

"N... a Strong Position Without Strong Opposition"

# THE TAPROOT

"By all means save some." I Cor. 9:22.

VOLUME 1.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, MARCH, 1930

NUMBER 5

## The Ham Party in Lakeland, Florida

### Dallas Pastor's Impression of Dr. Ham's Message

By

Rev. Earl Anderson

**G**OD has had a peculiar message and a prepared messenger for every crisis in the World's history. For the ante-diluvian crisis the message was impending judgement, the messenger was Noah; for Israel in bondage the message was separation, the messenger was Moses; for restored, yet backslidden Israel the message was return to God, the messenger was Jeremiah; for Ninevah the message was repent, the messenger was Jonah; to the Jews the message was the coming Messiah, the messenger was Isaiah; to the people of Israel the message was the Lamb of God, the messenger was John the Baptist; to the Decapolis the message was the Kingdom of God, the messengers were the Apostles; and to the Gentiles and the uttermost parts of the World the message was repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ, the messenger was Paul.

God's Revelation is progressively unveiled, and now, that we might be established in the present truth, God has a message for this modern age; the message is Christ, and the messengers are far too few, among whom, we without apology name in the first ranks, Mordecai F. Ham.

He is a prophet of the Saviour, not a sect; of love, not law; of salvation, not science; of truth, not tradition. He is a prophet who has discovered, not invented a message. He professes and convinces that his calling is peculiar. He carefully discriminates, exalts and protects Paul's five ministries for the perfecting of the saints. His calling, as an evangelist is to preach, not proselyte; to make disciples, not baptize and teach; and to exalt Christ, not Christendom.

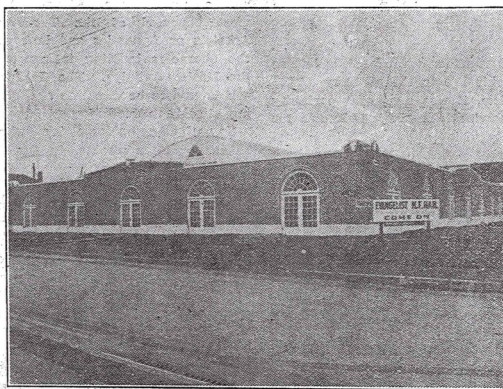
In presenting God's message of salvation he strips from Christ the Churches, creeds, laws, ceremonies, ordinances, works, denominations, organizations, prayers, tears, all energies of the flesh, and modern mediators, and leaves Christ standing alone, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the World.

If it seems to some that he is not proportionately acknowledging the blood-bought, local, visible body of (Continued on Page 4.)



Rev. Earl Anderson, Pastor,  
Fundamentalist Baptist Church,  
Dallas, Texas.

With sacrificial loyalty to the truth and with loving, kindly spirit, this gifted young preacher is patiently and steadily leading his loyal people in a blessed ministry in the Texas metropolis.



FUNDAMENTALIST BAPTIST TABERNACLE  
DALLAS, TEXAS.

A magnificent structure of brick, concrete and steel just completed by the Fundamentalist Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas at a cost of \$30,000. The building is designed as a practical "workshop" for the preaching of the gospel to the great masses and is dedicated to but one purpose—the winning of men to Christ. With its beautiful exterior appearance, its commodious and conveniently arranged auditorium, and its perfect acoustic properties it is one of the most ideal auditoriums for its purpose in the country.

**A**T the time of going to press Dr. Ham and Mr. Rodgers are in the days of a city-wide campaign in Lakeland, Florida. The services are being held under the sponsorship of the Baptist Churches of the city, with practically all other churches rendering good co-operation in the effort.

Lakeland is a beautiful resort city of wonderful lakes, magnificent citrus groves, restful and well-kept parks, active churches and a friendly and hospitable citizenship. The city owns a magnificent Municipal Auditorium which is being used as a meeting place during Dr. Ham's campaign. On the opening Sunday night, the large auditorium was filled almost to its capacity to hear his opening message and with each service the attendance increases and interest deepens. Thousand of tourists come here each winter to enjoy the incomparable climate and in each service tourists from all over the United States and Canada are a conspicuous portion of the big audiences.

