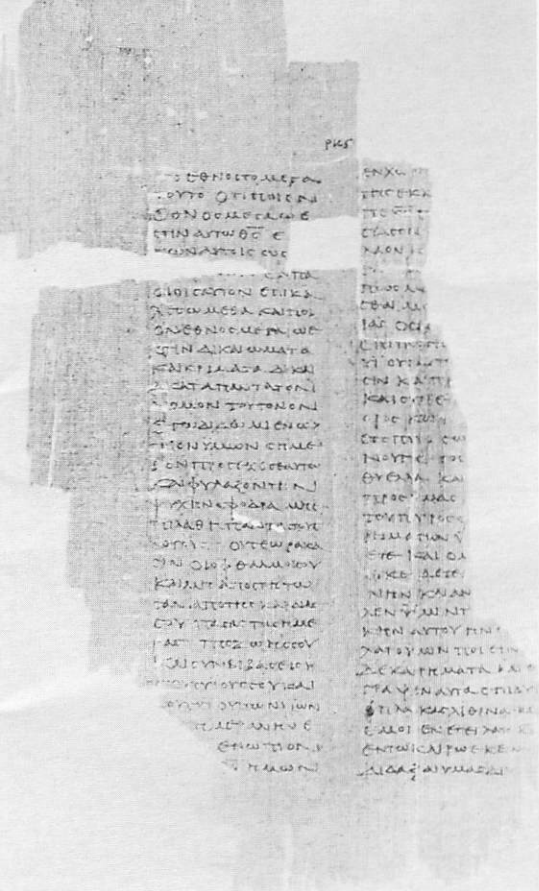
The King of the Confucians among the Chinese.

Usually a book originating a religion is written by the progenitor of that religion. But unlike all others, Christianity has no word written by Jesus Christ personally. God commanded others to write it, and at that only after years of oral communication with His people. As you read the first book of the Bible you are very conscious of the fact that God is in touch with His people. Your pulse quickens as you read, "And God said . . ."; "and the Word of the Lord came unto Abram saying . . ."

In Exodus it continues in the same

vein, "And the Lord said unto Moses . . ." (7:1). Then it happens! The change comes! "And the Lord said unto Moses, write . . ." From here on the new process takes over. A book is the nearest possible approach to reliability in the continuity of truth from generation to generation. So the Bible becomes a product of the revelation and inspiration of God over a period of 55 generations or approximately 1600 years. It did not become an authorized collection of books, but a collection of authorized books. This collection of authorized books became the Bible, not because of the authority of a Synod or Council, (though it received that), but because men found in their eternal pages, God.

This Bible is composed of two Covenants, the Old Testament with 39 books and the New Testament with 27 books, making 66 books altogether. Now that is quite a library which you conveniently carry with you in various sizes and prices. We call it the Bible, but it has other names which we love. Paul called it "the Scripture," "the Holy Scriptures," "the Word of God." Daniel called it the "Scripture of Truth," while Jesus referred to the Old Testament as the "law and the prophets." There are other names which are all loved by its votaries.



The first translation of the Old Testament 280 B.C. -- Greek Papyrus Manuscript.

The Old Testament was translated into Greek in the third century B.C., which was the most widely used language at the time. This translation was called the Septuagint (meaning "of the seventy") because it was said to have been translated by 70 elders in 70 sessions in Egypt. This fragment (Chester Beatty Papyrus VI) was made in the second century A.D. and shows that it did not last very well. In Egypt's dry climate however, papyrus did not deteriorate noticeably, and the Greeks also used it for centuries. Courtesy of Harper Bros., "The Bible and Ancient Manuscripts" by Frederick Kenyon.

The First Translation of Old Testament

For years the Scriptures were given in the Hebrew language and the Jews were the foremost evangelizers of their generations. Approximately 285 B.C. the Old Testament became

available in the Greek language, which was the language of the then known world. This was known as the Septuagint Version and placed in the Library in Alexandria. When the New Testament became a reality it was written in Greek so the whole Bible was in the language of the people. However, as the power of the Roman Empire asserted itself culturally, and soon the Latin language displaced the Greek as the popular language used in the Empire. Jerome gave us a translation of the Bible from the Greek to the Latin called "The Vulgate," the name suggesting the 'common' language. This was to be the Bible of Europe for almost 1000 years.

Before leaving the subject of the Vulgate Version, it may be well to point out that there was quite a furor over its appearance, especially the Old Testament. The Old Testament was taken from the Septuagint and that was looked upon as being, if not inspired, then almost inspired. To tamper with that was going too far in the opinion of some. It was years before even the eminent Augustine gave it his open approval.

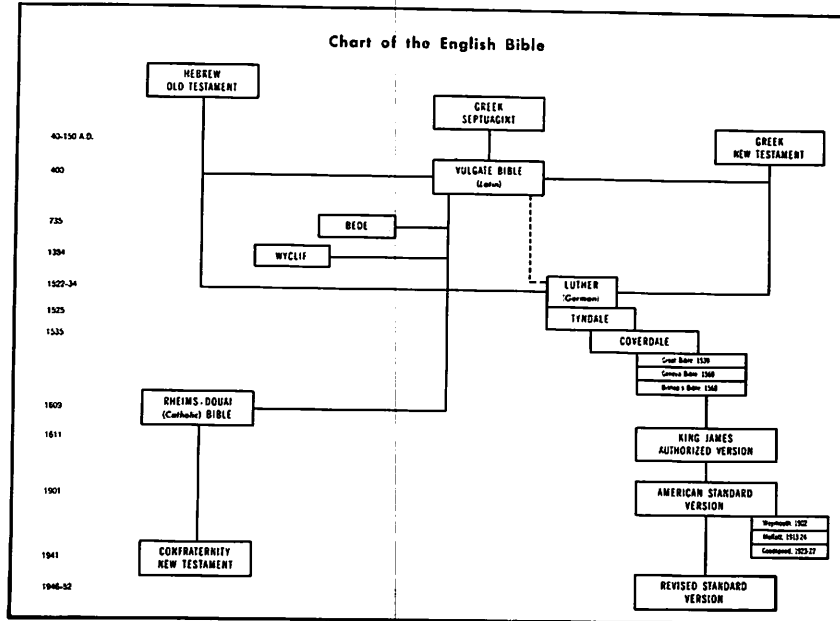
The Vulgate Version came over to England with Augustine, the missionary in 597 and remained England's Bible till Wycliffe gave her one in her own beloved tongue. Alfred the Great, a Royal Translator, and the venerable Bede, among others, gave England portions of the Bible in her native tongue, but it was John Wycliffe who, with help of Nicholas of Hereford and John Purvey, gave England a full Bible in her own tongue, translated from the Latin Vulgate. These were horrendous days for the English Christian. The "Fire Act" was legislated and a Christian could be burned for being a Christian. Reading a Bible was a "no-no," but Wycliffe and his Lollards got it out to the English and Scottish people and preached the Saviour of the Bible. England responded to this "Morning Star of the Reformation." Wycliffe's Bible was the precursor of many Bibles for England to keep her people 'in touch with God.' With a language constantly changing meanings of words, new manuscripts of the Bible being found, a printing press perfected to fill the hands of a fast growing literate people, new Bibles, new translations cropped up everywhere. Tyndale, the giant, dwarfs all others, but following doggedly to disseminate

Holy Writ is Coverdale and Whittingham. The Great Bible, Geneva Bible, Bishops Bible, and the Douay Rheims, all lead up to the masterpiece of all English literature that still serves the English speaking peoples of the world 367 years since its introduction to King James 1st in 1611 known as the King James Authorized Version, the Holy Bible.

The King James Authorized Version

The King James Authorized of 1611, is the masterpiece as it should be, having every advantage translators could have. Time, resources and protection were all in their favour. But don't think the way was smooth when it came to the reception of the finished product. The Pilgrim Fathers wouldn't take it into their ship, the Mayflower, and hence to America. They took the Geneva Bible. In fact, it took about 40 years before it was finally accepted and became the Bible of the nation.

