

Voice of Baptists

"The Voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." **Isaiah 40:3**

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SEVEN PECULIARITIES OF THE BAPTISTS

By W. T. Russell
Bowling Green, Ky.

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a PECULIAR people;" **1 Peter 2:9**

1. JESUS CHRIST THE HEAD AND FOUNDER OF THE CHURCH—Daniel 2:44

a. "God hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness in him which filleth all in all Eph. 1:22, 23

b. "And speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together, and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." Eph. 4:15, 16

c. "Jesus Christ is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the pre-eminence."

OTHER DENOMINATIONS

CATHOLICS, separated from the Baptists in A.D. 251 and gradually drifted into the papacy. The first universal Bishop or Pope was Boniface III, who was made such by Emperor Phocas, A.D. 606.

LUTHERANS, A.D. 1530, by Martin Luther.

PRESBYTERIANS, A.D. 1535, by John Calvin.

EPISCOPALIANS, A.D. 1540, by King Henry VIII.

METHODISTS, A.D. 1729, by John Wesley.

CAMPBELLITES, A.D. 1827, by Alexander Campbell.

(Continued on page 3)



THE BIBLE

By F. W. Lambert
Westmoreland, Tenn.

It was the belief among ancient people that the earth was flat. When Columbus talked about it being round, people mocked them and you will recall with what difficulty Columbus as late as in the fifteenth century obtained sailors to accompany him on his voyage because they thought the earth was flat and that they might sail over the edge and never come back. But today there is no dispute among informed people because many people have been around it. We know that it is round. But turn to Isaiah 40:22 and you will read that the Lord sits on the circle of the earth. How did Isaiah know over 2,000 years before the time of Columbus that the earth was round? He didn't know it! He didn't know any more about it than the rest of the folks of his day. But God who created the heavens and the earth did know it and so His Spirit took possession and moved old Isaiah to write that which later centuries have verified.

Another believe common to ancient people was that the earth was sustained by some under-support. What does the BIBLE say? Turn to Job 26:7 and you will read, "He stretcheth out the north over the empty space, and hangeth the earth upon nothing." Newton, after seeing the apple fall could not have more perfectly expressed the law of gravitation, and there is not a living scientist today but knows Job told the truth. How did he know it way back in those dim, dark days of superstition and ignorance? Again I repeat, he did not know it. Left to himself, he could never have written it. But the great God of my BIBLE knew it, and so His Spirit took possession of Job

(Continued on Page 4)

GIVING THANKS

By Kenneth W. Massey



"O MAGNIFY THE LORD WITH ME, AND LET US EXALT HIS NAME TOGETHER." Psalms 34:3

Maybe you are somewhat like me in respect to "giving thanks," and find you have failed miserably in rendering praise and thanksgiving to the Lord for all his wonderful benefits toward us. It is my prayer that this little article will serve, at least, as a small programmed reminder to involuntarily prompt us to stop along our earthly journeys and say, "thank you Lord."

WHEN TO GIVE THANKS?

"I will bless the Lord at all times" (Psalms 34:1). "Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever" (Psalms 145:2). We should thank the Lord for the food on our table; not just the fourth Thursday in November each year, but every day. Jesus offered thanks to God as he sat at meat with the two men in Emmaus.

Once I witnessed a grandmother bow in the altar asking God to redeem her soul. In just a few moments, she was standing and embracing the sisters of the

(Continued on next page)

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**NORTH CARTHAGE
ORDINATION**

Sunday afternoon, November 11, 1979, beginning at 2 p.m., the North Carthage Missionary Baptist Church of Carthage, Tennessee will meet for consideration of ordaining Bro. Jackie Wilburn to the full work of the ministry and Bros. Donnie Brooks, Richard Brooks and Joe Oldham as Church Deacons. Pastor Charles A. Gentry and the North Carthage Church extend a general invitation and cordial welcome to all sister Baptist churches of like faith and order.