Dr. C. M. Crosswy, the well-loved pastor of the First Baptist Church, with his efficient and consecrated Educational Director, Dean Hart, are throwing all their effort into the campaign with the hearty and inspiring support of their people. Other Baptist pastors co-operating are Dr. Lloyd Wilson, Rev. McDowell and Mann and heartiest co-operation is also being given by Dr. Raymond of the First Presbyterian Church, Dr. Nichols of the First Christian Church.

A most unusual feature of the meetings is that even in the first services of the meeting conversions were witnessed and already hundreds of requests for prayer have been registered in response to invitations which Dr. Ham seldom gives until the third or fourth week of a great campaign. On all sides is witnessed a deep spiritual concern and a great spiritual harvest is anticipated.

A city-wide census, with all churches of the city co-operating in taking the records, was taken under the supervision of the eHam party and plans for an intensive follow-up are being laid to feature the later weeks of the meetings.

Open air services have been held on several occasions when one of the beautiful City Parks was used as a meeting place with immense crowds in attendance to hear Dr. Ham in some of his vital messages on Prophetic themes.



## EDITORIALS

### Can A Man Serve A Multitude of Masters?

The Lord Jesus said no man can serve two masters, yet when the God-called Prophet is expected to serve every sect and every movement and every department today, he will never know how many masters he will have to serve. I am told that I ought to preach the "full gospel" which means that I should disciple, baptize and teach, while God Himself has set apart three classes of ministers distinct and separate in their qualifications for this ministry. Others say preach the "four-square gospel," which has to come to mean emphasize the baptism of the Holy Spirit and Divine Healing. Others say co-operate with the denomination, which if conscientiously undertaken would land most any man in the madhouse for I certainly do not find co-operation between different denominations or not even between the different elements in any one denomination. Others say we must be a fundamentalist. I usually reply that since God has called me to make disciples and build the church up in that ministry, I could not be anything else than a fundamentalist since that is the first fundamental and foundation ministry, even preceding baptizing and teaching.

In these days when sects are divided within themselves, denominations hopelessly confused, and the great anti-Christian and anti-God campaign, now world wide in its scope, so alarming both protestants and catholics that they have both entered their protests, I am thankful that the Lord has put upon me the ministry that all professed Christians cannot give any alibi for being indifferent towards, namely, To go into all the world and make disciples to the Lord Jesus Christ.

There are those whom the Lord has commanded to baptize and teach, but as Paul in 1 Corinthians, I thank God that I have been sent to preach the gospel which is the Good News of what any one who believes the gospel may hope to realize at the resurrection.

I do not claim that it is not possible to standardize and co-ordinate that great ministry which is being done through the body of Jesus Christ today by the most efficient machinery that man may ingeniously create and operate. I am willing to leave that to the omnipotent Holy Spirit of God and shall seek to be obedient to His direction and urge all who have become disciples to be likewise. This is the spirit of Scriptural "Co-operation."

Our different ministries which may be done through our different departments will stand condemned if they discredit the ministry of the revivalist and the evangelists.

The apostle or missionary; the prophet or revivalist; the evangelist or the soul winner; the pastor or the shepherd; the teacher, all have their places in the body and whenever foolish, backslidden professors may conspire or plan to eliminate any of these ministries they will find themselves in blasphemous opposition to the work of the Holy Spirit.

### Co-operation

I have just been permitted to deliver a series of Bible Addresses on the Ministry of Evangelism in the great Fundamental Tabernacle, Dallas, Texas. The most unprecedented spell of bad weather affected the crowds but as one who for nearly thirty years has devoted his life to the ministry of the revivalist, building the church up in evangelism, it was a great opportunity to look on the inside of one of the great denominations which is known for its sound teachings and grace and for its polity which allows each individual to be free to be led of the Lord independent of priest, craft or Babylonian infallibility, which is assumed by some religious bodies in Christendom.