Since the King James Version, somewhat over 500 translations have been made, either New Testaments or the whole Bible. Today you look at your bookshelf and possibly wonder how many of these translations should be on your shelf if indeed any. Christian periodicals do their readers a favour by including up-to-date material on the latest translations to keep them informed as to the good points and otherwise as they appear to the writer. There are some readers who throw their hands up in the air and say, "How can we know?" and give up further research. When the revision of the King James authorized Bible came out in 1885, it received a tremendous reception, but under the hammer blows of constant criticism for mainly two faulty Scripture translations which were indeed culpable, its usefulness wore thin very quickly. When in 1901 the American Standard Version came out and it had little concurrence with the Revised, people settled back comfortably to the King James Authorized. They have remained there until this present rash of translations, which has brought in an unsettlement that has posed the questions, "Which is the best translation?" and, "Do you think any of them will ever take the place of the King James?" **continued on next page**



At best we can only briefly consider some of the most well known of the new versions available and pressing their claims of precedence upon the public as the "Word of God." There are some versions that are yet only received as New Testaments and we are anxiously awaiting the Old Testament which will likely be out this year. I speak of J.B. Phillips New Testament and the New International, both of which have received enthusiastic receptions by the reading public. Phillips is faulted by some for his treatment of Acts 8:20, but I question the validity of such criticism when it is in agreement with the original text as Phillips explains. Other than this most comments are most commendatory. The New International Bible New Testament has a triple X rating amid the plethora of recent modern speech versions. Many and the best of scholars and pastors confidently expect that this (if any) will replace the King James Version. A 'wait and see' attitude prevails until the Old Testament arrives.

The Good News Bible

Meanwhile, those we have presently have already told their story. The Good News Bible (TEV) is a complete success. Its limited vocabulary makes it easy to understand, its line drawings appropos, thus making an interesting reading page. Accusers point to their oft use of the "death of Christ" rather than the "blood of

Christ." While sometimes this is legitimate it makes them suspect also in the interest of good translation. The New English Bible was beautifully summed up by one, "It is brilliant in many places but very bad in a few other places . . ." This has characterized its reception. It is the "bad places" that has reduced it to the shelf usage rather than the desk. The Amplified Bible has assisted the student greatly. The teacher has felt the strength of its helping hand. I doubt it will ever leave the desk or the shelf of the busy pastor. It is a useful tool in the hand of God's messenger.

The Revised Standard Bible

The Revised Standard Bible got away to a good start and it still holds a strong segment of support among God's people. Its greatest battle was the accusation by Evangelicals of the inroads of Modernism, evident in its translation relevant to the Virgin Birth. True or not true, the body blow was delivered and there still lingers in the minds of many the suspicion of its guilt. It has weathered the storm and any of its defects proved to be a catalyst for major new translations.

The Living Bible

The Living Bible is a Paraphrased Bible by Ken Taylor, originally meant for children. It must remain in this

category for its greatest usefulness. Its reception has been phenomenal by the public. It takes excessive liberties with the sacred text, sacrifices accuracy for readability and, in some cases, reflects the bias of the paraphraser. It is delightful for devotional reading but unacceptable for serious Bible study or public reading.

The New American Standard

The New American Standard is from the same Foundation as the Amplified Bible, and is an effort to revise the American Standard Version of 1901, which has had the acclaim of scholars for years as "the most perfect English Bible in existence." So far, this translation has held the spotlight of attention. It is renowned for its faithfulness to the original text and translation thereof, its language is strictly up-to-date, yet it carries its aura of dignity and sacredness that becomes the Word of God.

Final Criteria

I have read extensively the thoughts of worthy scholars who have given able critiques on the variant modern versions of the Bible now available in the bookstores. They say with one voice loudly and clearly that every version has a weakness or point of disagreement somewhere with well defined scholarship in the original Greek or Hebrew Text or translation thereof. But, when the conclusions are all written, the 'logomaniacs' have said all they can say, and conclusions have to be made, this I say, "Any translation that demeans the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ as to His Deity or humanity, any version that degrades the authority of the Word of God as such, yes, any rendering of Holy Writ that violates established truth, does not reveal truth as it is in Christ Jesus, is doomed to existence on a bookshelf, unhandled, uncared for, seldom dusted and unloved."

So far, the King James Authorized Version has had no serious contender for first place. How long it will further enjoy this state of pre-eminence remains to be seen. It is still the Bible of the nation.†

20 Bible Questions

A Four-Minute Test of Your Bible Knowledge

Compiled by HERBERT KLINGBEIL

The following quiz is made up of some of the more elementary Bible questions from examinations taken by correspondence students of the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. This test, in addition to measuring your present Bible knowledge, will be helpful in indicating the kind of Bible study you now need. A more difficult test is presented on another page.

Part I: *In the right-hand margin circle "T" if the statement is true, "F" if the statement is false.*

1. Many of the events in Genesis occurred during during Moses' lifetime. T F
2. The blood of the Passover lamb had to be applied in order to save from death. T F
3. When Jesus cured Peter's mother-in-law of a fever, she arose and served Him and His disciples. T F
4. Paul was concerned only with evangelism and spent little time teaching the new believers. T F
5. The priestly order of Melchisedec was superior to the Aaronic priesthood. T F
6. The Holy Spirit dwells in the body of every true believer in Christ. T F
7. David made Jerusalem the capital city of all Israel. T F
8. The one time Paul failed to witness for Christ was when he was in jail at Philippi. T F
9. Philip explained Isaiah 53 to the Ethiopian eunuch. T F
10. Satan often tempts believers to go beyond the bounds set by God. T F

Part II: *Circle the letter of the correct answer in each of the following:*

11. Moses and Aaron belonged to the tribe of:
(a) Levi; (b) Judah; (c) Reuben; (d) Simeon.

12. According to the Bible,
(a) there is no life after death; (b) sinners can escape punishment if they go to church; (c) our punishment for sin is in this life only; (d) unforgiven sinners will spend eternity in hell.
13. To what Hebrew tribe did Christ belong?
(a) Levi; (b) Judah; (c) Benjamin; (d) Melchisedec.
14. True righteousness is achieved by:
(a) keeping all the Ten Commandments; (b) receiving the gift of salvation; (c) living according to the Golden Rule; (d) doing daily kindnesses.
15. God disciplines His children because:
(a) He loves to punish them; (b) His children expect discipline; (c) as a loving Father, He desires to correct them; (d) He desires to appease unbelievers' criticism about the suffering of God's children.
16. The law was given at:
(a) Calvary; (b) Mount Hermon; (c) Mount Sinai; (d) the Red Sea.
17. The three disciples who were with Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration were:
(a) Peter, Andrew and John; (b) Peter, James and John; (c) Andrew, James and Peter; (d) Matthew, Peter and John.

Part III: *Complete the following:*

18. In Pharaoh's dream, the seven fat cows and the seven good ears represent
19. The future thousand-year era of peace and prosperity is called the
20. Cephas was also called

For each correct answer (see page 23), give yourself five points. If your score was below 75, you should consider an introductory study of the Bible. A score of 75 or more is above average, but indicates a need for further systematic Bible study. A perfect score is exceptional, although a grasp of these facts constitutes only an elementary knowledge of the Bible. If you did well, try the second test.

ADVANCED RATING TEST on page 21.

For a Christian the Bible is the
foundation of everything that he believes.

YOU AND

by LORNE O. PRITCHARD

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God."

That statement is in your Bible about your Bible. We must look upon it as a declaration of truth or one of heresy.