**LAFAYETTE AND
MT. CALVARY CHURCHES
REPORT GOOD REVIVALS**

God graciously blessed Lafayette Missionary Baptist Church, the pastor, Elder D. C. Barton and evangelist, Elder Thomas Armstrong with a wonderful revival. Eighteen professed faith in Christ and 15 united with the church.

Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church of Nashville, Tennessee and Pastor James H. Smith report a very successful revival with four professions, four additions to the church by baptism, with four others uniting by letter just prior to the revival. Elder Paul Bryson served as the revival evangelist.

GIVING THANKS (Continued)

church with a beaming smile on her face. Then, I looked and beheld her bowing once again at the same spot where she had been. This alarmed me, because of so many false teachings, until she testified moments later and told of God's saving her that night, and how she just had to

bow afterwards, thanking Him for His glorious salvation. Let's **thank** the Lord every time and all the time for countless blessings! "In everything **give thanks**" (1 Thess. 5:18).

WHAT DOES GIVING THANKS DO?

David said, "Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me" (Psalms 50:23). "Glorifieth" means to exalt; "exalt" means to hold-up. Jesus said, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up" (John 3:14). The more we glorify God in our lives, the higher we hold the Lord before a lost world. It is the nature of man to seek glory for himself. Is there room for him to be glorified in this present world? Yes, just one way - "That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you (Thessalonians), and ye (glorified) in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thess. 1:12). This passage teaches reciprocal glorification. The believer's graces redound to Christ's glory, and His glory, reflects glory on them as the members. What a magnificent standing - "Christ in you, the hope of glory (immortality).

WHERE TO GIVE THANKS?

"I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation" (Psalms 111:1). Our **thanksgiving** should be more than a ritual of lip service. David's whole heart was lovingly filled with praise, which praise overflowed onto the entire assembly and congregation.

Prosperity has so spoiled God's people, that blessings are now expected rather than longed for. God would bless us with more spiritual blessings, if we took time to show Him immediate appreciation for those already received. When was the last time you witnessed an Holy Spirit induced congregation, praising God for everything good. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights" (James 1:17).

WHO SHOULD GIVE THANKS?

"Praise him all ye nations, praise him all ye people" (Psalms 117:1). Every child of the heavenly King should praise Him for His infinite love, marvellous grace, and measureless mercy as long as we live. We will praise Him with perfect voice in the gloryland. It's not humanly natural to laud another with all praise, but it is humanly possible after one has been victoriously delivered from the powers of Satan and has tasted the powers of the world to come. All preachers, deacons, Sunday School teachers, **magnify** the Lord. Every church should find a regular occasion to offer praise and thanks to God.

HOW DO WE GIVE THANKS?

"Giving thanks" should begin with our first waking thought and close with our fading thoughts on beds of slumber. Then, the span of each day should be saturated with conversation of attributing glory to the power of His might. God pours numerous blessings upon those acknowledging daily appreciation for past benefits. If your life as a christian seems out of balance or off-track, and you think you are keeping His commandments, why not stop this moment and pour-out your heart in thanks, praise and adoration for His manifold gifts bestowed upon you. Remember the time He saved you! If yet unsaved, remember His promise - "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Rom. 10:13). I can praise Him today for His Son, Jesus Christ, my salvation, a christian companion, a born-again daughter, an healthy son, a church to serve, for the food on my table, the clothes on my back, the roof over my head, the wheels on my car, Godly parents, many friends, and innumerable blessings among which the greatest is my prospect of a new home in the presence of that number which no man could number. "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want" (Ps. 23:1)

WHY DO WE GIVE THANKS?

"Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul" (Ps. 66:16).

As David cried out, in the long ago, praise to God for salvation, John explains in more recent times, "We love him, because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19). That person possessing a well of water springing up into everlasting life becomes so happy meditating upon all those spiritual blessings, that he spontaneously erupts as an artesian well with praise and glory toward this Great Lover and Healer of our souls. All our worship should be offered with "being careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with **thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God" (Phil. 4:6).

"God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; for in him we live, and move, and have our being;" (Acts 17:24, 25, 28).

