

# 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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## THE LAST DAY

by the late F. L. Ray

In the Genesis account of the beginning, we find the record of the first day as follows: "And God said, let there be light, and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light day, and the darkness he called night. And the evening and the morning were the First day." Gen. 1:3-5.

We believe that the above scripture teaches that God created the first day, and since that day time has been counted, and we are now living in the process of time or days; we find the useage "in process of time" in the Bible a number of times. We also find these words in Genesis: While the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease (Gen. 8:22). Now we know that as long as the earth remains, that we will have day and night.

Now if we can learn what the Bible says about the earth being destroyed, we will learn when the duration of days shall end. Please read the following scripture: "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." II Peter 3:10. Again we find that time will be no longer. "And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And sware by him that liveth forever and the things that therein are, and the earth and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer." Rev. 10:5-6. Paul tells us that the things that we see are temporal, "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are

not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal (temporary); but the things which are not seen are eternal." II Cor. 4:18.

Again we find in the word of the Lord these words by Job, "So man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep." Job 14:12. Therefore, with these scriptures and many others that could be produced, we believe that this present world, Heaven and earth will pass away. So it is obvious that time will cease and that there will be a last day as sure as there was a first day.

Now we will notice just what will happen at the last day. First here is what Baptists have declared themselves to believe through the years gone by. "We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the Last Day Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the graves to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy, and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or

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## HOME COMING AT BETHEL

Bethel Baptist of 222 E. Epler Ave., Indianapolis, Indiana will celebrate their 40th anniversary, November 11, 1984. Special singing by The Temple Trio. Dinner on the ground. Mark your calendar now so you don't miss it. Elder Eugene Brown is pastor of the church.



## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

by Phocian Gibbs  
Carthage, TN

"But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3:18. When one is born of the Spirit, he is a babe in Christ, "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." I Peter 2:2. "Brethren, I could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat; for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife and division, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" I Cor. 3:1-3.

God wants His children to grow spiritually and become strong or full-grown Christians, rooted and grounded in the faith and settled in the truth, not being carried about with every wind of doctrine. That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ. Eph. 4:14-15.

We know in the natural life of a child, if they are to grow into strong manhood and womanhood they must have the proper food or nourishment and the proper amount of exercise. So it is with the children of God, for them to grow spiritually they must have the proper nourishment and exercise.

God has a sufficient amount of spiritual food in store for all His children. The reading and study of His word, the Bible, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psa. 119:105. When you are sad read John 14, Psalms 23; if you are in doubt read

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## VOICE OF BAPTISTS

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P. O. Box 572

Huntingdon, Tenn. 38344

**Kenneth W. Massey, Editor**

### STAFF WRITERS

James H. Smith, Santa Paula, CA  
 W. T. Russell, Nashville, Tenn.  
 F. W. Lambert, Westmoreland, Tenn.  
 Harold D. Carver, Buena Vista, Tenn.  
 Jerry A. Reynolds, Davisville, W. Va.  
 Stephen M. Skinner, Springfield, Mo.  
 Keith D. Frieze, Springfield, Mo.

### CIRCULATION STAFF

Glynn and Linda Williams

Huntingdon, Tenn.

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### SPIRITUAL GROWTH

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Psalms 91, 121 and the eighth chapter of Romans.

Also the Christian needs exercise, they need to be active. "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Eph. 2:10. "Therefore my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." I Cor. 15:58.

There are some who have been born of the Spirit for many years but are still babes in Christ. We have some preachers that act like babies. If they don't get every thing their way, they take out and try to hinder in every way that they can. "All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes, but the Lord weigheth the Spirits." Prov. 16:2.

We need to grow in grace and become strong Christians, having more love for one another, uniting our prayers and efforts together to be laborers together with God for the advancement of His Dear Cause and Kingdom. Our chief concern should be for lost souls; they are going down into eternal night. Jesus said that the fields were already white unto harvest. May God help us to lift up our eyes and look on the fields.

There is committed to our trust the sacred duty of holding up Christ to a lost and dying world. "Holding forth the word of life: that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain neither laboured in vain." Phil. 2:16.