I find that the overworked word of "Co-operation" is another name for coercion and subordination. For the pastor who feels he is led in any way which does not fall in line with the established machinery will be criticized, ostracized and cauterized by those who have come to regard themselves as being the last court of authority in spiritual matters.

Our orthodox Baptists will either have to give up their distinctive claims of freedom in Christ or else modify their attitude towards those who are practicing what all Baptists have been taught to regard as their greatest spiritual legacy.

### Wet and Dry

The wets have been feverishly pushing shock troops into the front line in the offensive against the Drys and the American home as the House inquiry progresses. They have marshalled to their colors all the heavy artillery, including several noted infidels, they can muster and up to date the assault has been about as effective as a group of small boys casting rocks at a mountain. One of the star witnesses was a noted contributor to an infidel magazine who deplored Prohibition but had nothing new to contribute in the way of argument against it.

The newspaper list of witnesses includes a group of "formers" such as "Former" Congressmen, "Former" this or that secretaries, etc.

Pierre du Pont, of gunpowder fame, whose European connections are well known, was a Wet witness. A strange way to keep his powder dry.

There has been much speculation as to who will testify for the Drys but it is doubtful if they will need any unless the Wets can build up some sort of a case which, up to date, they have not done. After reading through pounds of anti-Prohibition propaganda one can only sift out about two points of fairly honest argument value and neither of these get at the right or wrong of the matter. One is the acreage plan of representation in our State government rather than the population basis and the other, that law enforcement is made more difficult because Prohibition has made the underworld wealthy. But the liquor interests have always supplied the underworld with plenty of money for political purposes and to aid criminals to escape justice. Automobiles and rapid transportation facilities gives the criminal a decided advantage. But the fact remains that liquor is as always an "outlaw" and to talk of re-admitting him to decent society is unthinkable. America is not ready to place the underworld, even the so-called upper strata of it, in control of the nation. This is evidenced by the fact that in the selection of high officials men are chosen whose character is unimpeachable. There are exceptions of course but let the character of a candidate for high office come under question and he seldom gets under the wire at the end of the contest.

It is doubtful with even the aid of the powerful Wet section of the press if the investigation will do more than to confirm the fact that instead of a noble and heart-yearning desire to safeguard the personal liberties of the great masses of "down trodden" and suffering and thirsty Americans, these persistent "desirers" of a Free Flow of Fiery Fluid have little gold and silver hatchets to grind and palm itch.

### Turkish Mayor Opens Brothel

The mayor of Maras, Turkey, is reported to have officiated, recently at the opening of a brothel in much the same way as a high official in our country would dedicate a new building or a baseball park.

Turkey has been nationalized, the Nationalists have separated Religion and Law. Socially, most incredible transformations have been wrought. In swinging over to the new order Hell has broken loose even for Turkey. Social dances are sweeping the country. Men of high moral character are scarce. At present the most educated of the Turks are Atheists or Agnostics and lack even the character building influences of the Moslem religion. The Gazi himself is said to be dissolute and drinking himself to death.

So nations go on forgetting God and sooner or later awaken to the fact that the Atheistic program has eliminated man of character who can be trusted with leadership. Who among our American Atheists would we trust as President of our Republic? Who would vote for Darrow or any one identified with the 4 A's? America is gradually feeling the need of great Christian men. Men are not identified with the church at all are beginning to be alarmed over the scarcity of such men and some of those who scoffed at the Christian integrity of William Jennings Bryan are fearful that few of his type are left, and are alarmed over it. The strength of any nation is still in the number of its Christian citizens. Those who have foolishly allowed themselves to imagine that the "weak as well as the meek of earth" are the church folks who should take time to read the signs and think again.

