

The Weapons Of Our Warfare

APOSTASY

HARRY L. LEWIS

Tone of All the Scripture: Take Heed Lest You Fall

Romans 8.13

"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."

1 Corinthians 10.12

"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

2 Peter 1.10

"Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall."

Hebrews 3.12

"Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God."

MORE THAN 2500 WARNINGS IN SCRIPTURE CONCERNING APOSTASY

WHAT IS THE ISSUE?

The Issue Is Not:

Will the saved be lost

Will the baptized believer be lost

Is God able to save

Is God faithful to His promises

The Issue Is:

 *Can a child of God so sin as to be lost in hell?*

 *Can a believer become an unbeliever?*

BAPTIST DOCTRINE

#1Q

"We take the position that a Christian's sins do not damn his soul. The way a Christian lives, what he says, his character, his conduct, or his attitude toward other people have nothing whatever to do with the salvation of his soul...All the prayers a man may pray, all the Bibles he may read, all the churches he may belong to, all the services he may attend, all the sermons he may practice, all the debts he may pay, all the ordinances he may observe, all the laws he may keep, all the benevolent acts he may perform will not make his soul one whit safer; and all the sins he may commit from idolatry to murder will not make his soul in any more danger ...The way a man lives has nothing whatever to do with the salvation of his soul... The way I live has nothing whatsoever to do with the salvation of my soul." (From a tract "Do a Christian's Sins Damn His Soul" by Sam Morris, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Stamford, Texas)

Does "**idolatry to murder**" include unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness, envyings, wranglings, deceit, malignity, whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, unloving, unmerciful, adulterers, effeminate, homosexuals, thieves, drunkards, revilers, extortioners, uncleanness, lasciviousness, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, revellings, and such like? (Rom. 1.29-31, 1 Cor. 6.9-10, Gal. 5.19-21)

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10a

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Proposition #1

#2A

***THE SCRIPTURES TEACH THAT A CHILD OF GOD MAY SO SIN
AS TO BE LOST IN HELL***

Affirm: Harry L. Lewis

Deny: Gerald Smith

Proposition #2

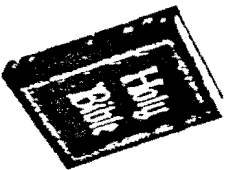
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Concept of "Impossibility of Apostasy" is

Inconsistent with Bible Teaching



Bible Warns Against Falling

- Romans 8.13 "If ye live after the flesh, ye shall die"
- 1 Cor. 10.12 "Take heed lest ye fall"
- Gal. 5.4 "ye are fallen from grace"
- Heb. 3.12 "Take heed...lest there be...an evil heart of unbelief"

Bible Informs Us How to Avoid Falling

- 2 Peter 1.10 "If ye do these things ye shall never fall"
- John 15.1-6 "Abide in me"
- 2 John 9-11 Abide in the doctrine of Christ

Bible Informs Christians What to do When They Fall

- 1 John 2.1-2 "But if any man sin...."
- 1 John 1.9 "If we confess our sins...."
- Acts 8.22 "Repent and pray"

QUESTIONS THAT MUST BE ANSWERED

1. Do you ever sin? (1 Jno. 1.8)

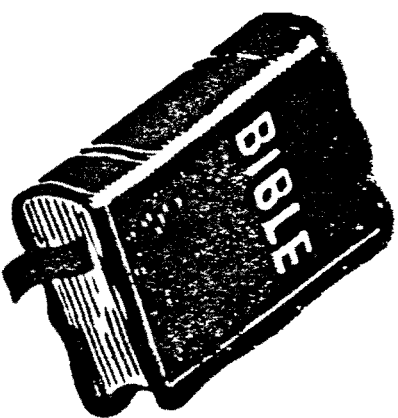
2. Do you pray?

3. Do you confess your sins in prayer?

4. Is it possible for you to refuse to pray?

☆ Mt. 23.37, Jno. 5.39-40 ☆

What Does the Bible Say?



Can a Christian fall from grace?

Galatians 5.4 "Ye are fallen from grace"

Can a man fall from a condition in which he has never been?

ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES

CONDITIONALITY OF GOD'S PROMISES

#5a

Conditionality of God's promises established -

2 Chronicles 15.2

Conditional promise to one who was "chosen" -

1 Chronicles 28.9, 10

No conditions appear in immediate context -

Jonah 3.4, 10

CONDITIONED UPON MAN'S OBEDIENCE

**EVERY CALVINISTIC ARGUMENT FOR THE IMPOSSIBILITY
OF APOSTASY CAN BE ANSWERED BY A PROPER UNDER-
STANDING OF THE FREE MORAL AGENCY OF MAN & THE
CONDITIONALITY OF GOD'S PROMISES.**

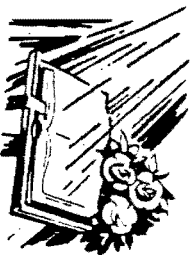
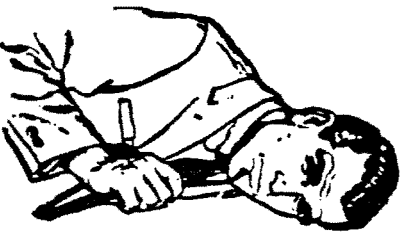
ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES

#5c

FREE MORAL AGENCY OF MAN

£

SOVEREIGNTY OF HUMAN WILL



- 1. Man is free to come to God**
a. Mt. 11.28 b. Jno. 5.40 c. Heb. 5.8,9

- 2. Man is free to leave God**
a. Rev. 2.4,5 b. 2 Pet. 1.5ff
c. Gal. 5.4 d. 1 Chron. 28.9

3. God wills that all men be saved

- a. Either man is free to violate that will

or

- b. The Universalist's view of salvation is correct

(2 Peter 3.9)

Which Doctrine is Mr. Smith Teaching?

#5X

GENESIS 3

If you transgress you shall die!

You shall not surely die!

SAID JEHOVAH

SAID SATAN

You are fallen from grace!

You were never in grace!

ECHOES OF ISAIAH 30.10 FROM MR. SMITH

Questions for the Opponent

#6

1. Were the men and women of Samaria, mentioned in Acts 8.12, saved or lost?
2. If the people in this assembly reject what you teach about this doctrine, will that affect their souls' salvation in any way?
3. Was the man called Simon in Acts 8.13 saved or lost?

Questions for the Opponent

1. Do you agree with the attached statement by Sam Morris?
2. Is it possible for a believer to become an unbeliever?
3. If a child of God lies (like Ananias & Sapphira), gets drunk (like Noah), commits adultery & murder (like David), and is killed during the act of fornication (like the man in Numbers 25) and dies with no repentance, will he go to Heaven?

CHRIST IN US = ETERNAL LIFE

- 1. Jesus is the Means of Life (Jno. 14.6)**
- 2. Jesus Christ is Eternal Life (1 Jno. 1.1-2)**
- 3. "Which is Christ in you" (Col. 1.27)**
- 4. Walk in Newness of Life (Rom. 6.4, Gal. 5.24-25)**

Note: Christ dwells in our hearts by faith (Eph. 3.17)

?? WHAT HAPPENS IF WE LOSE OUR FAITH ??

ETERNAL LIFE = PRESENT POSSESSION

#-10A

- 1. John 5.24 "... he that heareth... and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life..."***
- 2. John 3.36 "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life..."***
- 3. John 10.27-28 "My sheep hear my voice... follow me... and I give unto them eternal life..."***
- 4. 1 John 5.11-13 "... God hath given to us eternal life... in His Son... hath Son... hath life... hath not the Son hath not life... ye may know that ye have eternal life."***