There is plenty of work for every one to have something to do. The ones who are doing the least are the ones who cause the most disturbance. "These six things doeth the Lord hate, yea seven are an abomination unto him: a proud look, a lying tongue, and hands

that shed innocent blood, a heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, a false witness that speaketh lies, and HE THAT SOWETH DISCORD AMONG BRETHREN." Prov. 6:16-19.

## A Thankful Heart

by Kenneth Massey

How many times have you prayed or heard someone else pray, "Lord, help us to be more thankful"? God has richly blessed this land of America - it is truly the land of plenty. Plenteous are our natural resources with our food harvests feeding half the world. Even Russia must depend upon us for food. Yet we seem ungrateful to the God that has made us the envy of every other nation.

Who is the greatest saint? The man who prays most? The man who attends church most? I don't think so. These should not be left undone, but the man who thanks God most continues to receive the greatest blessings year after year and can you imagine the treasures he has sent on ahead. Paul was thankful even in adversity. Remember Acts, chapter 16 - at midnight he sung praises unto God - that was probably a psalm and may have been the twenty-third.

My greatest salute to God is a quote from the Apostle Paul, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." (2 Cor. 9:15) There are no words to adequately express the joyous bliss of this grace wherein we stand. Only in heaven will it be fully acknowledged.

Do you recall the occasion when Jesus healed the ten stricken with leprosy? "And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks" (Luke 17:15,16).

I remember a lady in Barberton, Ohio getting saved one night, and then she bowed again at the same place. A few minutes later she announced that God had saved her and she had to bow where he forgave her and thank Him. Let us express our thanks to God from the solitude of our hearts; let us praise him in the midst of the congregation; let us lift our voices in songs of praise; let us worship him without negligence; let us relinquish the tithes and offerings and by so doing express our thanks.

Thankfulness is a secret to happiness. Happy people are not thankful! THANKFUL PEOPLE ARE HAPPY! Paul said to the Colossians, "...and be ye thankful." (Col. 3:15)

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## SMITH COUNTY MINISTERS SCHOOL

All Baptist ministers are invited to attend the 4th annual Smith County Baptist Ministers School on November 7, 8, 9, and 10, 1984 at the North Carthage Missionary Baptist Church located on Carmack Avenue.

The schedule of the services is as follows:

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

7:00 - Devotional by Bro. James Kent  
 7:15 - Teaching Ministry of the Church - Bro. Charles Allen Gentry  
 8:00 - Recess  
 8:15 - The Power of the Gospel - Bro. R. D. Brooks

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

7:00 - Devotional by Bro. Jim Hulse  
 7:15 - John's Baptism: Is it of God or of Man - Bro. Jack Green  
 8:00 - Recess  
 8:15 - What Constitutes a Scriptural Church - Bro. Walter Dewese

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9

7:00 - Devotional by Bro. Steve Law  
 7:15 - The Distinction between Family of God, the Kingdom of God, and the Church of God - Bro. William Overton  
 8:00 - Recess  
 8:15 - The Responsibilities of Pastors and Deacons - Bro. Kenneth Massey

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Fellowship Service beginning at 7:00. Everyone invited. Sermon by Bro. James Gibbs.

There will be no charge to any minister attending the school. Bro. Jack Green is the moderator for this year's session. For further information, write: THE BAPTIST TRAVELER, Box 212, Carthage, Tn. 37030.

## DOUBLE MINDEDNESS

by J. A. Reynolds  
Davisville, WV

There is a condition in which a child of God can dwell in which he can find neither success in the work of the Lord nor happiness in the world. James wrote of it twice in his epistle. Double minded, as our King James Translation renders it, literally means two-souled. The word James used is a combination of the Greek word meaning two and "psuche," which is translated "soul" in the New Testament scriptures.

That we may better understand the seriousness of this condition, let us look at the way in which the inspired writer defines the man. Paul, in desiring complete sanctification (setting apart) to God of the Thessalonian church, wrote, ". . . your whole spirit (pneuma) and soul (psuche) and body (soma) be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus." 1 Thes. 5:23. Perhaps most of us have always thought of man in terms of two parts, combining soul and spirit into one and regarding the body as the other. For most considerations such a two-part division is adequate, but we must now consider that Paul wrote of the man in three parts, using three different words for description. Again, in the Hebrew letter, he writes of the "dividing asunder of soul and spirit" of man by the gospel sword. Hebrews 4:12. The spirit of man is that innermost part of him which is invisible and altogether intangible except to the touch of God. It is this part which is "born of God" within the body of a saved man. "That which is born of the Spirit is spirit." John 3:6. The regenerated human spirit "doth not commit sin" and "cannot sin because he is born of God." "His (God's) seed remaineth in him (the regenerated man)." 1 John 3:9.