### Sober By Law

It seems to be the fashion to ridicule law, law makers and law courts. Ramsey MacDonald, the doughty Scot Labor leader and the present Prime Minister of England in a recent speech is reported to have expressed his scorn for the nit wits who mouth old saws to prove old frauds. The Prime Minister said:

"They tell us that we cannot be made sober by an act of Parliament I hate these little, smug, pettifoggings and inaccurate pieces of proverbial philosophy. They are thrown off by men who cannot think, and they are believed in by fools. I say that ever, experience that the world has had, and I do not care where you go for it—go north, go south, go east, go west; keep within your won empire or go outside confine your attention to the Anglo Saxon race or go out side it and take the Slavs—go any where experiment may have been made, and the conclusion is absolutely inevitable and irresistible, that you can make men and women sober by Act of Parliament."

(The quotation is from THE PA TRIOT, of Adelaide, Australia.

"Let every man remember that to violate the law is to trample on the blood of his father, and to tear the charter of his own and his children's liberty."

### I SEE BY THE PAPERS

A cow was milked in an aeroplane and the product sent down in containers by parachute. Perhaps that accounts for the fact that butter is down.



## Jonah and the Gourd Vine

By MORDECAI FOWLER HAM

### Text.

"Why Art Thou Cast Down Oh, My Soul?"

"And Jehovah said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry?" Jonah wanted to die sitting there under that gourd vine, "And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death. And Jehovah said, Thou hast had regard for the gourd, for which thou hast not labored, neither madest it grow which came up in a night, and perished in a night: and should not I have regard for Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?" (Jonah 4:4 and 4:9-10.)

I am going to read a scripture from Matthew also.

"Then certain of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, Teacher we would see a sign from thee. But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet: for as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the whale; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Matt. 12:38-39.

### Introduction

We want to note the similarity between Jonah and Elijah. Elijah once sat under the juniper tree wishing he could die. He was peeved because the Lord did not finish the job with Israel and kill Jezebel and the whole outfit. He had just had a great victory, a mountain top experience on Mount Carmel, and so had Jonah had a great victory. He had been responsible for bringing the greatest city on earth to its knees in repentance to God in three days. Yet he was discouraged. If we could have a revival in such a short time, would we be discouraged?

So we find this great prophet of God peeved, angry, discouraged and despondent, there under an old, wilted gourd vine, wishing he could die, and peeved further because the gourd vine had died. A little old worm came up and cut the thing and it wilted away when the sun hit it. Jonah was out of harmony with the Lord and, when you get out of harmony with the Lord, you are going to get out of harmony with everything and everybody.

In some churches, there are certain people out of harmony with everybody. Not a thing goes right. The church, pastor, and everything goes wrong. Just like old Jonah. He thought the vine had not been treated right. He was mad at first because the Lord did not destroy Nineveh, and now he is mad because the gourd vine wilted.

### The First Submarine.

Now we will see what sort of person Jonah was. What caused this attitude toward God? Jonah had just had an experience the like of which no other person ever had passed through. Talk about submarines—Jonah took the first submarine trip on record. He was glad to make the landing too. I know a great many question that story and say it is not supposed to be believed. We are not going to discuss that at all. Any person who believes there is a God will not have any trouble believing the story of Jonah and the fish God prepared.

Not long ago a man asked me if I believed that story in the Bible about Jonah and the (whale). The Bible says "big fish." I said, "Do you believe that Uncle Sam has been able to finally perfect a boat that can run under the water and man can live in it?"

"Certainly," he said.

"Then if Uncle Sam can make a boat like that, do not you think God could make a fish that man could live in?"

Take your wireless telegraph. If man can fix up a little old contraption with something in it that will enable us to talk over the high seas, certainly God can fix a man's heart so he can commune with God. There is not a miracle in this Bible that would be more easily believed than this radio. We can talk all over the world, practically, and yet people are hunting difficulties in believing the Bible. The trouble with you is you are just like Jonah. Everything from a wilted gourd vine to God's mercy will peeve you, so do not be surprised if your trouble is YOU. If everything is displeasing you, instead of thinking everybody else is wrong except you, suppose you look at yourself a little while. Get before a mirror and say, "Here is the sorriest member in this church."