ETERNAL LIFE

#10AA

PRESENT

→ Romans 6.4

WALK

NEWNESS OF LIFE

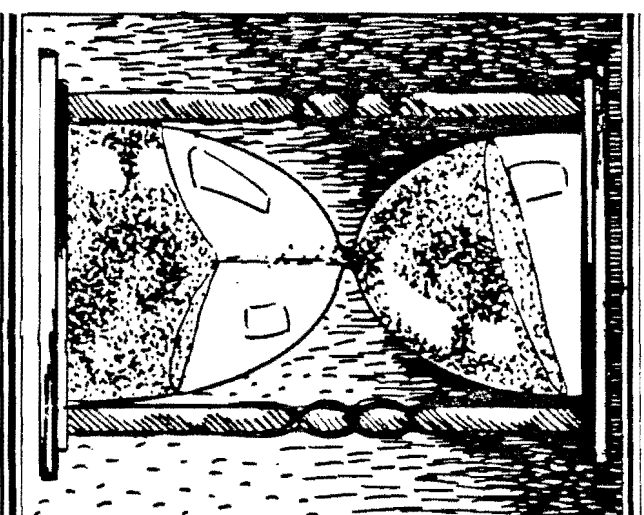
FUTURE

→ 1 Peter 1.3-4

INHERITANCE

INCORRUPTIBLE

RESERVED IN HEAVEN



UNDEFILED

FADETH NOT

LIFE NOW VS. LIFE LATER

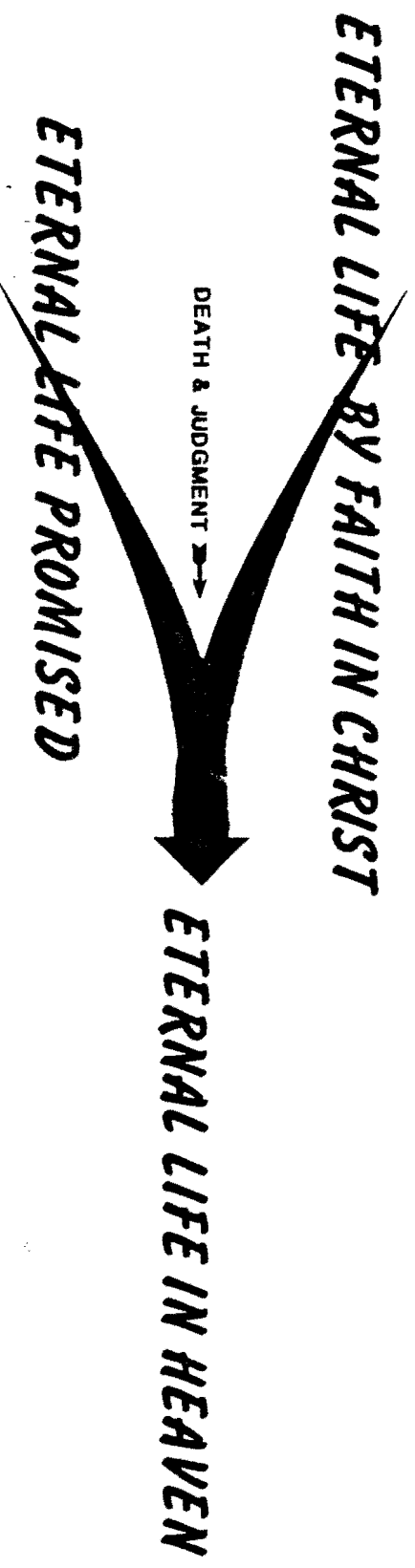
#10AB

These passages must be harmonized!

Baptist in Disharmony



Bible Harmony



Eternal Life Considered As A Promise

#10B

1. "...and in the world to come..." Mark 10.29-30
2. "In hope of eternal life..." Titus 1.2
3. "...the promise... life eternal." 1 Jno. 2.25
4. "...righteous into eternal life." Mt. 25.46
5. "...the end eternal life." Rom. 6.22
6. "...lay hold on eternal life." 1 Tim. 6.11-12
7. "...promise... of that (life) which is to come."
1 Tim. 4.8-16

 **WE DO NOT HOPE FOR WHAT IS ALREADY OBTAINED**
ROMANS 8.24

Eternal Life Without Faith?

#10C

Eternal life always conditioned upon faith

(John 3.16,36, 6.47, 20.31, 1 John 5.13, John 6.40)

What can happen to one's faith? God said...

It can fail – Lk. 22.32

It can be shipwrecked (delivered to Satan) – 1 Tim. 1.19

One can depart from it – 1 Tim. 4.1

One can deny it, cast it off, go after Satan – 1 Tim. 5.8,12,15

It can be overthrown – 2 Tim. 2.16–18

Condition of the Unfaithful Heart

“...evil heart of unbelief, in falling away from the living God” – Heb. 3.12

***☞ IF A CHILD OF GOD CANNOT SO SIN AS TO BE LOST IN HELL
THEN NOT EVEN FAITH IS REQUIRED TO OBTAIN SALVATION &
ETERNAL LIFE!***

"Cart Before the Horse"

Baptist Doctrine Perverts Mark 10.28-30

THIS LIFE

Christ Says...

100 FOLD → ETERNAL LIFE

(full possession)

LIFE TO COME

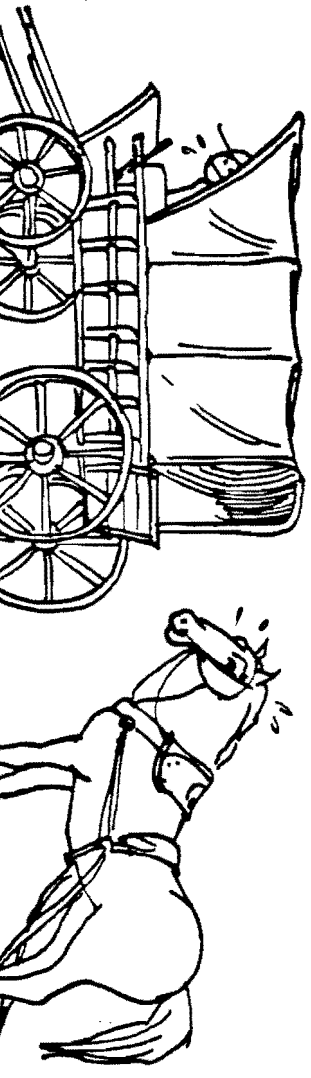
THIS LIFE

Baptist Doctrine Says...

ETERNAL LIFE + 100 FOLD → ETERNAL LIFE

(full possession)

LIFE TO COME



THE ALSO MAN

Acts 8

#20

HE WAS SAVED

HE SINNED

A Believed
L Was baptized
S
O Continued with Philip

When he saw
Thy heart is not right in the sight of God
Repent of this thy wickedness
Thought of thine heart ... forgiven
In the gall of bitterness & bond of iniquity

HE WAS IN DANGER OF PERISHING

Simon's prayer



Can a Saved Man Perish?

2 Peter 2 Analyzed

#21

The Last Worst Than the First

I. CAUSE

- A. Many false prophets - damnable heresies vs. 1**
- B. Many would follow vs. 2**
- C. False teachers would make merchandise of them vs. 3**

II. WARNINGS

- A. God spared not the angels that sinned vs. 4**
- B. Spared not the old world vs. 5**
- C. Forsaken the right way & gone astray vss. 12-15**
 - 1. cursed children**
 - 2. eyes full of adultery**
 - 3. cannot cease from sin**

III. RESULT

- A. Overcome vs. 20**
- B. Latter end worse vs. 20**
- C. Like the wallowing hog & the vomiting dog vs. 22**

RETURNING TO HIS OWN VOMIT

#21A

Proverbs 26.11

"We take the position that a Christian's sins do not damn his soul. The way a Christian lives, what he says, his character, his conduct, or his attitude toward other people have nothing whatever to do with the salvation of his soul....All the prayers a man may pray, all the Bibles he may read, all the churches he may belong to, all the services he may attend, all the sermons he may practice, all the debts he may pay, all the ordinances he may observe, all the laws he may keep, all the benevolent acts he may perform will not make his soul one whit safer; and all the sins he may commit from idolatry to murder will not make his soul in any more danger....The way a man lives has nothing whatever to do with the salvation of his soul....

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Abide in Christ!

#22

John 15

THE FIGURES IDENTIFIED

Christ is the vine

Father is the husbandman

Individual Christians are the branches

LIFE IN THE VINE

Made clean through the Word vs. 3

Abide in the Vine vs. 4

Bear much fruit vs. 5

SOME BRANCHES ARE CUT OFF

Fall to bear fruit vs. 2

Withered (loses its life) vs. 6

Cast into the fire & burned vs. 6



ABIDE OR BURN!

branch - separated from the vine → loses its life (withered)

Christian - separated from Christ (Isa. 59.2, 1 John 5.11,12) → loses life

John 15.1-6 Does Not Say...

#22A

1. "I am the vine and all professing members of my people, though they are not really my people, are the branches in me."
2. "I am the vine and all who have fellowship in the church and are accepted by men (though they are not truly saved) are the branches in me."
3. "Suckers & watersprouts (professors - who are not really in me) If they abide not in me, are cast forth, withered, gathered, and burned."
4. "I am the vine and all of the churches are the branches. Every church that does not abide in me will be cast forth and burned."

PARABLE OF THE SEED

#23

Luke 8.4-15

I. Same Seed Sown in Four Kinds of Soil

II. Seed is the Word of God in Hearts of Men

A. Some seed failed to germinate - failed to “believe & be saved”

B. Three soils bore living plants - “sprang up”

1. vs. 6 upon a rock – grew (Gr.: phuo)
2. vs. 7 among thorns – grew (Gr.: phuo)
3. vs. 8 good soil – grew (Gr.: phuo)

These all heard the Word & received it with joy – they became children of God (Acts/2.41, 8.39)

III. Some Bore Fruit - Others Fell Away

A. Good soil bore fruit an hundred fold

B. Others “withered away” fell away or “choked”



Turned Aside Unto Satan

1 Timothy 5.11-15

SATAN

1 Peter 5.8

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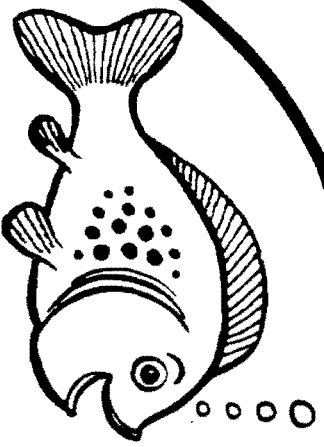
lust of the eye
lust of the flesh
pride of life

1 John 2.15-16

James 1.12-16

depart from the faith

1 Timothy 4.1



CHRISTIAN

in the faith – 2 Corinthians 13.5

in the light – 1 John 1.7

DAMNATION

1 Tim. 5.12, John 5.29, 2 Pet. 2.4, 1 John 4.17

"HID IN CHRIST"

#24A

The Christian is "hid in Christ" but the Bible also teaches...

A Christian is tempted to do evil

(Jas. 1.2,12,14)

Satan is the source of all temptation to do evil

(1 Pet. 5.8, Gen. 3, 1 Cor. 7.5)

Therefore,

Satan does tempt the Christian to cease to abide in Christ.