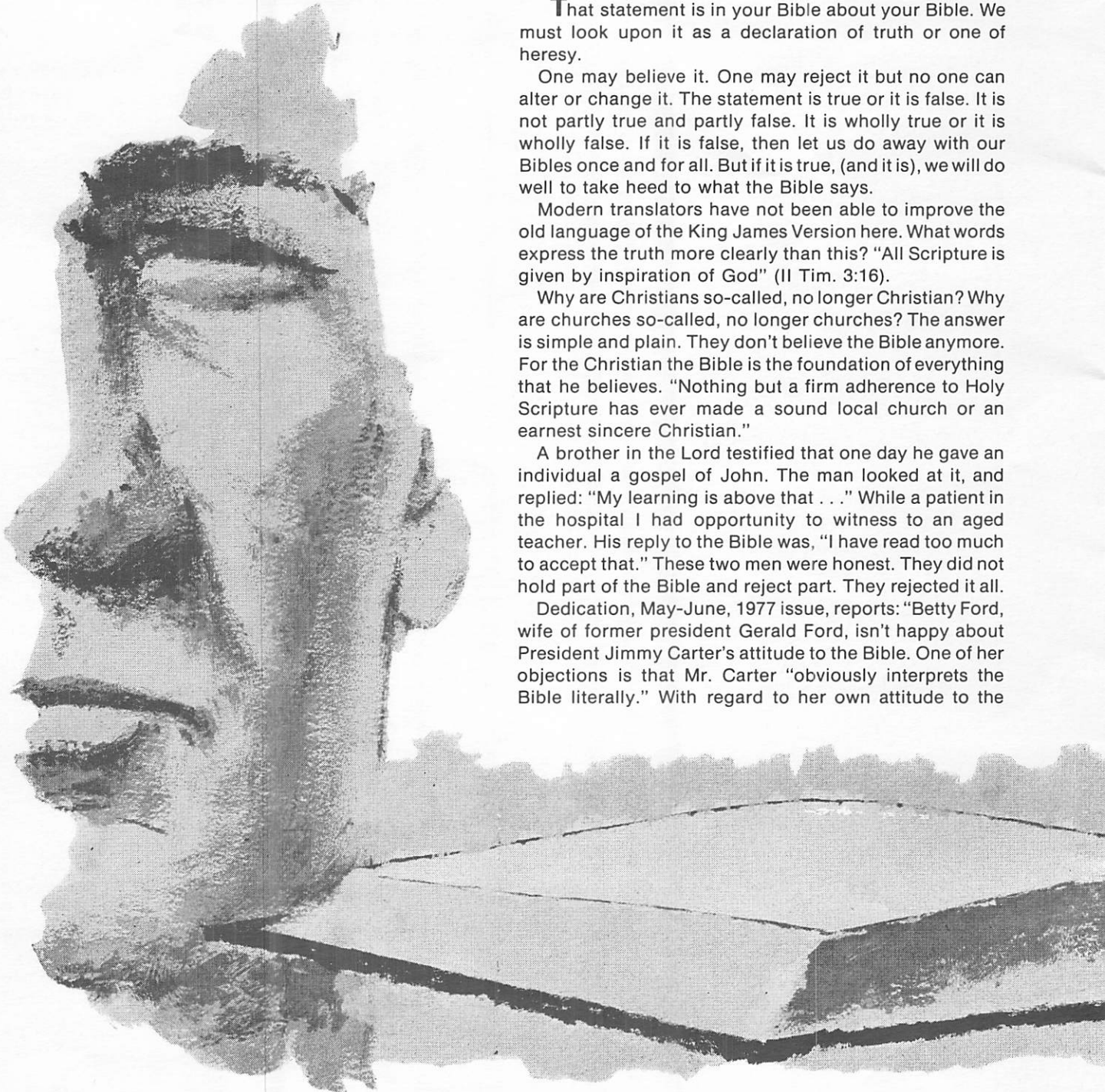
One may believe it. One may reject it but no one can alter or change it. The statement is true or it is false. It is not partly true and partly false. It is wholly true or it is wholly false. If it is false, then let us do away with our Bibles once and for all. But if it is true, (and it is), we will do well to take heed to what the Bible says.

Modern translators have not been able to improve the old language of the King James Version here. What words express the truth more clearly than this? "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God" (II Tim. 3:16).

Why are Christians so-called, no longer Christian? Why are churches so-called, no longer churches? The answer is simple and plain. They don't believe the Bible anymore. For the Christian the Bible is the foundation of everything that he believes. "Nothing but a firm adherence to Holy Scripture has ever made a sound local church or an earnest sincere Christian."

A brother in the Lord testified that one day he gave an individual a gospel of John. The man looked at it, and replied: "My learning is above that . . ." While a patient in the hospital I had opportunity to witness to an aged teacher. His reply to the Bible was, "I have read too much to accept that." These two men were honest. They did not hold part of the Bible and reject part. They rejected it all.

Dedication, May-June, 1977 issue, reports: "Betty Ford, wife of former president Gerald Ford, isn't happy about President Jimmy Carter's attitude to the Bible. One of her objections is that Mr. Carter 'obviously interprets the Bible literally.' With regard to her own attitude to the



YOUR BIBLE

Bible, Mrs. Ford says, "I study it every day. But I think it is made up of stories and examples set to inspire us to lead a good life." Such a position is unacceptable in the light of our text.

Psalm 33:6 states: "By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth." The heavens, the galaxies, all that is out there, came from the breath of God.

Job 33:4 says: "The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life." Man, all men, came from the same breath of God.

2 Timothy 3:16 states: "All Scripture is given by inspiration, that is by the breath of God." The same breath that created the heavens, created man. The same breath that created man, created the Bible. We cannot deny the existence of creation. We cannot deny the existence of man. We cannot deny the existence of the Bible.

If your Bible is not inspired it is not Holy Scripture. If Scripture is Holy Scripture it is because it is inspired. It could not be a revelation from God apart from inspiration. But because of inspiration it is guaranteed to be a revelation from God.

In the text, Paul continues, "All Scripture . . . is profitable." In Psalm 119:160 we read, "Thy Word is true from the beginning." That is, from the very first word, the very first verse.

From the first verse it is profitable. From the first verse it is true. It is profitable because it **IS** true.

What other writing is fully true and trustworthy? Recently I re-read two books by I. Velikovsky. The one "Ages in Chaos," the other, "Oedipus and Akhnaton." Both books have to do with Egyptian history. In the first book named, the writer proves that Egyptian history is not trustworthy and in the other the writer endeavours to prove that Greek mythology seems to line up with genuine

Egyptian history. So the mythology may be true, while the history seems to be false. Rather complicated, but such will prove to be of much of the records by men.

I am now of the opinion that the time will come when we shall discover that the only trustworthy history is in the Bible.

What are the first words in the Bible that are so profitable? "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." We are face to face with the fact of God and the creation of God.

Is there a God? That question we must answer before we try to proceed. The Bible states firmly, yes, God is and it also states that creation proves that God is.

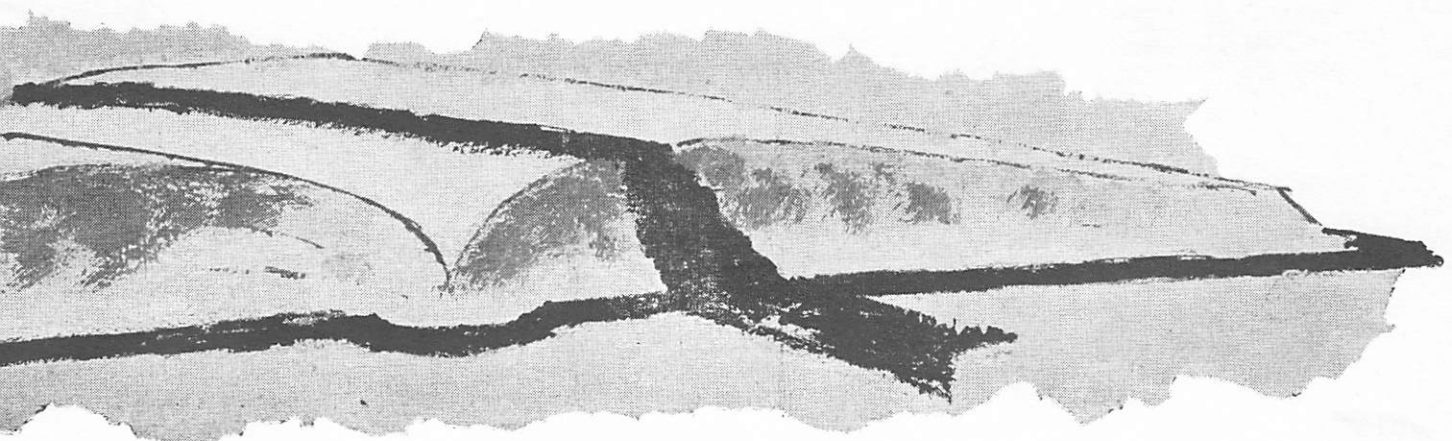
Francis Schaeffer argues that if one is going to begin without God, then one has to conclude that all that has been created came from nothing. Not merely nothing, but nothing-nothing. You do not begin with nothing plus something, you begin with nothing-nothing. And when you begin on that premise you must convince yourself that nothing plus nothing plus time, plus chance created something!