### Jonah's Trouble.

That was Jonah's trouble. He was out of fix with the Lord and consequently was out of fix with the whole world. Jonah had just had a very perilous experience. He had started on a Mediterranean cruise to get away from the presence of the Lord and the Lord sent a storm and the old ship was about to be wrecked. (This reminds us of another experience on a ship in the Mediterranean. The Apostle Paul was on a ship that was completely wrecked, but Paul was busy seeking to save every soul on board, and succeeded, while Jonah, the miserable wretch, would have destroyed everyone of them.) Finally, when it seemed the ship could not withstand the storm, they turned to God in prayer and, since God had not answered their prayers, they started out to see if there were any careless or indifferent ones on

board, and they found this miserable old fellow, Jonah, down in a corner asleep. He had pouted himself to sleep. Not only was he a pouter, but a sleeper. Whenever you find one of these old pouting Christians, you will always find them spiritually asleep. All these pagan passengers and crew on this boat in the Mediterranean were about to be destroyed. When they found Jonah, they said, "What meanest thou, O sleeper? Arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not." This old world has not any use for an unfaithful prophet of God, and there is not any person held in more contempt than a sorry, no-account Christian. "And they said everyone to this fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah. . . . So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging." In other words, "If you cannot be of any service, what right have you on board?" What is the use of having a Christian or a professing prophet of God if he is not of any service in time of trouble? The only way the Lord can manage churches sometimes is to throw some of its members overboard.

### Pouting and Sleeping Jonahs.

The facts are, every trouble we have had in the history of Christendom has been because of Jonahs. When the old Ship of State is rocking, you will invariably find that the miserable Jonahs are responsible for it. When the old Ship of the Church is being rocked, it is the old Jonahs in the Church who are responsible for it. In any community where there is trouble, you will find it is the Jonahs who are responsible. So Jonah was a miserable old sleeper on the ship that was going to be destroyed. No wonder they were angry with him. "What meanest thou, O Sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not."

I say to you professing Christians, "You miserable, pouting sleepers: What are you doing asleep here? Souls around you are perishing, without the knowledge of God, and yet you are off somewhere sulking or asleep."

"Oh," you say, "Let the old ship rock, what do I care?"

Jonah's attitude was about like the attitude of a certain Hebrew I once heard about. He was asleep on board a ship and the ship was sinking. His wife shook him and said, "Get up, the ship is sinking!"

He said, "What do I care! It is not my ship!"

Jonah was asleep. "What do I care! It is not my city!" Yet he is mad because of the gourd vine. These miserable, sulking, sleeping, pouting Jonahs. The old ship will always rock whenever you have Jonahs on board.

Note the similarity between Elijah and Jonah. They each took a trip. Elijah took his trip in the air in a chariot, but Jonah took his in a big fish.

### Sectarian Jonahs

What was Jonah's trouble? Let us see if we can go back and diagnose his case. Jonah was a selfish, miserable, prejudiced sectarian, or a Hebrew who was not interested in anybody but the Hebrews. He did not want the others saved. He was hoping they would be utterly wiped out. Politically, they were his enemies and he did not care about his enemies being saved, and then he did not believe in "getting into politics."

When an old lazy Jonah does not want to go when the Lord calls, when he does not want to be a prophet and thunder out against the sin of his age, woe be unto him!

Not only was Jonah a selfish, sectarian, caring not for anyone except those of his own religious faith and race, but he was not interested in seeing these people saved because he got mad when the Lord would spare them. He was just like that church member today who is not interested in the salvation of the poor unfortunate. Some of you have no sympathy at all. You find that true everywhere. Any warning we may sound against corrupt political systems or commercialized vice meets with disapproval.