Jesus Said His Servants Could Fall

#25

MATTHEW 24.45-51

- 1. Individual here is designated as a servant***
- 2. Servant lives wickedly when the lord delays his coming***
 - 3. The lord comes unexpectedly***
 - 4. The lord cuts the servant assunder***
- 5. He appoints him his portion with hypocrites***

#25A

LUKE 12.41-48

and unbelievers

HELL IS THE PORTION OF UNBELIEVERS - REVELATION 21.8

Like Father - Like Son

#26

1 Corinthians 10:1-12

<p>fathers</p> <p>meat & drink</p> <p>they lusted</p> <p>Idolaters</p> <p>committed fornication</p> <p>they tempted</p> <p>they murmured</p> <p>destroyed of the destroyer</p>	<p>brethren</p> <p>trusted Christ</p> <p>we should not lust</p> <p>neither be ye Idolaters</p> <p>neither let us commit fornication</p> <p>neither let us tempt</p> <p>neither murmur ye</p> <p>take heed lest ye <u>fall</u></p>
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WRITTEN FOR OUR ADMONITION

Hear Ye, Hear Ye

#27

1 John 4.6, 2.4

To know God is eternal life - John 17.3

It is possible to forget God - Jeremiah 2.32

What happens to those who forget Him? Psalm 9.17

CAN A MAN FORGET SOMEONE HE NEVER KNEW?

CAN A BROTHER'S SOUL DIE?

#28

YES!

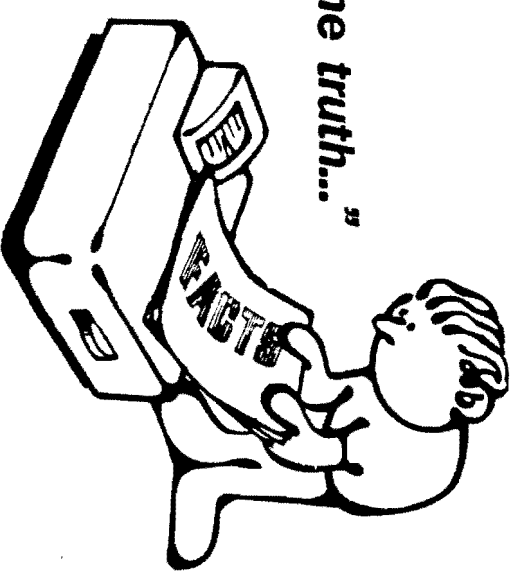
WEIGH THE FACTS

JAMES 5. 19-20

“Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth...”

“...shall save a soul from death,”

EZEKIEL 18.26



“righteous man... committeth iniquity,... dieth in them (physical death)

“...for his iniquity ... shall he die (spiritual death)”

REVELATION 20. 14-15

The lake of fire is the second death

EZEKIEL 18:19-28

#28A

v. 20 "The Soul that Sinneth, it shall die.

v. 21 "But if the wicked turn from all his sins... Keep statutes... do lawful & right... he shall surely live, he shall not die."

v. 24 "But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, committeth iniquity,... in them shall he die."

v. 26 "... committeth iniquity... dieth in them... shall he die."

v. 27 "... wicked turn... doeth lawful & right... save his soul alive."

v. 28 "... Consider... turneth... shall live... shall not die."

v. 31 "... Cast away transgressions... make new heart... And a new spirit... For why will ye die, O house of Israel?"

v. 32 "... Turn yourselves & live ye."

KEEP

#30

- 1) "Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and **keep** it" (Luke 11:28)
-- "Keep" **Phulasso**: Guard and Observe
 - 2) "If a man **keep** my word, he shall never see death" (John 8:51)
-- "Keep" **Tereo**: Retain and Observe
 - 3) "We know him if we **keep** his commandments" (1 John 2:3)
-- "Keep" **Tereo**: Retain and Observe
 - 4) "**Keep** that which is committed to thy trust" (1 Timothy 6:20)
-- "Keep" **Phulasso**: Guard and Watch
 - 5) "**Keep** yourselves in the love of God" (Jude 21)
-- "Keep" **Tereo**: Watch and Observe
- "He that keepeth his way preserveth his soul"
(Proverbs 16:17)

Which State (Condition) is Impossible to Change?

“He that believeth not... shall not see life” John 3.36

“He that... believeth... shall not come into condemnation” John 5.24

Neither, so long as the man lives!

Some mistakenly teach...

SHALL NOT = IMPOSSIBLE & NEVER CHANGING

DEFILE

#32

- 1) Children of God, Believers, in O.T.
“were . . . **defiled**” (Psalm 106:12,39)
- 2) Saints today to look diligently lest
 - a. any fail (fall from) the Grace of God
 - b. any bitterness spring up and trouble them

RESULT? “Thereby many be **Defiled**” (Hebrews 12:15)
- 3) Some saints **defiled** their garments
(Revelation 3:4)
- 4) “And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that **defileth** . . . but they which are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life”
(Revelation 21:27)
- 5) **Defiled** cannot go to heaven, but opponent says they cannot go to hell; **So**, what will the Lord do with them -- where will they exist in eternity?

EXAMPLES

#33

I. Ananias and Sapphira

- A. Note context - Acts 4:23-5:11
- B. Believers laid money at apostles feet - Acts 4:34-36
- C. Ananias and Sapphira did, too - Acts 5:2
- D. Hence, believers - Acts 4:32
- E. Satan filled heart - Acts 5:3
- F. Lied to H.S., to God - Acts 5:3,4
- G. Tempted Spirit of the Lord. Acts 5:9 cf. 1 Corinthians 10:9
- H. "All liars" Revelation 21:8

II. Some Galatians

- A. "Removed from Him" 1:6
- B. Turned again - labor in vain 4:9-11
- C. Not running well - disobedient 5:7
- D. Entangled again - 5:1
- E. Sought justification by the law - 5:2-4
- F. Result? "Ye are fallen from grace" 5:4

JERRY ARE YOU (YOUR SPIRIT) THERE?

**Opponent says that the body can sin
but the spirit does not.**

spirit meditates on God's word



meanwhile



the body is _____

Adultery? Rape? Homosexuality? Incest? Murder? Envy?

The Spirit Responsible for ALL Sins

- I. Body knows nothing (1 Corinthians 2:11)
- II. Body without Spirit is dead (James 2:26)
- III. The flesh lusts and desires, but it can only carry out those desires and lusts when the heart agrees in carrying out such (Matthew 5:28; 15:19, 20).
- IV. Body is the instrument through which the Spirit acts for good or evil (Romans 6:19).
- V. Spirit then responsible for allowing sin to reign in body (Romans 6:12).
- VI Spirit is responsible for the manner in which it uses these instruments (Romans 8:12-13).
- VII Body to be presented holy (Romans 12:1).
- VIII. Our bodies are members of Christ (1 Corinthians 6:15, 19-20), and temples of the Holy Ghost through which we are to glorify God.
 - A. 1 Corinthians 3:17 — if any man defile the temple, him will God destroy — temple is holy.

SINS OF THE HEART COMMITTED BY FLESHLY BODY

HEART

BODY (FLESH)

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Adultery, Mark 7:21 | - Adultery, Galatians 5:19 |
| 2. Fornication, Mark 7:21 | - Fornication, Galatians 5:19 |
| 3. Murders, Mark 7:21 | - Murders, Galatians 5:21 |
| 4. Thefts, Mark 7:21 | - Thefts, Revelation 9:20-21 |
| 5. Covetousness, Mark 7:22 | - Covetousness, Colossians 3:5 |
| 6. Wickedness, Mark 7:22 | - Wickedness, Job 27:4 |
| 7. Deceit, Mark 7:22 | - Deceit, Job 27:4 |
| 8. Lasciviousness, Mark 7:22 | - Lasciviousness, Gal. 5:22 |
| 9. Blasphemy, Mark 7:22 | - Blasphemy, Colossians 3:8 |
| 10. Lie, Acts 5:4 | - Lie, Colossians 3:9 |

ROMANS 6:13

“Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members instruments of righteousness unto God.”