Need we further ask, "why do we give thanks?" I close offering this final scripture: "GIVING THANKS ALWAYS FOR ALL THINGS UNTO GOD AND THE FATHER" (Eph. 5:20).

SEVEN PECULIARITIES*(Continued from first page)*

FREE WILL BAPTISTS, A.D. 1780, by Benjamin Randall.

MORMONS, A.D. 1830, by Joseph Smith.

HARDSHELL BAPTISTS, A.D. 1832, by Daniel Parker.

QUAKERS, A.D. 1648, by George Fox.
CHURCH OF GOD, A.D. 1829, John Winebrenner**2. THE BIBLE ALONE AS A RULE OF FAITH AND PRACTICE**

a. As Christ is King over his Kingdom, His word alone carries authority.

b. Scriptures alone the inspired source of instruction. 2 Tim. 3:16, 17

c. "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, hear ye him." Matt. 17:5

d. Moses said, "Him shall ye hear in all things". Acts 7:37

e. Despisers of Moses law died without mercy—despisers of Christ's law carries a much sorer punishment. Heb. 10:28-31

f. Those teaching commandments of men worship in vain. Mark 7:7

g. His word shall judge us in the last day. John 12:48, 49

h. Adding or taking away from the book of this prophesy. Rev. 2:18, 19

3. THE BIBLE ORDER OF THE COMMANDMENTS

a. Paul praised the Corinthians for keeping the ordinances in order. 1 Cor. 11:2

b. Repentance and Faith to be observed in equal order. Matt. 21:32; Acts 20:21

c. Believing in existence of God not faith with the heart. Heb. 11:6

d. Devils believe this and tremble, not possessing heart faith. Jas. 2:19

e. In the Bible, repentance always mentioned first in point of order.

f. Modern reformers change the order to faith and repentance.

ABOUT BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

a. The commission—1. Make disciples. 2. Baptize them. 3. Teach them. Matt. 28:19

b. Glad receivers of word baptized, not broken hearted people. Acts 2:41

c. The eunuch believed with all the heart before baptism. Acts 8:37

d. Household of Cornelius received the Holy Spirit before baptism. Acts 10:44

e. They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread and in prayers. Acts 2:42

f. Inviting the unbaptized to the

Lord's Supper is a modern custom, gotten up for the sake of Popularity.

4. BURIAL IN BAPTISM OF THE DEAD TO SIN, NOT OF THE DEAD IN SIN—Rom. 6:2-7

a. Paul said, "One Baptism" Eph. 4:5

1. A Scriptural Subject (a true believer) John 3:8; Gal. 3:26

2. Scriptural authority (The Lord's Church) Matt. 28:19, 20

3. Scriptural Administrator (Ordained preacher)

4. Scriptural Mode (Immersion in water) Mark 1:9, 10

5. Scriptural Design (Burial of dead to sin) Rom. 6:4

b. All other denominations either fail to bury in baptism, or baptize those whom they admit to be unpardoned sinners, that is, dead in sin.

5. EQUALITY IN THE KINGDOM OR CHURCH

a. The grand mission of the kingdom of heaven. Isa. 40:3, 4.

b. Gentile rulers exercised lordship over them, but not in the church. Lu. 10:42, 44

c. Pastors rule only as stewards of the word. Luke 12:42

d. Officers inferior in point of authority since church ordains or appoints.

e. The apostles themselves servants for Jesus sake. 2 Cor. 4:5

f. To become great in the church be a great servant. This is a duty.

g. All are equally children of God, by same means, and all baptized.

h. All have the law of God written in their hearts. All have the Spirit.

i. Neither Greek nor Jew, bond nor free, male nor female, all ONE. Gal. 3:28

6. RESTRICTED COMMUNION

This particular doctrine has brought the wrath of Reformers down on the Baptists.

a. They say we should not judge, yet they set themselves up as being perfectly capable of judging who should or should not approach the Lord's Table.

b. Baptists have authority to judge and are commanded to do so. 1 Cor. 5:11, 13

c. Our enemies use 1 Cor. 11:28 "Let a man examine himself". (church members)

d. They say Baptists do not love those they regard as saved as well as them. (But Baptists profess Love to Christ and obedience to his laws above love to man, and it was Christ who gave the laws governing his Supper.)