I could take you a few blocks from here and show you a place where girls fourteen and fifteen years of age are selling their souls. I could show you other places where girls are stooping to nameless perversions and sin. You say, "Go and arrest them and put them in jail or run them out of town." We are going to do what we did this last week, when a poor, unfortunate woman, the mother of three children was in jail and needed help. She cried when she spoke of her shame and said, "I could not bear to hear my children crying for bread." We found a room for her and a place where she could leave her children during the day, and then got employment for her. She was in her home before night. Since then she has accepted Christ. Which is the best: Put them in jail or try to awaken the people of this city to see that we owe something to these unfortunate people? "Carest thou not for these souls?" Are we just interested in gourd vines and in boosting a city? Oh, yes, we put on our big drives for the commercial life of the city, and we are not criticising that, but we pay little attention to human souls. Are we more interested in gourd vines and in temporal things than in the spiritual things?

### Self-centered Jonahs.

Can you not see this world-wide mission? Jonah was not interested in any of the people except his own. He was not interested in the world. Like

(Continued on Page 7.)



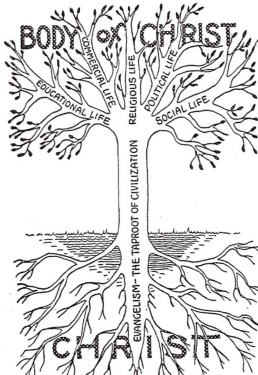
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### CAMPAIGN NOTES

#### A PASTOR'S IMPRESSION (Continued from Page 1.)

saints known to them as the Churches, the explanation is his consuming zeal to exalt Christ above a creed; Deity above denominations; the Bible above a Babel and place his hearers in the post-resurrection age.

His over thirty years of militant Christian experience has left him better and more tender. His physical strength has not abated; his eye has not dimmed, and his vigor of speech has not declined. His spiritual poise has immuned him from human criticism and flattery. His dignified delivery demands all attention to his message, and his messages all exalt his Master.

His transparent personality, and the utter absence of ulterior motives or methods in his ministry is an oasis in the desert of modern evangelism. Instead of mob psychology, he pleads the power of the Spirit; instead of signing cards, he pleads a heart of flesh for a heart of stone; and instead of a raised hand, he pleads the acceptance of the risen Christ. His message may be tersely summed up—A sinner conformed in the body of Christ, and Christ enthroned in the body of the sinner.

He preaches and believes that this age is characterized by the rehabilitation of ancient Babylon in the social, political and religious life of all people except those in the body of Christ. This deep conviction makes it easy for him to boast his independence and non-conformity. He knows and courageously draws lines. With it all he is tender, loving and patient. His messages are saturated with the pre millennial and imminently bodily return of Jesus.

## Ham Party Has Intensive Program For 1930

DR. HAM'S slate for 1930 promises to be an intensive one—so much so that already he is having to jump from one meeting to the next without the usual interval of a week's rest.

From Lakeland, Florida, where a campaign is now in progress to close March 23, Dr. Ham will go direct to Corsicana, Texas where he will lead in a city-wide revival effort to be held in a large, specially constructed tabernacle beginning March 26th.

From Corsicana, closing on April 27th, the party will go direct to Nashville, Tennessee where they will lead the Baptist forces of Nashville in an intensive city-wide campaign at the unanimous invitation of the Baptist Pastor's Conference of Nashville. The central services will be held in the heart of the city in a large tabernacle with extension services swinging into every section of the city and into every Baptist church auditorium in the city. An intensive program of shop and industrial plant meetings will also be a feature, with a noon theater meeting in the downtown district also included in the tentative plans. Dr. Ham will greet old friends by the thousands in Nashville, where he conducted an eight-months evangelistic campaign some ten years ago with marvelous results. The following announcement of the campaign is copied from the Nashville Tennessean:

You can't know M. F. Ham without having felt you have known a Christ mastered life; you can't be associated with him without feeling that you have walked and talked with a Holy Spirit filled man, and you can't hear him preach without having felt that you have been instructed by a God-called prophet. One who can season the same truth to the child mind or the so-called intelligentsia, and one to whom God has given a most precise understanding of the times in which we live. He has lived night and day within arms length of the printed Word, and walks with as much ease of understanding and fluency of speech amidst the types, veils and shadows of Old Testament prophecy, as in the clearly revealed history of the New Testament Gospels.