KNOW SO - THINK SO - ALSO

#37

BRAG-GA-DO-CI-O (empty boasting)

Know so (1 John 5.11-12)

Think (hope) so (Titus 1.2)

Also (Acts 8.13)

Braggadocio

- 1. Mormon***
- 2. Jehovah's Witness***
- 3. Pentecostals***

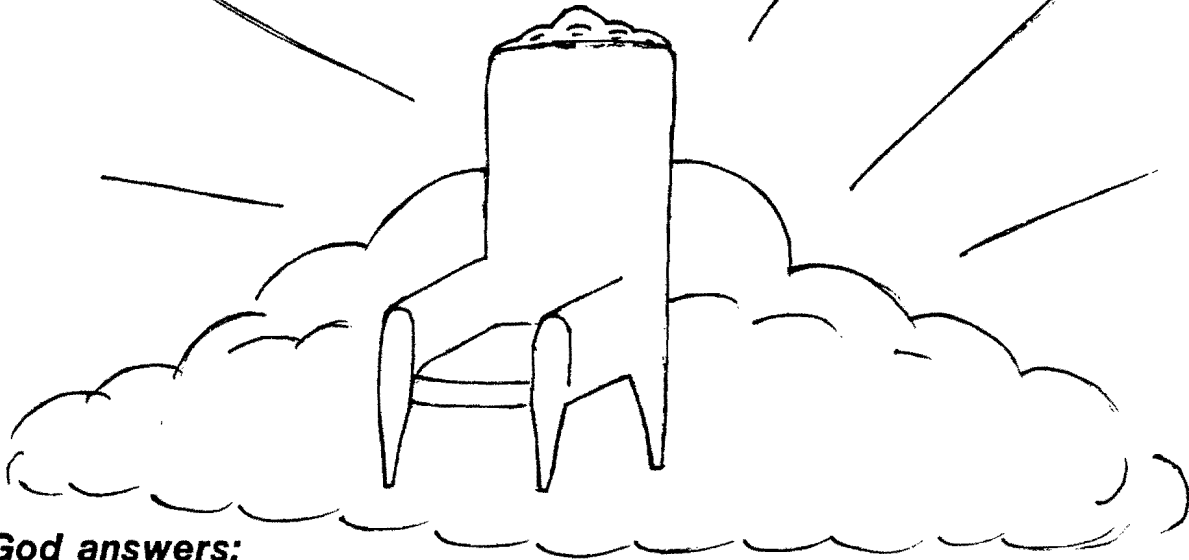


- 4. Baptists - claim to have eternal life
& not be able to lose it!***

Harder to Stay in Baptist Church Than to Get Into Heaven!

BAPTIST VIEW OF HEAVEN

#38



God answers:

"Don't worry son! You know that I must abide by the Baptist doctrine and creed. You may steal, lie, cheat, fornicate, rape and murder without repentance and I will still send you to Heaven; but, you are not good enough for the Baptist Church. Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the Joys of thy Lord."

Baptist pleads:

"Lord, why must I cut my hair? Why do I have to be honest and faithful to my wife! Why can't I shoot my rotten neighbor? Why can't I steal from my boss? Why did the Baptist's kick me out of the church?"



PAST - PRESENT - FUTURE

#39

Past - I know (Rom. 3.25, 2 Peter 1.9)

Present - I know? (1 Jno. 1.9 - 2.2)

Future - I do not know!

WHERE IS THE SCRIPTURE? _____

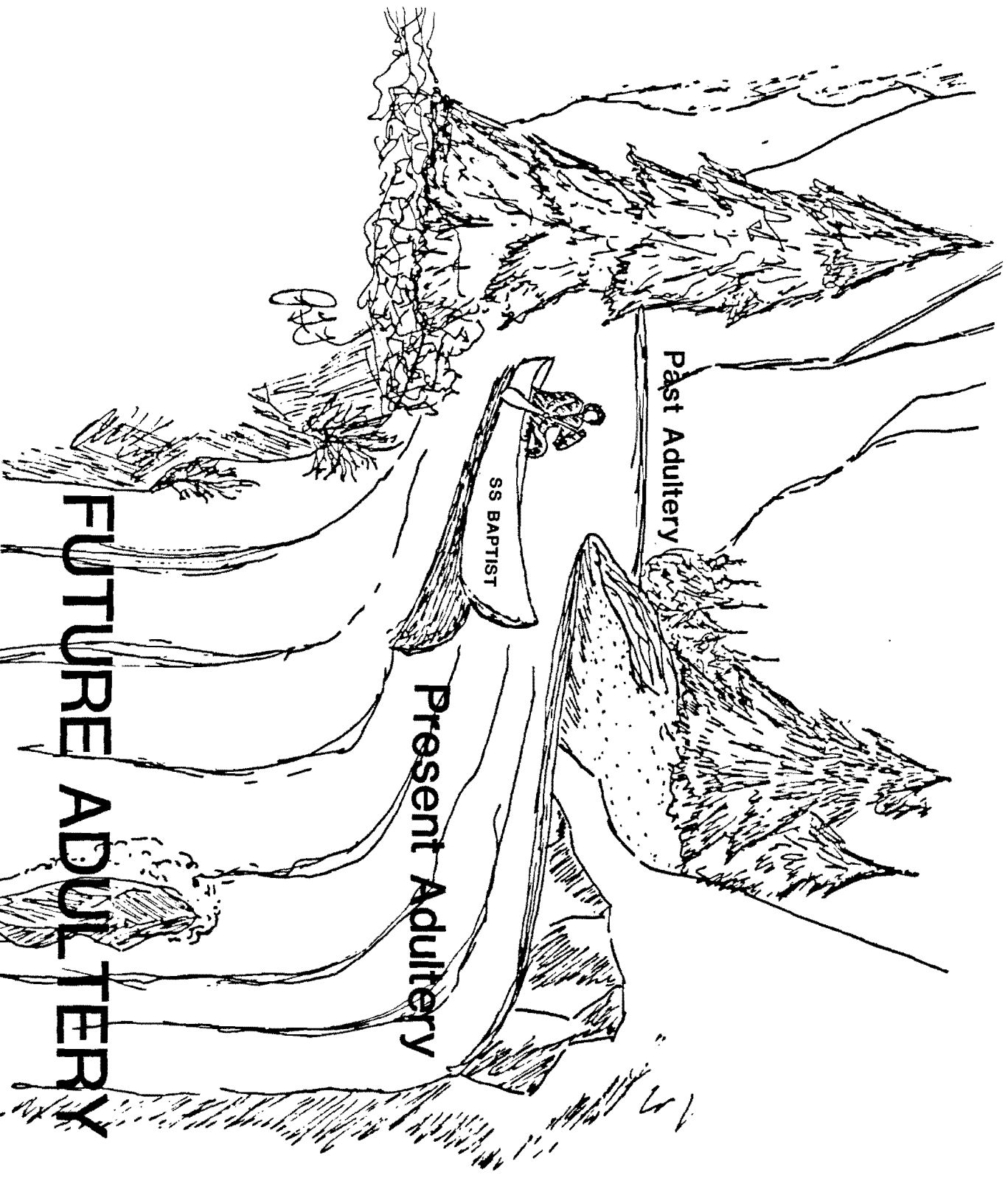
Quoth Mr. Smith on Future Sins

#39A

"I believe that the person who trusts in Christ to save him is saved from all of his sins: past, present, and future."

IT CAN'T BE WRONG IF IT FEELS SO RIGHT!

#39B



FUTURE ADULTERY

Fundamental Errors

#40

• **Once a Son,
Always a Son** •

Assumed "Prooftexts":

- John 3.3-5
- 2 Peter 1.4
- 1 Peter 1.23
- John 5.24
- John 6.37
- 1 John 3.9

☞ **"Is born of God"**
refers to relationship
not origin (Num. 14.12).

• **"Eternal" Modifies the
Believer's Possession
of the Life** •

Assumed "Prooftexts":

- John 3.16
- John 3.36
- 1 John 5.11, 12
- John 6.47

☞ **"Eternal" modifies
the nature of the life -
1 John 5.12.**

• **Christian is Unable
to Depart from God** •

Assumed "Prooftexts":

- Psalm 37
- John 10.28
- 1 Peter 1.5

☞ **"brethren...depart-
ing from the living
God" (Heb. 3.12).**

"UNBORN"

#41

If "born of" refers to origin, and it is impossible to become "unborn", how can a child of the devil be

"unborn" (Jno. 8.44, 1 Jno. 3.10)

to become a child of God?

"IS BORN OF GOD"

#42

"Is born of God" has reference to maintaining a continuous (present tense) relationship with God.

Who is born of God?

1 John 2.29 "every one that doeth righteousness"

1 John 3.9 One who "doth not commit sin"

1 John 4.7 "every one that loveth" one another

1 John 5.1 "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ"

1 John 5.4 Whosoever "overcometh the world" by faith

1 John 5.18 Whosoever "sinneth not"

A man ceases to be born of God when he fails to maintain the conditions of that relationship!

A PROBLEM OF GRAMMAR

#43

“Eternal Life”

“Eternal” is an adjective modifying “Life”

**The nature of the “life” is eternal but
the retention of that “life” is conditional.**

**In this age, the obedient believer is given eternal life, but nowhere do
the Scriptures teach that in this age he “eternally has life”.**

Sunday School Lesson

Obedience

Obedience should be from a willing heart. Not only are we to obey, but we are to submit ourselves. This means that not only do I obey but I am to be happy in my obedience...

We 8. obey the Pastor when he points out sin.

When my pastor points out sin in my life I need to confess and forsake the sin that is besetting me.

are defending 9. Watch out for Satan. Satan many times causes us to get mad at the preacher instead of the sin that has been brought to our attention - these propositions!

God has a reason for our obeying
If we would study the word of God we would see the reason we are to obey, it is for our own soul. (emphasis in original)
We are taught to be faithful in service to God not only to help our pastor but because God has commanded us to be faithful in all things.

- (1) In Assembling ourselves together - Heb. 10:25
- (2) In Tithing - Malachi 3:8-10
- (3) In Witnessing - Matt. 28:18-20
- (4) In Bible reading - II Tim. 3:16
- (5) In Prayer - I Thess 5:17

11. We have responsibilities too - Pastors have a very great responsibility to teach the word of God as they must give an account. Also, we will give account of how well we received the word, and whether our pastor could teach us with joy and not grief...

Cannot sin? Satan cannot touch? No condemnation?

Opponent Asks for Money!

#45

MT. 5.42 "GIVE TO THEM THAT ASKETH THEE"

BUT:

1. 2 John 9-11 "neither bid him godspeed..."