We believe the Lord's Supper is to be observed alone in memory of our dying Saviour, and not to show love to father,

mother, brother or sister.

e. They also argue, if we can't commune on earth how can we expect to commune in heaven? It so happens that we are to commune until the Lord returns.

d. They also say that Baptists exclude from their communion those with whom they expect to live with in heaven. Do not the Pedobaptists themselves expect to live in heaven with infants and idiots, yet they will not commune with them, and they regard their infants members of the church. They say that infants cannot understand the design of the Supper, but can they not understand the design of the supper as well as they can understand the ordinance of Baptism?

7. THE TRUE CHURCH PERSECUTED, BUT NEVER PERSECUTED OTHERS

a. John the Baptist was persecuted even to having his head cut off.

b. Jesus the Head of the church was crucified on a Roman cross.

c. Daniel saw the fearful persecutions waged against the church by the Papal horn, "I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them." Dan. 7:21

d. Steven fell a martyr by the hand of relentless persecution. Acts 7:59

e. The apostles, all except John, died martyrs at the hands of the persecutors.

f. Paul says of himself, persecuted above all. 2 Cor. 11:23-28

g. All that will live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. 2 Tim. 3:12

h. Paul accused before Felix of being a pestilent fellow, a mover of sedition, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. Acts 24:5

i. It was he who said, "We are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things unto this day." 1 Cor. 4:11-13

j. The Jews at Rome, "But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that everywhere it is spoken against. Acts 28:22

MAY GOD GIVE US MORE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE NOT ASHAMED TO BEAR REPROACH IN THEIR FAITHFUL SERVICE IN CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH ONCE DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS. LET US NOT BE GUILTY OR COMPROMISING THE TRUTH FOR THE SAKE OF POPULARITY OR ADVANTAGE.

THE BIBLE

(Continued from page 1)

and moved him to write a scientific fact that later centuries have verified.

Take a New Testament example or two. Look at Acts 17:26. In it Paul declares that God has made all men that dwell upon the face of the earth "of one blood." Is that so? There was a time when a criminal might explain the blood upon his hands or clothing as being the blood of some animal or fowl. He can do it no longer. Scientists have perfected instruments today whereby they can examine blood and distinguish the blood of fowls, reptiles, animals and men. But you can place the blood of a white man, the blood of a Mexican, the blood of an Indian and the blood of a Chinese before them and they are only specimens of "human blood," with human characteristics that cannot be distinguished as to race or color. Why? Because God made "of one blood" all men to dwell upon the face of the earth. How did Paul know it 1,900 years before our present day strides of science? Again I reply - Paul did not know it; it wasn't Paul speaking anyway. It was the great God of my BIBLE. He did know it, because He created men and so His Spirit took possession of Paul and "moved" him to write this scientific truth.

Let us take one more. This one is also from the New Testament. Turn to 1 Corinthians 15:41 and you will read, "there is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differeth from another star in glory."

Paul is here writing about the resurrection of the dead. He is arguing their identity. He says that just as "one star differeth from another star in glory," so also is the resurrection of the dead. Did Paul tell the truth? Was Paul scientific? Are no two stars alike? We have read that they have photographed 300,000,000 stars in the "Milky Way" alone, at the Mt. Wilson observatory. The man at Mt. Wilson said, "no two of them are alike."

How did Paul, writing nineteen centuries before any astronomer ever photographed a star, know that no two of them were alike? Again, and for the last time in this message, I repeat, Paul knew no more about it than we would have known had we lived back there in Paul's day. But it wasn't Paul doing the writing. The great God of my BIBLE who created the stars did know it, however, and by His Spirit bore Paul along, moving him to write a fact that nineteen centuries later stands as a demonstrated truth by scientific investigation.

Don't lose sleep over the scientists.