The great centers of population should be speedily opened to this prophet, who surrenders all his plans to God, and lives and ministers fifty years ahead of his day.

Aside from the sermons delivered in the Tabernacle, Brother Ham answered the calls of many outside engagements. All his messages were graciously received. Scores of people saved in other meetings conducted by Brother Ham attended our meeting regularly, as did many from cities adjacent to Dallas.

Brother Earl S. Rodgers, that genial, affable, talented and lovable co-laborer with Brother Ham won his

Dr. M. F. Ham to Preach in Nashville.

Dr. M. F. Ham, one of the best known and most successful evangelists in the United States, will come to Nashville in a few weeks to conduct a meeting at the tabernacle on Fatherland St., East Nashville, according to information received in this city.

Unanimous invitation to hold a meeting here at an early date was extended to Dr. Ham by the Nashville Baptist Pastors' Conference at its regular meeting Monday.

Dr. Ham opened an evangelistic campaign in Lakeland, Fla., last Sunday, and is unable at present to fix a date at which he will reach Nashville, but will make a definite announcement as soon as possible.

The big tabernacle at 410 Fatherland street, which was erected in 1923 but which has been closed for some time, has been purchased through chancery court by A. C. Briggs, M. E. Briggs, K. P. Heath and O. F. Spann of this city and is being overhauled, repaired and painted in preparation for the coming meeting. The large lot has been cleaned off by city forces as a contribution to the work.

Hereafter the building will be known as the Fundamental Gospel Tabernacle, and will be used strictly for evangelistic services. Other prominent Fundamentalist evangelists will follow Dr. Ham at frequent dates, according to plans of the new management of the auditorium.

way into the affections of the audiences, and will always be pleasantly remembered by a host of Dallas people.

Through snow, sleet, zero weather, freezes and rains these two stalwart giants of Grace, carrying issues of unjustifiable prejudice against this independent Church, and the stress of temporary financial incompetency of a poor, yet liberal people, pressed on without a sign or trace of the common malady of discouragement. Their presence and ministries have increased our responsibilities, brought us to higher spiritual ground, and enlarged visions, and recharged us with the necessity of emphasizing the preeminent thing of all Christian endeavor—that of making disciples of our Lord.

We have erected a great auditorium in Dallas, only to glorify Christ, and every true minister of God is welcome always within these portals. An open door to the Fundamental, premillennial, militant prophet of God to this Southern Metropolis.

There is a difference between evangelical and evangelistic. Evangelicalism is truth on ice while evangelism is truth on fire.

Happiness is the by-product of character. What happiness the world knows comes from the laws of conduct taught in the Bible.

### Available for Meetings



MR. A. R. LYTLE

Mr. Lytle, who has been associated with the Ham Party and Managing Editor of the Tap Root, is available, as Musical Director, for a few meetings this summer.

Address him:

2140 Bonnycastle Avenue,  
Louisville, Ky.

#### ANTI-CHRISTIAN WAR

Missionaries in China are again alarmed over a new anti-Christian war which has started in the old Boxer Province. Promoters of the campaign are demanding that Catholics and Protestants alike cease evangelistic efforts and educational work. Violence has not been used as yet but agitators have forced their way into slogans such as: "DOWN WITH THE mission compounds and have posted CHRISTIAN CHURCH," etc.

Some who have thought we have given considerable attention to Communist information have but to read recent newspapers to confirm the fact that we have been upon the right trail all along in this paper. They declare that religion is an opiate and the Christian Religion especially dangerous and to successfully put over their program religion must be gotten out of the controlling position in the hearts of the people. They do not so much fear the cold ritualistic type of religion, but missionary and evangelistic or evangelistic missionary work is particularly the target for the Communist.