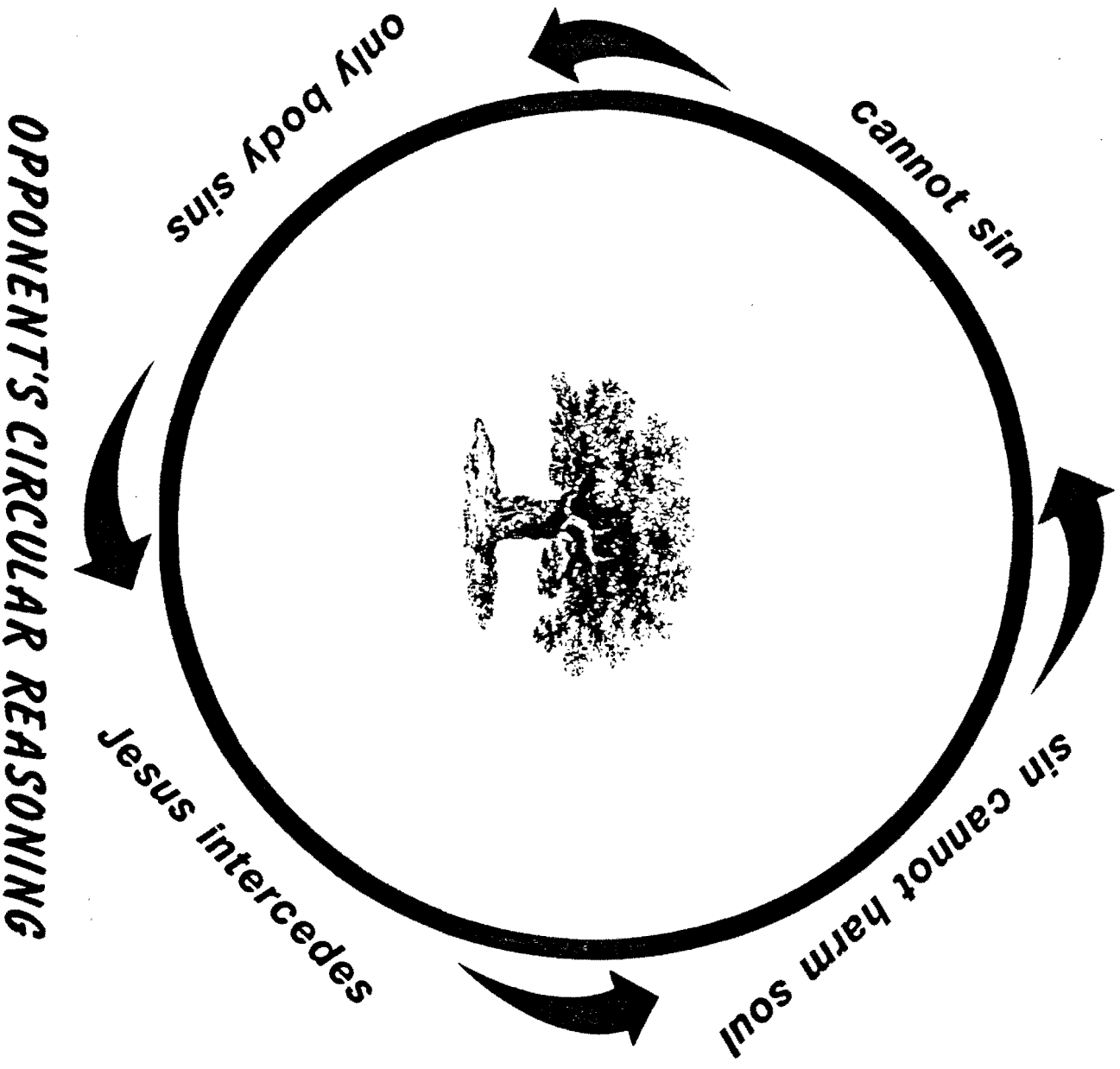
2. Matthew 4.6 - Satan asked such a question...

v. 7 "It is written again..."

2 Thessalonians 3.10 "...if any would not work..."

"ROUND & ROUND THE MULBERRY BUSH"

#46



OPONENT'S CIRCULAR REASONING

OPPONENT'S CONCEPT OF SIN #46A **AMONG GOD'S CHILDREN**

Reconciling the Scriptures

Cannot Sin

I. 1 John 3:9

II. 1 John 5:18

But
1 John 1:8-10

**Sins, but God Punishes
him here, and will not
allow him to be eternally
lost!**

I. Acts 5:1-11

But
James 5:19-20

II. 1 Corinthians 5:

III. Hebrews 12:5-9

**Only body sins;
Not the Spirit**

I. Romans 7:9-25

But
Galatians 6:7-8

II. Galatians 5:19-22

(flesh)

ALIVE, DEAD, ALIVE AGAIN

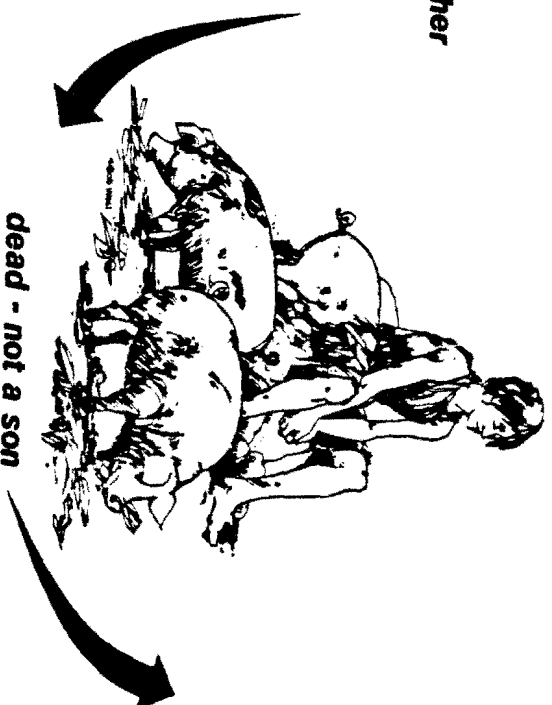
#47

Luke 15.11-32

1. Child of the Father
2. Left the Father
3. Repented of & confessed wrong
4. Father was watching - did not force the boy
5. Father accepted him into family

6. Father's statement, "thy brother was dead & is alive again," "was lost & is found"

child of the father



child (alive) again



"Cannot Sin" - 1 John 3.9

#48

Acts 4.16 "We cannot deny It..."

Acts 4.20 "We cannot but speak the..."

1 Cor. 10.21 "cannot drink the cup of the Lord..."

Gal. 5.17 "Ye cannot do the things that ye would..."

Titus 2.8 "speech that cannot be condemned"

2 Peter 2.14 "cannot cease from sin..."

"CANNOT" DOES NOT ALWAYS MEAN ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE!

DOUBLE STANDARD

#49

One for the Child of God - Another for the Child of Satan

Compare: 1 John 3.9 2 Peter 2.14-15

OPONENT SAYS:

Child of God can steal, lie, cheat, commit murder & adultery...

to him it is not damnable sin!

Child of Satan can steal, lie, cheat, commit murder & adultery...

to him it is damnable sin!

BIBLE SAYS:

God is no respecter of persons! Acts 10.34, Romans 2.1-2



SEEING THINGS

**Thinks he Sees
Chastisement**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17
Reproof and Correction
is Chastisement
of the Lord.**

Bible Actually Says...

Romans 2:8-9 Tribulation, Anguish,
Wrath

Romans 14:15 Destroy

1 Corinthians 11:29 Damnation

1 Timothy 5:12-15 Satan follower

Luke 8:13 Fall away

John 15:1-6 Burned

Galatians 5:4 Fallen from grace

Hebrews 10:32-39 Perdition

Acts 5:1-11 Killed while lying
(Revelation 21:8)

Hebrews 10:27 Fiery indignation

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 Flaming fire

Galatians 5:19-22 Rejected from
Kingdom

1 Corinthians 6:10 Shall not inherit
kingdom

(2 Corinthians 12:21) No repentance!

Revelation 21:8 Lake which burns with
fire

James 5:12 Condemnation

WHO'S WHO IN BIBLE CHASTISEMENT?

#50A

All the Men of the Flood (Gen. 6 – 8)

Nadab & Abihu (Lev. 10.1-2)

Moses (Det. 32.48-52)

Achan (Josh. 7)

Uzzah (2 Sam. 6)

Ananias & Sapphira (Acts 5)

Herod Agrippa (Acts 12)



JOHN 4:14

#51

1. Israel drank of Christ, but they sinned and were overthrown. (1 Corinthians 10:4,5)
2. “These things (are) our examples” “They are written for our admonition” “For our learning” (1 Corinthians 10:6,11; Romans 15:4)
3. “Let us . . . fear,” (Hebrews 4:1)
4. “My people . . . have forsaken me the fountain of living waters” (Jeremiah 2:13,17)
5. What will happen to one who turns away and will not take the water of life?
6. “He that believeth on me shall never thirst” (John 6:35)

ROMANS 8:12,13

#52

“Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.”