The day has come when we no longer need to prove that God is, we ask men rather to prove that God is not. We no longer need to offer proof that the Bible is the Word of God, we challenge men to prove that the Bible **IS NOT** the Word of God.

Therefore, if we accept the fact that the Bible is inspired of God, and therefore true, we then can proceed with the second step and accept the Bible as being profitable.

All Scripture is given by Inspiration of God. All Scripture is therefore profitable.

Jesus said, "O fools and slow of heart to believe ALL that the prophets have spoken." A man will prove himself one day, to be a fool if he will not believe ALL that is in the Bible.†



reaction

by ISAAC BLOCK

Reaction To Reaction

The Reaction column, as supplied by Peter Miller in the July/78 edition, creates some serious questions. Our brother's effort to strike a balance between what may almost be opposing sides is commendable, but he argues from certain erroneous premises and, in so doing, leaves an impression contrary to his obvious intention. To say as he did, that Catholic believers have been "directed by the Spirit to continue their devotions to Mary, the Eucharist and other Catholic distinctives" removes almost all credibility from his article. The declaration would hardly merit attention were it not that a host of people believe it and are thereby deceived in their continuing unscriptural practices.

Brother Miller appeals to Acts 15, i.e., "that we trouble not them which from the Catholics (to paraphrase slightly) are turned to God." That

application is misplaced in that the church elders did indeed "trouble" the new Gentile converts by instructing them immediately -- not a gradual weening from error -- to refrain from former religious activities which are contrary to the revealed will of God.

Another unqualified statement is made, that "the renewal would never have gotten off the ground" had not this so-called direction by the Holy Spirit been given. What?! God cannot move a large number of people to Himself unless He openly gives permission for them to continue error in order to keep them content while they gradually get to know the Scriptures? Nothing could be farther from the truth! God may, and does, tolerate some error in the church, but -- He never promotes or contributes to it. Is there chapter and verse to show otherwise?

Once we allow so-called prophetic utterances to provide guidance and/or doctrine contrary to plain Scripture, especially once we know the Scripture, then the floodgates are wide open for error to reign supreme. It should be also mentioned that the arguments about Protestant "misfits" and Catholic "lights" cancel out each other. On a scale relative to the whole, both are negligible. Certainly the positive results of what happened forty years ago in Pentecost far outweigh the negative. According to Bible pattern, new converts are ready for instruction with respect to proper worship of God. We do well to heed the exhortation of I Tim. 4:13,16 by keeping "doctrine" (Gr. didaskalia - the substance) in proper focus while at the same time not leaving undone the outflow of God's love according to verse 12, same chapter.†



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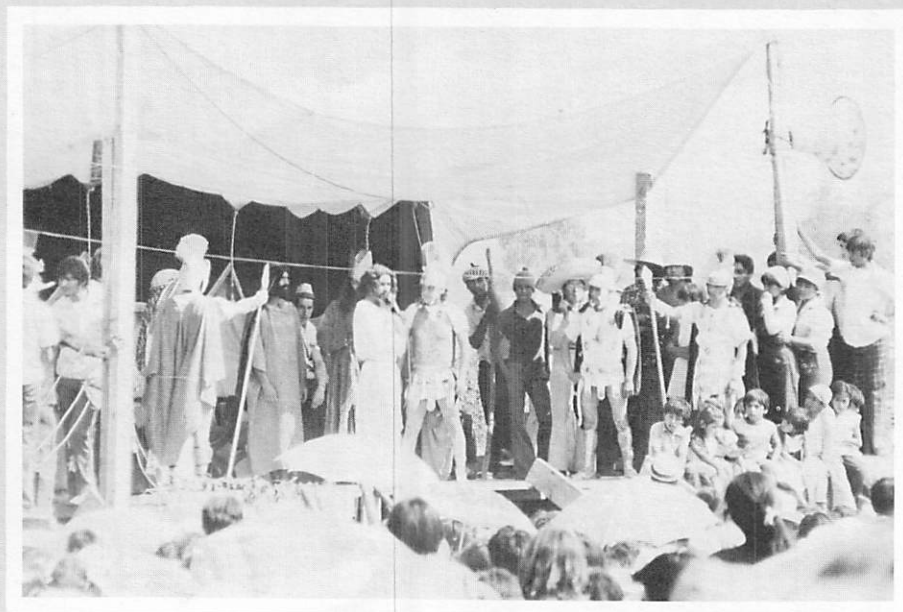


FOCUS ON

MISSIONS



**Palm trees flourish on the shores of Trivandrum
backwaters in South India**



*"Crucify
Him,*

It is Easter Friday. We are standing in a crowd of approximately 50,000 people on a hillside on the outskirts of Puebla, Mexico. About half a mile below stands the main Roman Catholic church of the area. A rough dirt road switchbacks its way up to where we are standing. The road winds on up past us to an open area where three wooden crosses stand in readiness. My glance is caught and held by the statue of Christ that crowns the peak of the hill. It is as high as a grain elevator. Amazing!

Over the milling of the crowd blares the loud speaker on the hastily erected platform that stands off to the left. It is difficult to see the actors - I do not have a good vantage point. I see Jesus! He is being judged by Pilate. The words are indistinguishable! The public address system is inadequate for such a large crowd.

My attention strays to the crowd. So many people! They are mostly Indian folk, farmers, "campesinos." In fact, I don't see many city folk. I feel like I stick out like a sore thumb in the midst of these short, dark people. I feel vulnerable.

I am surrounded by hastily erected shops selling all forms of snacks, fruits, drinks and candies. Men and women walk past pushing mobile carts and yelling their

wares, "Ice cream, tamales, tacos!" Over to my right is parked a large truck. The back door is open and through the crowd that presses around it, I can see a mountain of ice and thousands of cans of beer. It is selling fast. A cheap midway entertains the children with an assortment of rides. People are laughing, talking, enjoying themselves. Children are running, yelling, crying. Jesus is being judged. No one seems to pay much attention to the drama unfolding on the stage. I wonder why they have come. My mind flashes back to the farm auction that I attended as a girl of eight. I didn't go to buy - I went to play with my friends, taste the excitement in the air and eat popsicles. These folk had come for the same reason. It was a social event; the religious significance had been forgotten.

I am rudely snapped out of my reverie by the shout that has gone up from below. Jesus has been taken below and is now struggling up the hill under the weight of a real cross. He is hemmed in by Roman soldiers and Pharisees dressed in beautiful garb. Mary can be seen walking behind, weeping. The crowd that has been so docile, now comes to life as they press in around Jesus and his company. The tempo rises as they hurl sticks, stones and

Crucify Him"

by ELSIE WELCH



insults. The cry "Crucify him, crucify him!" gains strength as it passes from mouth to mouth. They are a drunken, bloodthirsty mob. There is a sinister feeling in the air, a darkness, an uneasiness. I feel scared and threatened. I feel as if I have been transported back many years to the real crucifixion. The air is thick with the power of darkness. Jesus struggles past me. He has a crown of real thorns pushed into his head. Streams of blood trickle down and stain his once white cloak. Mary faints because of the pressure of the crowd and the heat. The Mexican Red Cross rush in with a stretcher and whisk her away before she is trampled by the angry mob. It seems an eternity before the crowd sweeps on past us and to the summit of the hill. There Jesus and the two thieves are tied to the crosses and left to hang in the afternoon sun for two or three hours.