There is also a part of each man which is a perpetual sinner as long as it lives in this world. Righteous and diligent Paul complained of it when he exclaimed, "O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Romans 7:24.

Thus we have a part that does not practice sin against a part that can only stop sinning when constrained. If the spirit cannot be a party to sin, upon whose shoulders does the responsibility fall of determining whether the body will commit sin or refrain from sinning? It is this part called the soul that determines the course of a saved man's life.

If a child of God is living as God would have him to live, he will not be two-souled, that is, double minded. Although there will be a daily struggle with the desires of the "body of death," he who has but one determi-

nation in his soul, to serve God, will not be vexed with the torment of a vacillating mind. The worst part of the indecisive character of this child of God halted "between two opinions" is that he proves "unstable in all his ways." He remains without needed wisdom, and if he asks God for wisdom he asks with wavering mind. "Let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord." "He is like a wave of the sea driven by the wind and tossed." James 1:5-8. Such a man is of no spiritual value to himself or to others. He cannot be depended upon because of his instability. Churches largely composed of such people are frequently fighting among themselves. The carnal mind is often given permission by the other side of the double mind. Worldliness and fleshliness increase among such churches and so do strife and pride. James accuses them of being adulterers and adulteresses because they cannot have one mind of love, and that toward God only. James offers the solution to those "sinners" and "double minded" brethren to whom he wrote; affliction of heart, mourning, weeping, sorrow, humbleness, and the forthcoming power of God. James 4:1-10.

How terrible it is in view of these words of God to be either carnal minded or double minded. Either condition is a ticket to failure in the Christian life. God will not share your choicest affections with anyone or anything. If you are so minded he will simply deny you his power and allow you to dwell in that unhappy state. He is happiest who has his single soul set on only one purpose in life, to serve God the best he can so long as he lives. Such a condition is a ticket to success, for God will surely bless it.

## Parkwood Church To Host Sermons Day

On Saturday, November 10th at 10:00 a.m. you are invited to Parkwood Missionary Baptist Church on Ewing Lane in Nashville for a day of worship and fellowship in sermon, song and prayer.

Elders Fielden Nicholas, Ronnie Stewart and Kenneth Massey will bring the messages.

Lunch served by the host church on the noon hour. EVERYONE IS INVITED AND WELCOMED!

## Missions or Small Churches in Remote Areas

(Your financial assistance for these missions and churches is needed and would be greatly appreciated. — Editor)

ROANOKE MISSION  
Bro. Jerry Miller  
2031 Dale Ave.  
Roanoke, VA 24013

ALBANY MISSION  
Elder Steve Perrigo  
2569 Ermine St.  
Albany, OR 97321

BATESVILLE MISSION  
Elder M. V. Hammack  
Route 1, Box 180A  
Bald Knob, AR 72010  
c/o Reid Brock

GLORIA GARDENS CHURCH  
Elder Jeff Elliott  
8115 Gardendale St.  
Downey, CA 90242

COLORADO BAPTIST CHURCH  
45 Garfield St.  
Denver, CO 80206

ANCHORAGE BAPTIST MISSION  
Bro. Terry Lyles  
5700 Lake Otis, Apt. 65  
Anchorage, AK 99507

OLD-TIME BAPTIST CHURCH  
Elder Jerry Reynolds  
Route 1, Box 216-J  
Davisville, WV 26142

NYLAND BAPTIST CHURCH  
Elder J. H. Smith  
350 S. Steckel Dr., Apt. 19  
Santa Paula, CA 93060



*"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."*

MARK 16:15

**THE LAST DAY**

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hell, on principles of righteousness." Pendleton Church Manual, page 60. Now to prove that God has appointed a day for the Lord to return we will look to the word of God. In the 24th chapter of Matthew, we find a question asked by the disciples as follows: "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming and of the end of the world?" "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." Matt. 24:36. Now notice the following scripture: "Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained." Acts 17:31.