1) Death is Spiritual

all die physically - Hebrews 9:27

2) Not Talking to Aliens

A. “Brethren”

B. Aliens already dead

SAINTS IN CORINTH

#53

- 1) **2 Corinthians 12:21:** “Many . . . have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they have committed.”
- 2) **Galatians 5:19-21:** “They which do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of God.”
- 3) These sins are “works of the flesh” which Christians committed.
- 4) **Romans 8:13:** “For if ye (brethren-v. 12) live after the flesh ye shall die”

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27

#54

“‘Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receives the prize? So run that ye may obtain’ (1 Corinthians 9:24). Paul...disciplined himself lest,..he...should become a castaway...Paul’s meaning in his use of the word **adokimos** is clearly indicated by his use of the word in 2 Corinthians 13:5,..asserting that Jesus Christ does not dwell in any who are **adokimoi**. The meaning of the word,..is further defined by context. After...acknowledging his deep concern lest he should become **adokimos**, he cites instances of apostasy among the Israelites.” (Shank, *Life In The Son*, pp. 240, 241)

Note: See 2 Timothy 3:8; Titus 1:16

HEBREWS 3:1,12

*55

- 1) Holy brethren, partakers of heavenly calling
- 2) “Take heed brethren lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the Living God.”
- 3) As Israelites did (Psalm 106:12-25)
 - a. Believed
 - b. Forgot and lusted (vs. 13, 14, 21)
 - c. **Believed not, murmured, hearkened not**

HEBREWS 6:4-6

#56

- 1) **Once Enlightened** - "To... imbue with saving knowledge ... have been made Christians" (Hebrews 10:32)
- 2) **Tasted Heavenly Gift** - "To experience." See "taste" as used in 1 Peter 2:3; Hebrews 2:9
- 3) **Partakers of H.S.** - "Sharing in." Also used in Hebrews 3:1 (see Galatians 4:6)
- 4) **Tasted word of God - Powers of world to come**
- 5) Verse 6 (ASV) "And then fell away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance..."
 - a. Macknight - "Ought... to have been translated... , have fallen away. Nevertheless, our translators (KJV) following Beza, who without any authority from ancient mss., hath inserted... (if)... that this text might not appear to contradict the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints."
 - b. If opponent denies these were ever really saved, why "renew them again"?
 - c. "Fell away" - "In the scriptures, to fall away (from the true faith); from Christianity, Hebrews 6:6."

HEBREWS 10:26-29 ^{#57}

- 1) “Brethren” (v. 19)
- 2) Received knowledge of the truth (see John 8:32; 17:17)

HENCE, CHILDREN OF GOD

- 1) Sin willfully
- 2) Trod under foot Son of God
- 3) Counted blood of covenant wherewith sanctified an unholy thing
- 4) Done despite unto Spirit of Grace

RESULT:

- 1) Punishment worse than death
- 2) “Judgement and fiery indignation, which shall devour adversaries”

Is "All Things" Unrestricted by the Context?

#60

Romans 8.28

Unrestricted by Context

DAVID'S

Uriah's good?

Infant's good?

Tamar's good?

ADULTERY

Amnon's good?

Absalom's good?

David's good?

Restricted by Context

WHAT

foreknowledge

predestination

called

justified

THINGS

glorified

conformed to image of Christ

TO

☆ to them that love God

WHOM

Is the Scope of "All Things" Ever Limited?

#60A

Romans 8.28

1. 1 John 2.20 - "Ye know all things"

2. 1 Cor. 9.22 - "all things to all men"

**3. Matthew 21.22 - "All things, whatsoever you ask in prayer...
you shall receive"**

4. 2 Timothy 2.7 - "the Lord give thee understanding in all things"

Eternal Life Without Love?

#60B

Revelation 2.4 "Left thy first love"

Jude 21 "Keep yourselves in the love of God"

Matthew 24.12 "The love of many shall wax cold"

John 14.15 "If ye love Me keep My commandments"

1 John 5.3 "This is the love of God that we keep His commandments"

WILL THOSE GO TO HEAVEN WHO HAVE HATED GOD IN THIS LIFE?

WHICH IS THE DOCTRINE OF SATAN?

#61

Lewis teaches...

Long hair is a shame, but the

Bible nowhere calls it a sin.

Smith teaches...

Long hair is a sin but you go

ahead and ignore what God

said about it and He will send you

to Heaven anyway!

SATAN SAID "YOU SHALL NOT SURELY DIE!"

John 3.16 "Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish."

Unbelieving may not perish.

John 3.36 "He that believeth... hath everlasting life."

The unbeliever may not lose everlasting life.

John 5.24 "He that heareth My words and believeth... hath everlasting life."

He that refuses to hear My words and believeth not hath everlasting life.

John 6.37 "Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out."

He that turns away from Me I will in no wise cast out.

John 6.39 "Of all which He hath given Me I should lose nothing."

Of all whom the Father hath given Me and become unrepentant, I will lose none.

John 10.28-29 "I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

No man can pluck the unfaithful out of God's hand.

Romans 8.28 "All things work together for good to them that love God."

All things work together for good to those who are hateful and disobedient.

Romans 8.33 "Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect?"

Who shall lay anything to the charge of the ungodly.

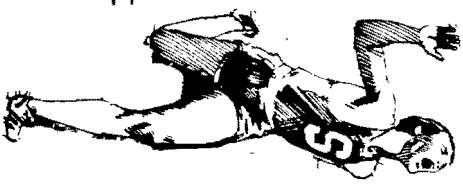
Mark 16.16 "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved."

He that believeth not shall be saved.

CHRIST THE UNBELIEVER'S SUBSTITUTE

#63

1. Christ died for the unfaithful child of God who refuses Him.
2. He that is dead is free to sin as he pleases.
3. The believer is dead to the law of Christ.
4. Christ is the believer's substitute. The believer is then out of the game and is free to become an unbeliever and to do as he pleases. Christ is taking his place.
5. If Christ, the substitute loses, the unbeliever He has replaced loses.
6. If the substitute wins, the unrepentant scoundrel He replaces wins.
7. Will the unbeliever win?



TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES?

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

101

Objection:

It makes one depend on works for salvation

Answer:

- 1) Passages like Galatians 2.16 do not touch the issue
- 2) No one is saved by keeping the law or by works of his own (Gal. 2.16; Titus 3.5).
- 3) NOTE: Acts 2.40; Phillipians 2.12; Matthew 16.27; 2 Corinthians 5.10; James 2.24; Ephesians 2.10; Acts 10.34,35; 1 Thessalonians 1.5; Galatians 5.6
- 4) Faith is a work - John 6.28, 29
 - A. Opponent says one must believe
 - B. So, even according to him, salvation is by works
 - C. Do that not make his doctrine evil?

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

4 * 02

Objection:

It means that man is his own Savior

Answer:

- 1) No one is his own savior (Titus 3.5; Isa. 64.6; Acts 4.12).
- 2) No passage teaches that obedience makes one his own savior (Heb. 5.8, 9; Rev. 22.14; Mt. 7.21; 1 Pet. 1.22).
- 3) Faith is an essential work that man must do (Jno. 6.28, 29; 8.24) but when one believes, that does not eliminate Jesus as his Savior.
- 4) 2 Corinthians 5.10 and Matthew 16.27 show that all will be rewarded according to their works - compare Acts 2.40; Phillipians 2.12.
 - A. Still, the saved shall honor God as their Savior (Rev. 5.9).
 - B. So, opponent's claim is false (Lk. 17.10).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

103

Objection:

It makes the devil more powerful than God.

Answer:

1) Opponent believes that the Holy Spirit operates on the sinner's heart apart from the word, but some resist the Holy Spirit (Acts 7.51)

-- SO: the devil must be stronger than the Holy Spirit!?!

2) Two things keep us: (1 Pet. 1.5)

A. The power of God (cannot fail - Jno. 10.29).

B. Faith (may fail - Lk. 22.32; Heb. 3.1, 12).

3) The devil does not overpower God.

A. God takes unfruitful away (Jno. 15.2).

B. They are cast forth (Jno. 15.6).

C. Jesus spews them out (Rev. 3.16).

4) GALATIANS: Were saved (Gal. 1.6; 3.26, 27).

A. Began in spirit - ran well (Gal. 3.3; 5.7).

B. Some had "fallen from Grace" (Gal. 5.1-4).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

104

Objection:

It makes one depend on the mercy of the devil

Answer:

1) ACCORDING TO OPPONENT, if the Lord can get one of the devil's children and save him, He can get them all, so if one is lost, he may blame the Lord because He could have saved him but He did not!

2) NO, the devil cannot get all of God's children. He cannot get those:

A. Who resist him - James 4.7.

B. Who hear and follow Christ - Jno. 10.27, 28.

3) The devil does not come in and get them. God:

A. "casts them out" (Jno. 15.6).

B. "spews them out" (Rev. 3.15-17).

C. "denies them" (2 Tim. 2.12).

4) If God can get one of the devil's children He can get them all,

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

105

Objection:

It denies a man can be saved -- If he can be lost, he was never saved.

Answer:

- 1) "Shall be saved" (Mk. 16.16) refers to forgiveness of past sins (2 Pet. 1.9).
- 2) Unbeliever "shall be damned" but if he becomes a believer and is saved, does that mean that he was never damned, lost?
- 3) Conversely, a believer "shall be saved" but if he becomes an unbeliever and is damned, that does not mean he never was saved (Heb. 3.1, 12).
- 4) One may be saved from drowning, but if he goes back in he will be lost again (2 Pet. 2.20; James 5.19, 20).
- 5) Israel was "saved", then destroyed for unbelief (Jude 5; Joshua 24.20). Does that mean that they were never saved?

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

106

Objection:

It means a child of God must lead a perfect life.