I have had enough. I cannot wait to get away from the area. I have been to see the famous "Passion Play" that performs in South Dakota. That was beautiful and inspiring. What I have seen today was dark and disturbing.

The event you have just witnessed, occurs every year on Good Friday near Puebla. Every year about thirty young men try out for the role of Christ and to the one to whom it

falls, it is deemed a great privilege. In his suffering he will gain favour with God. I am told that years ago one man asked to be nailed to the cross and left to die. I am told that the crowd complied with his wishes. It might just be hearsay, I don't know.

"City" Catholics are not proud of this occasion. It is mainly supported by country folk who have their religion intertwined with pagan ritual - remnants of their ancient Aztec fathers. They walk by sight and not by faith. They have never felt their sins forgiven. They have never trusted in God for salvation. Although they confess their sins, it is to man and not to God, so they never feel forgiven. The weight of sin never lifts from their shoulders and they feel they have to keep working at it.

Jesus came, He suffered and died for each one of them and today He tells them, "If you confess your sins, I will be faithful and just and forgive you your sins, and cleanse you from all unrighteousness."

And when they hear that message and it prints itself indelible on their hearts, they won't need to congregate on that hillside once a year, because "whom the Son sets free, is free indeed!"†



RETURNED MISSIONARIES AND APPROVED OUTGOING MISSIONARIES

From the front row to the back and from left to right: Mrs. Fayette Larson, Vic Hollefreund, Ed and Donna Bradley (Missionary Council chairman), Annita Cole and Isobel Duncan, Tannis and Leonard VanderPloeg, Gerald Nygren, Stan and Phylis King, Luella and Eldon Johnson, Shirley and Peter Lippmann, Doug and Donna Siggelkow, Louis Fontalvo, Albert and Verna Roberts, Elsie Welch, M. Clifford, Frank Kosick, D. Jameison, Leonard Simcoe, Albert Heinzig and Mart Vahi.

Approved Missionary Projects For Appeals

Zambia Church Building Repair	- \$ 3,000.00 still required
Bible School Building in Tema, Ghana under the supervision of Stan King	- \$11,000.00
Brazil Building Fund	- \$17,000.00 still required
Rhodesia Correspondence Course Shirley Anderson	- \$ 500.00
E.G. Bradley - India Trip	- \$ 2,600.00

VEHICLES for foreign missionary work

Peter and Shirley Lippmann	- \$ 7,500.00
Leonard and Tannis VanderPloeg	- \$ 7,500.00
Brian and Elsie Welsh	- \$ 3,500.00
Doug and Donna Siggelkow	- \$ 3,500.00
Vic and Gloria Hollefreund	- \$ 4,500.00
Isabel Duncan and Annita Cole	- \$16,000.00
Shirley Anderson	- \$ 9,000.00 still required

you were asking

by ART & GRETA SHEPPARD



"How can I, as a housewife, get my husband's attention and win his appreciation for all my work in keeping our home and myself attractive?"

Why not begin showing your appreciation and praise for him as a breadwinner. The man who faces everyday life in the world trying to make an honest living can stand some kind words of praise and appreciation for his providing the home which you have. If you want juice out of a lemon, squeeze it! **Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.**

"The signs of the times alarm me. How can I, as a Christian, keep my cool?"

We believe I Thessalonians 4:11 is the ideal passage for you to read at this time. "Study to be quiet, do your own business, and work with your own hands." It is important to be quiet before the Lord and thus draw strength. "In quietness and confidence shall be your strength"

(Isa. 26:3). The other part of this exhortation is to "do your own business," pay attention to your **own** life and usefulness, and keep occupying until He comes. There is something Christian and wholesome about industry and working, and being busy for God. This is the best way to "wait for His Son from Heaven."

"Why does the church dedicate babies?"

The occasion in scripture is when "Jesus took little children in his arms and blessed them." This is all we do in dedication is to pray God's blessing on their lives and on their parents. There is **no** saving virtue in this act. It is simply offering back to God, the Gift of Life which He placed in your home. It is a beautiful thing and the best we can do, to place our precious little ones into His Hands of Love and Grace.

We have just entertained a missionary in our home, who told us his parents dedicated him to the Lord, when still a baby, and prayed

he would be used of God. Although the father of that boy wandered far away from the Lord in late years, the boy became a missionary, and through his prayers saw the father come back into full fellowship with Christ, just two years before the Lord called him home. O, the Grace of our Wonderful Lord!

"As a young person I resent my mother and father making a deadline to be in at night."

You should thank God for a mother and father who are concerned about you. For there are many parents who do not care enough about their children to even think about them at night. You are one of the fortunate young people. They love you and care for you. If you will take this attitude, it will make the regulation easier to keep. Be considerate and work with your parents and I am sure when there are special occasions, when you need to be later, you will find them reasonable.†

There are three kinds of people . . . those who make things happen, those who watch things happen and those who have no idea what happens.

- Powergrams

A small-town pastor pushed his salary cheque under the window at the local bank. The teller apologized for having to cash the cheque with soiled bills. "Oh, that's all right," said the preacher, "no germs could live on my salary."

Don't be discouraged by failure or satisfied with success.

- Selected.

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Explain electricity.
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Find any entrance into heaven aside from Jesus Christ.

In defense of the unrevised version:

On the Text of 1611

No other text seems to

by **EDWARD ANGROVE**

The Bible needs to be reread rather than retranslated.

No one will argue that the old English Bible of 1611 is not, in certain respects, somewhat removed from our day. If not actually antiquated, the familiar old version is at least quaint, and here and there obsolete. These are facts which disturb some modern-age Christians.

I for one am quite in favour of a text which can replace that of 1611. But, to borrow the out-of-date language of Shakespeare (who is still being read!), "Aye, there's the rub."

When everything has been said about manuscript families and authority, translation problems, contemporary language forms, obsolescence, confusion, communication, etc., one fact remains comparatively untouched: no existing translation (I am not for the moment discussing paraphrases, reputable or otherwise) has so far dislodged the Authorized or King James Version from its place of wide and continuing popularity.

Many people, of course, have already made a change, even if it is not always for the better. Nevertheless, for a text so allegedly corrupt and incomprehensible, even incommunicable, the 1611 text is remarkably alive and well. I myself use it constantly; and as a preacher I have not so far found its public use objectionable or deficient, even among younger folk.

In order that I should not be misunderstood, let me repeat what I said before: I am quite in favour of a text to

insure that a change will be anything more than just that.

replace that of 1611. The question is, what text will it be and where will it be found? Unless such a text is forthcoming, given under the direction of the God whose Word it is, we are not about to find a version more popular than that of 1611.

At the present time I use other translations as supplements in study, but nothing more. One reason is that no other text seems to insure that a change will be anything more than just that.

There are, of course, versions more accurate and usable, one notable example being the American Standard Version of 1901. This is a confessedly excellent translation, in which the archaisms of the 1611 Authorized Version are satisfactorily changed while a dignified text is retained. Yet the fact is that during the last three-quarters of a century, during which translations have made their consecutive and multifold appearance, the use of the King James Bible has been among the more consistent factors within the English-speaking Christian community. I do not say this must not and cannot change; I only say that, essentially, it has not so far *been* changed. Why?

First, the Authorized Version of 1611 is still the people's Bible. One cannot deny that it is selling. Others are too, of course; but judged by the

simple gauge of demand, the old version is not about to retire. I find even a significant number of young people using it without the difficulties one is told must accompany its use.

From the standpoint of what many preachers want in a study and pulpit Bible, it is likely that those needs will be available for the most part in the King James Version. The best editions of annotated, wide-margin, and looseleaf Bibles are available primarily if not exclusively with the old text.

Secondly, the old version is, as already suggested, neither as corrupt nor as incomprehensible and incommunicable as is sometimes loudly claimed. True, it has its glosses, but I have yet to find a reasonably alert minister of the Word who is unaware of them, or who would use them to some imagined advantage.