Just as sure as the Bible speaks of a first day it speaks of a last day, and one could be as successful in arguing that there was a day before the first day as to urge that there will be a day after the last day. To further explain the last day I will give you an example. The Jews had a feast (festival) that lasted eight days (Lev. 23:36), and Jesus attended one during his life here on earth. Now, notice the following scripture: "In the LAST day, that great of feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink." John 7:37. Now if the eighth day was the last day of that feast then it would be silly to say there was another day. So then if God created the first day and has appointed the last day, why say there will be another day?

Christ is coming on the last day. The resurrection will take place on the last day. Judgment will be on the last day. The wicked and righteous will be separated on the last day. Then it follows that whatever happens after the last day will be in eternity. Please notice the following scriptures: "What saith the scriptures. I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick (living) and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom." II Tim. 4:1. "And this is the father's will which has sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the LAST DAY." "And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the LAST DAY." "No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the LAST DAY."

"Whoso eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life, and I will raise him up at the LAST DAY." John 6:39-40, 44, 54.

Martha understood that the resurrection would occur on the last day as Jesus teaches in the verses above.

". . . I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day." John 11:24.

## Wilburn Family Will Sing at Independent

On Sunday evening, November 18th at 7 p.m. the Wilburn Family of Carthage, Tennessee will be singing at the Independent Missionary Baptist Church of Huntingdon, Tennessee.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend. We especially invite those near us to come on to our church after their church services. We look forward to seeing you and enjoying an evening of gospel singing together.

## Correspondence Month

The month of November is being designated as letter writing month to "Voice of Baptists." Sometime during this month we request that every person who receives this little publication take a moment and write just a brief note. You may have suggestions to offer the staff. You may have articles of interest for all of us. Please forward them! This way the writers will be able to listen to what you have to say. LET US HEAR FROM YOU.

## Thank-God Harbor

On the map of the Arctic region are two far removed places that are of historic significance. One is Cape Farewell, and the other is Thank-God Harbor. Many ships from Cape Farewell that sailed for Thank-God Harbor never reached it. In 1871 the ship *Polaris*, and in 1873 the ship *Tigeress* reached it. I know a Thank-God Harbor that all may reach who sail from the Cape Farewell of this world, if they take Christ on board as their pilot. No matter what manner of sea he has never lost a ship. We thank Him here for saving and keeping us. There, with him in glory we shall thank Him forever.

Praise to God for aye!  
What wealth indeed is ours!  
Faith abides, Love binds,  
And hope unfolds her airy dreams  
Of sure victories won,  
And glories yet to be.  
All praise to God on this Thanksgiving Day  
For blessings past, and blessings yet to come!  
Praise to God for aye!

- M. F. JENKINS

## YOUR COMMENTS

Dear Bro. Massey & Staff:

May the Lord continue to bless your efforts to promote the gospel and love of Jesus to all people. Our prayers are with you and your staff. Continue your good work. We really have enjoyed reading these last two issues.

Steve and Connie Perrigo  
2569 Ermine St.  
Albany, OR 97321

God's blessings upon the work of the "Voice of Baptists." We certainly enjoy the paper. It has always been so much help to me.

Arvella Stapleton  
Kingsport, TN

Enclosed is money for the "Voice of Baptists." It blesses my heart because it has the kind of messages I know about. When God gives you true salvation you know the truth when you read it. The Spirit reveals God's Holy Word to those who have the Spirit. May God bless you in your work and ministry.

Mrs. George Cofer  
Versailles, MO

I read my Bible some every day. I sure do enjoy "Voice of Baptists" paper. It is worth a lot to me.

Mrs. Ollie Prince  
Camden, TN

We sure do enjoy the paper. Didn't mean to wait so long in writing and sending money for paper. The paper keeps us in touch with many people back home. May God bless your work.

Robert & Ruby Jackson  
Ochelata, OK

Just a line to let you know we appreciate the articles in the paper very much and it's good to keep in touch.

It seems we will never get a pastor at Bethel. Guess we aren't deserving of one or something - God knows, I don't.

We may have to return property of church back to heirs if no one wishes to continue the work there. Keep us on your prayer list that our wills yield to an all-knowing and all-wise God.

Bethel Baptist Church  
Katie Swanson, Treas.  
Corvallis, OR