Answer:

1) No, it means no such thing! One may err and obtain forgiveness.

A. 1 Corinthians 5.1-11; 2 Corinthians 2.6-11

B. James 5.19, 20

C. Gal. 6.1

2) No one leads a perfect life (1 Jno. 1.8, 10).

3) Must Christ be crucified for us every time we fall? No:

“If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ..He is the propitiation for our sins”

(1 Jno. 2.1,2).

“Remember...from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and
do the first works” (Rev. 2.5).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

107

Objection:

It makes God a liar. If eternal life is taken away, then it is not eternal.

Answer:

1) Believer has eternal life:

A. In hope (Titus 1.2)

B. By faith (Jno. 3.36; 5.24)

2) God has promised eternal death to the unbeliever -- If unbeliever becomes a believer and God does not give him eternal death, does this mean God has lied?

3) That which is "everlasting" can be broken (Isa. 24.5; 1 Sam. 2.30).

4. NOTE: Jeremiah 18.9, 10 and Ezekiel 33.13-15.

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

108

Objection:

It denies that Christ is able to save.

Answer:

- 1) Jesus is able to save the whole world, even unbelievers; if they are lost, does this deny He was able to save them?
- 2) Who is Christ able to save?
 - A. "Them...that come unto God by Him" (Heb. 7.25).
 - B. But they that come must believe (Heb. 11.6).
 - C. A Child of God may cease to believe (Heb. 3.1,12).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

Objection:

It reflects upon the all-sufficiency of Christ's blood.

Answer:

- 1) Christ's blood shed for every man (1 Tim. 2.6; Heb. 2.9; 1 Jno. 2.2; 4.15). If anyone is lost, does that discredit the power in the blood? According to opponent's reasoning, it does!
- 2) Blood's cleansing power is conditional -- "If we walk" (1 Jno. 1.7).
- 3) "If" we do not - are we saved anyway?
 - A. "Yes," says the opponent.
 - B. "No," says God's word - 1 Jno. 1.6.

*Chart originated by Larry Hatley

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

110

Objection:

It reflects on intercessory work of Christ.

Answer:

- 1) Christ is intercessor "for all" (1 Tim. 2.5,6).
- 2) So, according to opponent's logic, if anyone is lost, Christ is an insufficient mediator.
- 3) Christ interceded, but that blessing is promised to believers through the Word - John 17.21.
 - A. Some cease to believe - Hebrews 3.12.
 - B. Some may not "keep in memory" or "continue" in the Word - 1 Corinthians 15.2; 1 John 2.24.
 - C. Some have thorns which "choke the Word" (Mk. 4.19).
- 4) Therefore, Christ is all-sufficient as an intercessor for those who "come unto God by Him" (Heb. 7.25), but there are those who cease to come.

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

111

Objection:

It says sin may have dominion over you, contrary to Roman 6.14.

Answer:

1) Sin shall not dominate those who:

A. Do not let it reign - Romans 6.12.

B. Do not yield themselves - Romans 6.13.

C. Resist the devil - James 4.7.

2) Paul raised this object in verse 15 of Romans 6, "Shall we sin" since we are under grace?

3) Answer: "God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye (Christians) yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"

4) See also Romans 8.4, 12, 13.

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

112

Objection:

It means God does not love His children as much as parents do.

Answer:

1) All men are God's offspring so if God condemns anyone, according to this objection, It means God loves His offspring less than parents! (Acts 17.29; Heb. 12.9).

2) God loves the whole world (Jno. 3.16), yet not all will be saved.

3) Likewise, God loves His children, but not all will be saved.

A. Some disinherited - Numbers 14.12

B. Some "cast away" - 1 Chronicles 28.9; Matthew 25.14, 30;
John 15.6.

C. Some "depart" - Hebrews 3.12; Jeremiah 17.5.

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

113

Objection:

It denies that we are sealed with the Holy Spirit unto redemption.

Answer: (2 Cor. 1.22; 5.5; Eph. 1.13, 14)

1) Written to those who were faithful (2 Cor. 1.24; Eph. 1.1).

2) If they became unfaithful - what then? (Rev. 2.10)

3) One may "grieve," "do despite unto the Spirit," "resist," and lie to the Spirit (Eph. 4.30; Heb. 10.29; Acts 7.51; 5.3).

IF ONE DOES SO, WILL HE BE SAVED?

4) Note warnings to those who were sealed:

A. Might be found naked - 2 Corinthians 5.3.

B. Might be deceived as Eve was - 2 Corinthians 11.3.

C. Could have received God's grace in vain - 2 Corinthians 6.1.

D. Some possibly erring, impenitent (2 Cor. 12.13, 14, 19-21) - are these saved anyway?

E. What if Ephesians did not heed Ephesians 4.17 - 5.18? Would they have been saved anyway?

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

114

Objection:

It means that the Holy Spirit can go to Hell.

Answer:

1) Holy Spirit may be:

- A. Resisted - Acts 7.51
- B. Grieved - Ephesians 4.30
- C. Quenched - 1 Thessolonians 5.19
- D. Despised - Hebrews 10.29

2) "The Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul" (1 Samuel 16.14).

If we resist, grieve, quench, and despise Him, He will be taken from us (Rom. 8.14 -- 8.9 -- when one walks in the flesh apart from the Spirit, "He is none of His").

3) Objection: "Forever" (Jno. 16.14)

•Holy Spirit is given forever•

A. "Everlasting covenant" broken (Isa. 24.5)

B. "I said indeed that...(Thou)...should walk before me forever:

But now the Lord saith, be it far from me...they that despise me

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

115

Objection:

It means Jesus may also go to hell.

Answer:

- 1) Yes, Jesus is with us to the end of the world (Mt. 28.20).
 - A. But eternity, Hell, begins then, at the end of the world.
 - B. Passage does not say "until end of torment".
 - C. Passage does not say he would be with them in Hell.
- 2) "The Lord is with you, while ye be with Him,..but if ye forsake Him, He will forsake you" (2 Chron. 15.2).
- 3) See John 15.6.
- 4) What if one fails to observe what Christ commanded? (Mt. 28.20; Jno. 8.51)

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

116

Objection:

It teaches that part of God's nature may go to hell.

Answer:

1) Man is the "offspring of God" (Acts 17.29). God is the Father of spirits" (Heb. 12.9). Therefore, if anyone is lost, part of God's nature will be in hell, according to opponent's logic.

2) One is a partaker of the divine nature "having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Pet. 1.4).

A. "We should not lust after evil things" (1 Cor. 10.6).

B. If we do, we will lose our share of the divine nature (Eph. 5.5).

3) Question: God chastens His children. When He does, is part of God's nature chastened?

4) These same "partakers" were warned: "beware lest ye...fall" (2 Pet. 3.17).

5) "We are...partakers of Christ, if we hold...steadfast unto the end" (Heb. 3.14).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

117

Objection:

It means the devil can be saved.

Answer:

- 1) No, the devil does not enter into Christ to ensnare a Christian.
- A. "cast forth" (Jno. 15.6)
 - B. "spewed out" (Rev. 3.16)
 - C. "cut off" (Rom. 11.22)
 - D. "severed" (Gal. 5.4)

2) Try reverse logic:

The only way Christ can get a child of the devil is to enter into the devil. If He does, He becomes lost. But Christ cannot be lost. Since Christ would have to enter into the devil and be lost before any may be saved, then no one will be saved. This, according to opponent's reasoning.

•What proves too much, proves nothing at all!

*Chart originated by Larry Hatley

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

118

Objection:

It means it is good for a child of God to go to Hell.

Answer:

- 1) The promise of Romans 8.28 is "to them that love God" (cf. Ezek. 8.22).
- 2) "This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments" (1 Jno. 5.3).
 - A. One may cease to love God (Mt. 24.12; Rev. 2.4).
 - B. Thus, promise of Romans 8.28 then not applicable.
- 3) It is not a "good" thing for one who is not a child of God to be lost (2 Pet. 3.9; Ezek. 33.11).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

119

Objection:

It leaves no assurance for a man in Heaven.

Answer:

- 1) Believers have eternal assurance now (Jno. 5.24; 10.27, 28; Rom. 8.35-39) by faith in Christ (1 Jno. 5.11-12).
- 2) Meek and quiet spirit is incorruptible - what if it ceases to be meek and quiet? ("IF" - 1 Pet. 3.13).
- 3) Note other "If"s - 2 Pet. 1.10; 2.20.
- 4) Fleshly lusts war against the soul (1 Pet. 2.11).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

120

Objection:

It causes people to serve God because they fear going to Hell, not because they love God.

Answer:

- 1) "Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in Hell" (Mt. 10.28).
- 2) Paul's preaching caused Felix to tremble (Acts 24.25).
- 3) Context of Hebrews 10.26-31:
 - A. "Fearful...Judgment...fleery indignation...of how much sorer (worse) punishment...It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."
 - B. "Knowing..the terror of the Lord, we persuade men" (2 Cor. 5.10, 11).
 - C. See 2 Peter 3.10, 11, 14.

5) Yes, we serve out of love, but the Holy Spirit says, "Let us therefore fear" (Heb. 4.1). "Pass the time in fear" (1 Pet. 1.17).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

121

Objection:

It is taught by those who do not have peace.