True, too, it has its archaisms. I would rather put up with these comparatively few instances of obsolescence, however, than face a new set of problems generated by using terms more familiar and more common than common Greek. New Testament Greek may have been common, but it was never crude. Although the language of the marketplace, it is wonderfully attractive and precise, and English, flexible though it is, must work hard to convey Greek ideas. It is quite possible to miss the original point in order to come to a "readable" rendering. Of what use is it to hand the

public something that is quite readable but misses what "stands written"? The Bible cannot always *be* made readable; it *does* have its esoteric side.

In relation to the King James Version's communicability, this can be a problem. But I am far from convinced that it is always a problem, or an overwhelming one.

As a third consideration, new translations do not come with the assurance of being free from theological bias or plain blunders. Examples of this abound. One interesting case is in the New English Bible rendering of the word "propitiation" (Gr. *hilasmos*) by the word "remedy" in First John 2:2 and 4:10. That is a blunder or a bias, an error in both language and theology. In language because *hilasmos* has not the remotest connection with an idea such as "remedy"; in theology because there *is* no such thing as "the remedy for the defilement of our sins."

God did not "remedy" sin; He destroyed it. He did not so much alter as remake us. That is not hairsplitting, it is sound theology. But to complete the observation: the New English Bible translators were not even consistent in their treatment of the word *hilasmos*, as a glance at Romans 3:25 will show. It was apparent to them that the English word "propitiation" was not now quite understandable. I agree; it

continued on next page

The gospel is unalterably esoteric.

is not. But with loyalties committed to precision, what other word is there?

Here the art of expository preaching would help us. Anyone who has listened to D.M. Lloyd-Jones preach from the King James Version will quite understand what I mean. I listened with high interest as that great preacher held for more than an hour the attention of, not Victorian fogies (whatever they are!), but university students very much a part of this age. No communication problem at all!

When a word like "propitiation" is taken up and explained as it should be, in connection with the Mercy Seat of God, one has at least one complete sermon at hand. In this instance I would prefer almost anything to the New English Bible translation. Whoever uses it should know that, in passing from the old version to this one, he passes from imperfection to imperfection - and very possibly in the direction of descent.

In the fourth place, I would suggest that just as never in history have so many translations been available in one language, so too never have there been so many folk confused before the question of which Bible is "The Bible." I mean outsiders, those outside the fellowship of saints, those whom we hoped to "confront" with a jargon-free, nonesoteric gospel.

The "God is dead" theologians tried to popularize the gospel and only contrived an incomprehensible, indigestible system of philosophy and metaphysics. The evangelicals, attempting to clothe the Word in language adapted to someone whom Dr. Ronald Ward properly describes as "the mythical man in the street,"

have found that gospel still keeps its mystery.

While we must "make the message clear and plain," we are still merchants of mystery, and we inevitably find that only those drawn by the Spirit of God really *do* understand. Calvinistic? To that extent, yes - and Biblical too. One just cannot extract from the gospel its essence, those "sweet simplicities that mock the brain, yet lie within the heart's most easy reach." I say this not to discourage translation but to urge that no attempt be made to remove from the text its inherent mystery. The gospel is unalterably esoteric, whether we choose to think so or not.

Let us not complicate the matter by using obsolete language; but let us also not presume to alter the truth by using a language more vulgar than "marketplace" Greek. The language of the marketplace was never vulgarity, but there is a twentieth-century koine significantly more coarse than first-century Greek. Such language is, I fear, quite the mark of some translations. Let us return to the uncluttered authority of Scripture represented in a few versions which are both reliable and readable. Among these I still place first the 1611 Bible.

People *are* confused. In face of an avalanche of translations we should not be surprised to find some rather bewildered souls digging amid paraphrastic debris for something resembling what used to be called The Bible. I am convinced there would be less confusion if we had just a few good versions for ordinary reading and study.

Finally, there is the matter of memorization. Unless you are one of those rare persons who possess a photographic memory, you will need

a dignified (that is, not crude) version. It may not necessarily be the Authorized Version, but it must be good. And whatever you use, you must stay with it. This is one reason why I stay with the old text. I have used it for over twenty years; to change now would benefit no one at all. I would suffer and those to whom I minister would notice the difference.

Insofar as an impending change is concerned, let it come. And when it does God the Holy Spirit, who first gave the inerrant Word, will still superintend its way through the world.

As for paraphrases, a very few have any merit. Most are miserable, if not detestable, attempts to do by language what can only be done by the illuminating Spirit. The paraphrase craze merits no more extended treatment than this.

The Bible needs to be reread rather than retranslated.

*"Who can tell the pleasure,
Who recount the treasure,
By Thy Word imparted
To the simplehearted?"*

Reprinted from The Alliance Witness.



The author, a Canadian, currently lives in Keswick, Ont. He holds a B.Th. from Central Baptist Seminary in Toronto.

dominion conference - 1978

The 57th Annual Conference of A.C.O.P. assembled at the Academy Theatre in Lindsay, Ontario, June 6 - 8. It was the same building where the late Franklin Small held revival meetings 51 years ago that laid the foundation for the local church in Lindsay.

Lindsay, a typical small town in Ontario, sits on the Trent River system about eighty miles north and east of Toronto. Rev. Gary Penner is the energetic pastor of what has become, once again, a bustling assembly in the centre of this town of 13,000 people. The Lindsay assembly ably hosted the conference, locating accommodation and transportation as needed. Two post-conference tours were conducted to Niagara Falls and Ottawa, and a number of Western delegates also were able to minister in area assemblies. These visits, the awareness of the Lindsay assembly's strength, and brief visits to the lovely Shiloh Christian Centre property, about twelve miles north of Lindsay, enabled many to become aware of a growing part of the Apostolic Fellowship on a first hand basis.

One hundred and fifty delegates were in attendance representing the Fellowship from the Island of Grand Manan, New Brunswick to Vancouver Island, B.C. There were delegates from Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington, U.S.A. Returned missionaries from West Africa, Malawi, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico brought the international atmosphere into the conference.

Moderator D.W. Breen addressed the delegates on Tuesday morning, June 6. He read from John 17:14-21. The theme of his address was "Roots," referring to Alex Haley's book, and his determination to go back and trace his roots. Brother Breen emphasized that if we all searched out our roots, we would find they are grounded in Christ, "Rooted and built up in him and established in the faith," (Col. 2:7). We have a common root that is the basis for a viable organization and reason for working together to achieve common goals.

Wednesday morning missionary-evangelist Frank J. Kosick ministered the Word. His scripture reading was II Peter 1:12-15. He reminded the delegates of the foundation in the past laid down in Scripture and some of the council and cautions the late Frank Small as a founder, had left with the membership of A.C.O.P. in a letter of 1958. He declared emphatically that before God we are not to be an organization but a voice. "When we lose a sense of God's voice, we lose the reason for our existence," Brother Kosick stated. He exhorted the ministering delegates to move in the Spirit of anointing and obey the voice of the Lord.

Thursday morning Pastor Ed Wickens, St. Stephen, New Brunswick, ministered from II Chron. 25:25-28; 26:1-5. The secret of Amaziah's successful reign is stated in 26:5, "as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper." The way of success in God's work is by and through disciplining your daily life to take time to seek the Lord. He exhorted the ministering delegates to take heed a reminder - II Chron. 15:2, "The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you."

END TIMES MESSENGER, SEPTEMBER, 1978

Evangelist John Wesley White spoke with anointing the Word of the Lord mightily to about 500 that gathered in the Academy Theatre, Lindsay, Tuesday night. His text was II Cor. 4:6 - "The Glory of God revealed in the face of Jesus Christ;" Wednesday on I Cor. 6:19-20 - "You are bought with a price, you are not your own, therefore glorify God." Thursday evening he spoke from Phil. 3:7-12. He described those who fell at the cross and came to know Jesus Christ. All men have been fouled by the devil, others fooled by the world, many have failed in the flesh. The way of victory is to be filled with the Spirit, and then fueled by the Word. His sound Bible expositions and anointed ministry was appreciated by all in attendance.

In matters of business, general affairs items were dealt with expeditiously. Items of general interest included approval of a change in the Manitoba district boundary, in the bylaws related to institutions and missionary furloughs, and the recognition of apprentice missionaries. Presbytery Board was authorized to select and inaugurate a pension plan suitable to our ministry's needs.