They will catch up with God and the BIBLE some day, if they keep following the truth? In the meantime, don't permit any little half-baked scientist to lead you to believe the BIBLE is unscientific and out-of-date.

To the Jews, Jesus said, "Search the Scriptures...they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39). And to His disciples on the night of His resurrection, He said, "These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me" (Luke 24:44). In other words, He is the theme of the Scriptures.

A study of the BIBLE reveals Him as its central subject and great theme. What the hub is to the wheel, Christ is to the BIBLE. It revolves around Him. All its types point to Him; all its truths converge in Him; all its glories reflect Him; and all its promises radiate from Him; all its beauties are embodied by Him; all its demands are exemplified by Him and all its predictions are accepted by Him.

Abel's lamb was a type of Christ. Abraham offering Isaac on Mt. Moriah was a type of God giving Christ, His Only Son, on Mt. Calvary. The passover lamb in Egypt was a type of Christ. The brazen serpent in the wilderness was a type of Christ; he told Nicodemus so Himself. The scapegoat typified Him bearing our sins. In the Old Testament, He is spoken of as "the angel of the Lord," and as such He appeared unto men. He was with Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. He was with Abel in his death. He walked with Enoch. He rode with Noah in the ark. He ate with Abraham in his desert tent. He was with Daniel in the lion's den. He was with the three Hebrew children in the fiery furnace. He strengthened Joseph in his temptation, protected him in prison and exalted him to first place in the kingdom. He watched over Moses in the ark of the bulrushes, talked to him from the burning bush, went down into Egypt with him, opened the Red Sea for him, fed him on bread from heaven, protected him with a pillar of fire by night, and after 120 years of such blessed companionship that they left no marks of passing time upon Moses, led him up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, let him take one long, loving look at the promised land and then kissed him to sleep, folded his hands over his breast and buried his body in an unmarked grave, to sleep in Jesus til the morning of the great resurrection day.

He was the Captain of the Lord's host to Joshua, leading him over the

swollen stream of Jordan in flood-tide, around Jericho, in conquest of Ai, helped him conquer Canaan, divide the land and say goodbye to the children of Israel. He was with Gideon and his famous 300. He was with Samuel when he rebuked Saul. He was with David when he wrote the 23rd Psalm. He was with Solomon when he built the first temple. In fact, He was with all those "WHO THROUGH FAITH SUBDUED KINGDOMS, WROUGHT RIGHTEOUSNESS, OBTAINED PROMISES, STOPPED THE MOUTHS OF LIONS, QUENCHED THE VIOLENCE OF FIRE, ESCAPED THE EDGE OF THE SWORD, OUT OF WEAKNESS WERE MADE STRONG, WAXED VALIANT IN FIGHT, TURNED TO FLIGHT THE ARMIES OF THE ALIENS" (Hebrews 11:33, 34).

Abraham saw His day and rejoiced. Jacob called Him the Lawgiver of Judah. Moses called Him the Prophet that was to come. Job called Him "My Living Redeemer." Daniel called Him the "Ancient of Days." Jeremiah called Him "The Lord our Righteousness." Isaiah called Him "Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." All of this in the Old Testament? YES, and much more besides. "To Him give all the prophets witness." Micah tells of the place of His birth. Jesus tells of His death, burial and resurrection.

In fact, my friends, it matters little where we wander down the aisles, avenues, by-ways, or highways of the Old Testament, Jesus walks beside us as He walked beside the two disciples on that dusty road to Emmaus on that glorious resurrection day, long long ago.

Its types tell of Him, its sacrifices show Him, its symbols signify Him, its histories are His-stories, its songs are His sentiments, its prophecies are His pictures, its promises are His pledges; and our hearts burn within us as we walk beside Him across the BIBLE's living pages!

When we open the New Testament, the Word which was in the beginning with God becomes flesh and dwells among us, and we behold His glory, the glory as one of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

* * *

"Henry Ford, when asked on his fiftieth wedding anniversary to give his formula for a successful married life, replied that it was the same formula he had used to make his automobile so successful: "Stick to one model."