Answer:

- 1) "Let us therefore fear" (Heb. 4.1).
 - 2) "Pass the time in fear" (1 Pet. 1.17).
 - 3) Some one who wrote "We have peace" (Rom. 5.1) said:
 - A. "Take heed lest ye fall" (1 Cor. 10.12).
 - B. "But I fear" (2 Cor. 11.3).
 - C. "Beware lest any man spoil you" (Col. 2.8).
 - D. "I was with you...in fear" (1 Cor. 2.3).
 - 4) Some one who wrote "perfect love casteth out fear" (1 Jno. 4.18) said:
 - A. "Look to yourselves" (2 Jno. 8).
 - B. "Whoso keepeth His word in him...is the love of God perfected" (1 Jno. 2.5; 4.18).
 - C. What if one does not keep His word? (1 Jno. 2.24; Jno. 8.51)
- Opponent says he is "saved anyway."

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

122

Objection:

It means one is not a creature.

Answer:

- 1) Romans 8.39 does not say "any creature".
- 2) It says "nor (not) any other creature, shall be able to separate us".
- 3) "other" - not including self - no other can separate us.
- 4) We may separate ourselves (Jude 19) but not "other creature" can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.
- 5) God's love "is in Christ".
 - A. Some abide not in Christ (Jno. 15.6).
 - B. "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love" (Jno. 15.10)
 - Baptist doctrine teaches we are saved whether we do or not•
 - C. "Keep yourselves in the love of God" (Jude 21).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

123

Objection:

It keeps the lost from wanting to become saved.

Answer:

- 1) Where does the Bible say that? (1 Pet. 4.11)
- 2) The assertion does not make the statement true. Scripture is necessary.
- 3) Jesus called His apostles to "follow Me" (Mt. 4.19-20). Did that keep them from desiring to be saved? (Jno. 6.68).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

#125

Objection:

Jesus said in John 11.41-42 that God always heard His prayer. In John 17.11-20 Jesus prayed that the Father would "keep them." If a Christian can go to Hell it means that God did not answer Jesus' prayer.

Answer:

- 1) The "them" who were to be kept in John 17.11 were apostles.
- 2) Included among "them" (apostles) was Judas, who betrayed Christ.
- 3) Answer to this prayer based upon the recipient knowing God (John 17.3; Jer. 2.32; Ps. 9.17).
- 4) The sanctifying of even these was to be through truth (John 17.17, 19).
- 5) Jesus prayed for others, contingent upon their belief (John 17.20).

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

#127

Objection: "Your brethren disagree on this subject"

Answer: *Baptists disagree also!*

Complaints fuel crisis over theological views of Baptist professor

LOUISVILLE

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By JOHN C. LONG
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

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It's like being in a car, seeing a collision coming and being unable to brake enough to prevent it.

That's how one professor described the mood at Louisville's Southern Baptist Theological Seminary over a crisis of conscience between the seminary's new president, Dr. Roy Lee Honeycutt, and its venerable, outspoken professor of Christian theology, Dr. Dale Moody.

The crisis is over Moody's teachings on apostasy, the falling of a believer from grace. It led to — and has been fueled further by — Honeycutt's strong suggestion that Moody, his close friend and former professor, leave the seminary.

The crisis was precipitated by the complaints of a Baptist leader in Arkansas that Moody's teaching conflicts with the Abstract of Principles, a statement of beliefs written into the seminary's charter in 1858. The charter requires

every professor to "teach in accordance with, and not contrary to" the abstract.

Moody has long advocated revising the abstract and has expressed reservations about Article XIII, on "Perseverance of the Saints." It states the belief that many Baptists would express as "once a person is saved, he's saved forever." (Moody defines that belief, which he objects to, as: "once a person begins the Christian life, he will endure to the end.")

Moody calls that "a Baptist heresy," based on his reading of the Scripture, especially Hebrews 6:6: "... it is impossible to renew them again unto repentance. ..." Moody said yesterday he has been pointing that out, and expressing his reservations about Article XIII to presidents of the seminary since 1941, when he taught as a graduate student.

Texas Baptists tried unsuccessfully to get him thrown out of the

See CRISIS

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Crisis threatens teacher's job

Continued from Page One
 seminary then, as did Oklahoma Baptists in 1961.

But in the present controversy, prompted by the challenges from Arkansas, Honeycutt first asked Moody to clarify his views, then, on Nov. 1, wrote him a letter strongly suggesting that the best way to quiet the controversy would be for Moody to either resign or retire.

Moody at first agreed, then decided not to. And he went to Arkansas last week to defend his views before a statewide pastors' conference. He was warmly received and got a standing ovation when he'd finished.

But the next day a professor from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis preached against Moody's views, and the day after that, the Arkansas Baptist Convention voted to ask the seminary's trustees to consider firing Moody.

Moody, 67, who has taught at the seminary 41 years, had already retired as a tenured professor when he was 65. But he was asked by former seminary president Duke K. McCall to continue teaching, and he's now in the third year of a special five-year contract.

Moody said in an interview yesterday that he had been considering retiring from the seminary for good after this school year.

He said that when he read Honeycutt's letter on Nov. 8 after returning from a trip, he was "surprised and shattered." That same day he drafted a letter of resignation — effective Dec. 31, as Honeycutt had suggested. And the next day Moody announced to his students that he wouldn't be back next semester.

But that night, he said, he felt as if God was telling him not to quit.

He said that the next morning he and Honeycutt had an hourlong conversation, at the end of which the two longtime friends — and fellow members of the Wigginton-Jones Bible Class at Crescent Hill Baptist Church — embraced.

In his Nov. 1 letter, Honeycutt had told Moody, "If you choose to reject the option of resignation (or retirement), it will be imperative for me to consider other options."

One would be for Honeycutt to recommend a formal hearing of the complaints against Moody at the

next annual meeting of the seminary's board of trustees, in April. He could recommend at the trustees' executive committee meeting in February that a 14-member fact-finding committee of trustees and faculty be appointed.

A professor can be removed only at the board's annual meeting. But no professor in the 124-year history of the seminary has ever been brought before such a formal hearing. (In 1962, a committee of the board, in an informal process, cleared Moody of the 1961 charges.)

Since he sent the Nov. 1 letter, Honeycutt has said that because students have pre-registered for Moody's second-semester classes, and since no further action can be taken until April, Moody will teach his second-semester classes, which begin in February.

And Honeycutt said in an interview this week that he doesn't know what he'll recommend to the executive committee in February.

If Moody has been teaching apostasy for 41 years, and previous complaints have been handled without crisis, why this one now? Here are some possible answers that emerged from interviews with Honeycutt, Moody and others:

- ✓ Moody's new textbook, "The Word of Truth," published last year, in which he devotes a whole chapter to his apostasy view.
- ✓ The persistence of David Miller, director of missions of the Little Red River Baptist Association in Heber Springs, Ark.
- ✓ The swing to the right of the Southern Baptist Convention — and the attendant attacks on the seminary for "liberalism" — in the last four years.

✓ Honeycutt's belief that the Abstract of Principles is the seminary's best defense against attack, and its best attainable guarantee of academic freedom.

✓ Moody's increasing public criticism of the abstract's conflict with Scripture.

Miller first complained about Moody's textbook chapter in a letter to McCall last December that also was signed by the Little Red River association's moderator.

"Will you please explain to us how you have justified retaining him in your employment?" they asked. McCall asked Miller to document his charges. Miller did so in February, and, again, later that month, to Honeycutt, after he had succeeded McCall as president.

Honeycutt didn't reply, but said he assured Miller in May that he was monitoring the situation. In September, the executive committee of the Arkansas Baptist Convention asked Honeycutt in a letter to ask Moody to clarify his stance, the clarification to be published in the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.

Moody's response to Honeycutt noted that his view is identical to that of A. T. Robertson, who taught at the seminary for 46 years.

Moody suggested that the entire apostasy chapter of his book be reprinted in the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, and it was on Oct. 14. That stirred emotions and anti-Moody letters to the editor.

Honeycutt said he believes the reprinting and Moody's appearance before the Arkansas pastors created a "no-win" situation.

Moody disagrees, saying Honeycutt "saw those Razorbacks coming out of the hills" and reacted in "protective panic."

Honeycutt said he expected the Arkansas convention action and sent the Nov. 1 letter "to get out front" on the issue.

He said that although the Arkansas convention violates Baptist polity in challenging the seminary — that would be proper for the Southern Baptist Convention itself, or individual Baptists or churches — he believes the seminary must respond.

Honeycutt also believes the abstract — unmodified since 1858 — must be the institution's defense. Otherwise, the seminary would constantly be fighting brush-fire wars with its critics, and the seminary can't be run that way, he said.

Glenn Stassen, a professor of Christian ethics, said: "It's a conflict between Dale's reading of the Scripture and the Abstract of Principles. . . . Both persons are persons of such absolute integrity — and that's exactly the whole problem."

Stassen, comparing the campus mood to a car headed for a crash, said, "What we'd like to do is figure out a way for the collision not to come."

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

#128

Objection:

The man in Ezekiel 18.26, the opponent quibbles, is depending upon his own righteousness for it says, "departs from his own righteousness.

Answer: He evades these truths:

- 1) Whatever this man (Ezekiel 18.26) is doing it is described as being Iniquity.
- 2) There are only two classes of people in Ezekiel 18: the wicked man & the righteous man. Not, as would be necessary to make his quibble valid, three: the wicked, the righteous, and the self-righteous man who depends upon self, not God.
- 3) The man in 1 John 3.3 "purifieth himself." Is this man depending upon his own righteousness and not that of God's?