The Conference was saddened by the loss of the services of Bob Larden as our clerk-treasurer, due to health reasons. Since this is the second such loss in as many years, and our Fellowship has no established pension or disability service yet. An Interim Assistance Fund was established to provide a vehicle for our membership at large to contribute to the well-being of any of the Fellowship's servants who are so set aside under our Lord's care.

The Conference was a high point in the development of our Fellowship as a constituent of the growing evangelical community in Canada.†



Host Pastor Gary Penner.

Brother and Sister Fred Assman enjoy their coffee while Missionary Council chairman E.G. Bradley and his wife, Donna, talk with missionary Vic Hollyfreund.



an apostolic voice in our generation

CONDENSED FROM A MESSAGE GIVEN TO THE 1978 GENERAL CONFERENCE

by FRANK J. KOSICK



We discover today that we are confronted with many problems, organization tangles, diversified beliefs and financial problems. We have to ask ourselves the question, "What is the basic principle on which all this present confusion rests, and what has been our disturbing element?" The answer to this, according to Pastor Franklin Small in his open letter of Feb. 1958, is, "The lack of obedience to the progressive voice of the Holy Spirit."

In that same letter it is stated by Pastor Durham of Chicago, to whom was revealed the message, then known as, "The Finished Work," that, "This Movement will never indulge organization tangles again such as it has been forced to flee. There is greater truth and greater power yet to come such as we have not seen."

The Apostolic Movement was built upon the revelation of progressive truth. We were a "Voice of God," stressing the message of the "Finished Work of Calvary," "The Baptism of the Holy Ghost," the "Revelation of God in Christ," and the "Authority of the Name of Jesus," as practised in water baptism according to Acts 2:38. That revelation swept Canada! It was truth then and still is! God revealed this Truth to the Pentecostal movement in Canada 40 years ago.

Revivals are built on great truths.

For truth the early apostles were jailed, and when miraculously delivered, they were commanded to, "Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life" (Acts 5:19-20). Cornelius said to Peter, "Now therefore, are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God" (Acts 10:33).

We have been called to be a "voice of God," speaking forth the message

of progressive truth to our generation. This voice must be clearly sounded today without compromise. John the Baptist was a "voice crying in the wilderness"! When Herod silenced that penetrating voice, he did not succeed in destroying the "Abiding word of Truth." Other voices were raised up to declare the same message. Satan has not succeeded to silence the "Voice of the Abiding Word of Truth."

No sooner was one silenced another was raised up. When Abel's voice was silenced by Cain, God raised up a godly seed of Seth to declare the Abiding word of God to that generation. Thus Elisha's voice replaced Elijah's voice. Moses is dead, but the voice of God became alive in Joshua. Paul's voice continued to be heard in Timothy's voice. Persecutions, imprisonments and severe trials only sharpened the "Voice of God." Out of the darkness of apostasy was born the voice of Luther, who sparked the spiritual reformation. Thus the abiding truth continues to be sounded by God's chosen voice! God will never be without a voice, and when we are no longer His voice, we have no reason to exist. God's voice is at times severe and at other times very silent and full of goodness. Let us not miss His voice that constantly points us back to the original revelation of the Abiding Word!

There are many confusing voices in this generation, presenting extreme doctrinal and spiritual revelation. These extremes must be challenged by the voice of God, not in word only but in the demonstration of God's Power.

Because there is extreme emphasis in "Calvinism", we must not stop preaching the "Grace" message assuring us of eternal security in Christ!

Because there is extreme "Jesus Only," message, we do not stop preaching the "fullness of God dwelling bodily in Christ" (Col. 2:9). Because there is extreme teaching on water baptism, we do not stop baptizing born again believers by immersion in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ! Because there are extremes in divine healing we do not stop practising this Apostolic revelation! Because there are extremes in the teaching of discipleship we must not stop contending for the genuine New Testament local church discipleship as practised in the first century church! Because there are extremes in the Charismatic movement on vocal gifts, let us continue to speak in tongues and prophesy! Because there are extremes in vocal praise and worship, let us continue to praise and worship in spirit and in truth! Because there are extremes in Church government let us contend for the Bible type of church government in our local assemblies and the indigenous churches on missions fields. Satan is a master on extremes

When he does not succeed to silence the voice, he succeeds in adding or taking away from the Abiding Word of God. Satan influenced Israel to bring the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem by, "doing the right thing the wrong way." Instead of carrying it on the shoulders of the Levites, it was placed on a new cart and pulled by oxen. Abram yielded with Sarah's co-operation to take Hagar, the bondwoman, in order to produce "Ishmael." Thus Abram tried to help God out and did not wait long enough for Isaac, producing Ishmaelism, fleshly monstrosity and suffered for his extremes.

In the midst of extreme fanaticism there is also some genuine kernels of

20 More Bible Questions

Supplementary to Elementary Rating Test on page 7

Compiled by HERBERT KLINGBEIL

The following quiz is made up of some of the more advanced Bible questions from examinations given by the Moody Correspondence School.

ADVANCED RATING TEST

Part I: *In the right-hand margin circle "T" if the statement is true, "F" if the statement is false.*

1. When God used men to write the Bible, He did not allow their individual personalities to show through. T F
2. The law and the gospel are identical. T F
3. Husbands and wives on earth will be husbands and wives in heaven. T F
4. Nadab and Abihu, sons of Aaron, "offered strange fire before the Lord" and died because of their sin. T F
5. A prophet is one whose sole ministry is the prediction of future events. T F

Part II: *Circle the letter of the correct answer in each of the following:*

6. In order to correct the false teaching of legalism, that is, to show that one cannot be saved by keeping the law of Moses, Paul wrote: (a) I Corinthians; (b) II Corinthians; (c) Galatians.
7. The Lord Jesus is presented as our "great high priest" especially in the book of: (a) John; (b) Leviticus; (c) Revelation; (d) Hebrews.
8. Job's seven sons and three daughters were killed by: (a) the Chaldeans; (b) a great wind from the wilderness; (c) a great earthquake.

9. God foretold that Israel would ask for a king so that:

- (a) they might not be taken into captivity; (b) they might be like other nations; (c) their Messiah might come through David's royal line.

10. God's message, "The sword shall never depart from thine house," was spoken to:

- (a) David because of his great sin; (b) Solomon because "his wives turned away his heart . . . after their gods"; (c) Saul because he repeatedly tried to kill David.

11. Two of the seven General Epistles are addressed to the Christian Jews of the dispersion. They are: (a) James and I Peter; (b) James and John; (c) James and Jude.

12. The words, "I could wish that I myself were anathema from Christ for my brethren's sake according to the flesh," were written by: (a) Moses; (b) Isaiah; (c) Paul; (d) Peter.

13. To encourage His people in Judah and Jerusalem during the time of the return of the faithful remnant from Babylon, God sent the prophets:

- (a) Haggai and Zechariah; (b) Habakkuk and Zechariah; (c) Haggai and Zechariah.

14. According to the Scriptures, what is the position of the wife in the Christian household? She:

- (a) should have equal authority with her husband; (b) should teach her husband to help her; (c) should have charge of the household if her husband is a meek and submissive man; (d) should be in subjection to her husband.

15. Luke wrote which two of the following books in the New Testament:

- (a) Acts and Colossians; (b) Luke and Acts; (c) Luke and Colossians; (d) Luke and Philemon.

Part III: *Answer the following questions by writing the correct word in each blank:*

16. Whom did God send to David to speak to him about his great sin?

17. Through whose ministry did God raise from the dead the son of the widow of Zarephath?

18. Through whose ministry did God raise from the dead the son of the Shunammite woman?

19. Whom did God send to Hezekiah to tell him fifteen years would be added to his life?

20. Who took Naboth's vineyard, and "did evil in the sight of the Lord above all that were before him?"

Each correct answer (see page 23) counts five points. A score of between 90 and 100 is excellent and indicates probable readiness for advanced study. A score of 70 to 90 is above average, but indicates need for continued study, either personally or in a well-conducted Bible class. Carefully mapped out correspondence courses are available on various levels.

Answers on page 23

truth. Around every straw stack, there stands a bin filled with golden grain. Not everything that wiggles today is necessary the power of God. By the discerning of spirits we should be able to detect the false from truth. "Beloved, believe not every spirit . . . try the spirits . . . And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and

this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have not heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world" (1 Jno. 4:1-3).

The Power of God must challenge the power of Satan and man's psychology

Paul reminds us, how "Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was" (2 Tim. 3:5-9). From generations past we are reminded how God's power symbolized in Aaron's rod, swallowed the magic power of the magicians in Egypt, and that their power could not match the Power of God. (Ex. 7:10-12;

continued on page 23

labourers together



by R.A. LARDEN

The Church Which Is His Body

Jesus said to Simon, "thou art Peter" - "a stone," a living stone that would become an integral part of the Church, the living temple, "a spiritual house" that would be built up of many lively stones. And how did he become a living stone? By believing and confessing that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

Peter was one of the first living stones laid after the Head stone of the corner was placed, Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. After Peter then other Apostles and New Testament prophets, then an innumerable collection of "living stones" from every nation, kindred and tongue on the face of the earth, that would be gathered and hewn to shape over a period in excess of 2000 years.

Jesus Christ said, "I will build my church." This He will do through the redemptive work of His own death on the cross, His burial and triumphant resurrection. The cross is the imperative ingredient. Look at Ephesians 2:13, "But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were afar off are made nigh by the blood of Christ." Verses 19-22, "now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone. In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord; in whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit."

What a glorious truth to know. It could not be stated plainer. This "building" - "the Church" - "spiritual house" - "Holy Temple" - "Body," did not start in 1924 in Texas, nor in 1947

in Saskatchewan. It was not started nor structured by some self-named prophet in the 1960's or '70's who wrote a book or produced a magazine. God Almighty is the architect of this living structure, and God-in-Christ is the Master-BUILDER. He does the selecting of the "living stones" and He does the masonry work on them and the placing of them in the correct position, knowing perfectly the amount of stress and pressure each stone is able to bear. Let me add here that the strength of each "living stone" to bear stress and pressure is inseparably related to their dependence and reliance and relationship to those placed next to them in the building.

This Divinely structured building is the Church; it is the Holy Temple of the Lord; it is the Body of Christ; it is the habitation of God through the Spirit. Jesus Christ said, "I will build my church." He shed His blood at Calvary that it might come to reality. This called out company of the redeemed, called The Church, began back at Calvary. Jesus Christ is in His Church. He is the "Head over all things to the church" in Ephesians chapter 1 and He is the "chief corner stone" in chapter 2. He has been in the Church, the Body, the Holy Temple since its founding upon His Resurrection, and He is continuously in the Church, the called out company of the redeemed as "Head over all things to the church."

Who is this that says they are building a tabernacle, a body, a temple for Christ to come into today or some time when they have made it ready? Who has authority to overrule God's Word and say that this temple, the body is going to be made up of a

continued on next page

The Church Which Is His Body continued

select number out of that redeemed body of believers? Each and all who "believe that Jesus died and rose again" are "in Christ," in "the Body" (1 Thess. 4:14,16).

Let us praise God for His everlasting Word. Let us give Him a special praise offering for plainly stating the facts. "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" - the strategies that are planned in the domain of evil and darkness shall not thwart the plan of God. The devices of Hell will not disrupt the purpose of God in Christ. He started and He will complete that Building called The Church. He is coming again to receive all "in Christ" in "the Body" in "the Church." They shall be "caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:17).†

Advanced Test Answers

These are the answers to the 20 More Bible Questions Test found on page 21. Allow yourself 5 points for each question answered correctly.

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| 1. False | 11. a |
| 2. False | 12. c |
| 3. False | 13. c |
| 4. True | 14. d |
| 5. False | 15. b |
| 6. c | 16. Nathan |
| 7. d | 17. Elijah |
| 8. b | 18. Elisha |
| 9. b | 19. Isaiah |
| 10. a | 20. Ahab |

An Apostolic Voice

continued from page 21

Ex. 8:16-19). It's God's power that must face Satan's power. Human logic is not enough, and cold theology is a total failure.

Moses did not charismatically or ecumenically compromise with the false religious leaders of his day, because his commission was sanctioned by God's power that delivered Israel out of their bondage.

There was always a true prophet in every generation - as there was one in Pharaoh's day. What Moses said came to pass (Deut. 18:15-22). The presumptuous prophet Hananiah was challenged by the true prophet Jeremiah. Because he was misleading God's people by false date-setting,

the true prophet declared, "This year thou shalt die, because thou hast taught rebellion against the Lord. So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month" (Jer. 28:15-17).

There are genuine gifts of Christ to the church in our generation - (Eph. 4:11-16). I believe in the apostles, prophets, evangelists, teachers and pastors for the whole Body of Christ. The Church must be edified and brought into a Body ministry involvement to bring the lost generation to Christ. Oh yes, there have been many derailings and shipwrecks in the past, but stumbling blocks ought to become stepping stones to this generation. We should be more efficient and more informed and more advanced in the Spirit ministry.

There is a genuine New Testament evangelism as contrasted with modern evangelistic trends.

We must continue to practice "Personal Evangelism," and "Two-by-two Evangelism" as outlined in (Lk. 10:1-2), and "Local Church Evangelism" and "Regions Beyond Evangelism." There must be less knocking and more doing what we have been called to do in our generation. We need a personal review and appraisal of what we have received as we, like the prophet Isaiah, stand in God's presence (Isa. 6:1-12). When we see His majesty we see our miserable selves. Then we cry for fiery cleansing. And it comes to us from the Altar. Then we are ready to say, "Here am I, send me Lord!

We must be careful of wrong motives, and this is possible when we strive to build organizational structures. We face the dangers of "me-ism" and "us-ism" and we need the emphasis on "others-ism"! Read carefully the record of Mark 9:33-42. There was a strife among the leaders as to who should have the most important position in the kingdom. They were obsessed with "me-ism." Then they wanted the Lord to rebuke those who did not belong to their brand of organization to rebuke them for casting out devils. They were so afflicted with "us-ism," as if they were the only ones that could exercise this ministry. Jesus rebuked them, by suggesting that those that are against devils are for Him.

Then, he humbled them by setting a little child in their midst, and reminding them to be possessed with

the compassionate desire for "others-ism"! This is no time for religious competition but for a whole hearted co-operation to win the lost world to Christ.

I like what Mr. Bigelow said in a recent interview although he is worried by the statistics of the decline of the Presbyterian Church, he does not believe Presbyterians will disappear. "But if it were to be God's will that they should, it wouldn't be the end," he said. "I'm a Christian first and then a Presbyterian; God may have some new mission or role for us." Our commitment is not to saving ourselves as an institution but to fulfilling God's call to be his people in whatever form that may take," he said. This must be our attitude! We are not ashamed of our Apostolic heritage, but there must be a spiritual cleansing of our spiritual wells, to restore the flow of God given revelation, and to continue to be His voice to this final generation.

As I travel on a world wide scale of missions and evangelism I am discovering an amazing fact, that everywhere the masses are seeking for that which we call ordinarily "common". If we do not continue to be God's voice, God will raise Himself other voices to herald forth the cherished truth that we may be allowing to lay dormant. Believe me, this truth is being sounded by thousands of those who have just become members of this mystical Body of Christ. Not one of us is indispensable.

The anointed preaching of the cross is this generation's supreme need! The Cross is the message of evangelism.

The Cross is the motivating power of evangelism!†

Elementary Test Answers

These are the answers to the 20 Bible Questions Test found on page 7. Allow yourself 5 points for each correct answer.

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| 1. False | 12. d |
| 2. True | 13. b |
| 3. True | 14. b |
| 4. False | 15. c |
| 5. True | 16. c |
| 6. True | 17. b |
| 7. True | 18. Seven years of great plenty |
| 8. False | 19. Millennium |
| 9. True | 20. Peter |
| 10. True | |
| 11. a | |

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