One of the very best slogans for the Christian worker of today is an old familiar "sand lot" cry of the ball field and one which has aided many a faltering hurler of the horsehide sphere to pull himself together when things were not going right—"STAY IN THERE AND PITCH."



## "Piddlin Puppets" or God's Prophets

BY MORDECAI FOWLER HAM.

THE average church keeps a preacher today about like the superstitious person would keep a horse-shoe nailed over the door, thinking it will keep the witches or some other curse away. A preacher is either a blessing or a curse in any community. If he is controlled by any other influence or power except God, he is a curse.

Our first text states that the prophets prophesy falsely, and that the priests bear rule by their means, which is certainly a sad picture of the Pagan machine which is trying to dominate the New Testament churches of today. It is the preaching of these "puppets" which enables these man-made machines to rule.

Another sad statement is that "the people love to have it so." Christendom is premeated with the heaven of "the old harlot mother" which the woman hid in the three measures of meal. (Matthew 13).

Our next scripture reference warns us against these teachers and shows clearly that the false teachers in our school-controlled churches are the predicated agents of the devil to bring in the final apostasy. These preachers also, according to Second Corinthians 11:13-15 are the preachers of Christ in pretence, but in reality are preachers of the devil. We also learn from Second Thessalonians 2:11-12 that when people forsake God in these latter days, they will be sent a strong delusion and made to believe a lie. As we showed you in our message this morning, a New Testament Church is not controlled by the hierarchy, but controlled by the Lord Jesus Christ, whose vicer in the assembly now is the Holy Spirit. About all we read in the New Testament concerning conventions and the Sanhedrin of the self-styled leaders, is that they are constantly in God's Way AND TRYING TO UPSET OR UNDO HIS PROGRAM. I CAME FROM SEVEN GENERATIONS OF PREACHERS, AM A DIRECT DESCENDANT OF ROGER WILLIAMS, AND I CHALLENGE ANY ROMANIZED SO-CALLED LEADER TO GIVE ANY NEW TESTAMENT AUTHORITY FOR ANY MAN OR SET OF MEN TRYING TO CONTROL OR DICTATE TO A NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OR A PROPHET OF GOD.

Scripture: "The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will you do in the end thereof?" Jeremiah 5:31.

"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies; denying the Lord that brought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgement now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not." Second Peter 2:1-4.

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." Second Corinthians 11:13-15.

We want to note that prophet of God is a called man and he knows God called him and feels conscious of the responsibility which rests upon him as an ambassador from heaven and a prophet of God. Consequently, he is not a "piddler," but in the words of the Apostles, he will say, "It is not meet that we should serve tables, but must devote our time to prayer and the word of God." Acts—and like Obediah, it is only the prophet whose feet are under Jezebel's table that will waste his time looking for pasture for jackasses while the true prophet like Elijah will be dwelling in some place in the fellowship of the great God of the universe.

A prophet of God recognizes no authority usurping institution on this earth. When the Sanhedrin of Jerusalem would forbid Peter from casting reflections upon them by preaching Jesus and filing Jerusalem with his teachings, Peter's reply was, "We must obey God rather than man," which was being questioned by some of the Jerusalem church leaders, he said he got what he preached from God and not from the reputed pillars of the Church of Jerusalem. And whenever these self-styled leaders who liked to sit in Moses seat, and like the Roman Hierarchy loved to be addressed as somebody, are allowed to meddle with the New Testament Church and the prophet of God, they need to go back to the apostolic injunction and see what happened to the MAN-MADE INSTITUTIONS when they interfered with God.

A preacher is also a watchman, as Ezekiel 33 Clearly illustrates. He sees what persons to whom he min-

isters or whom he serves cannot see and is blood guilty if he does not warn the people who have trusted him as watchman. In fact, God says that he shall be held responsible for the souls that are lost because of his unfaithfulness. In the light of these passages to which we have referred a preacher is inexcusable for either being a "piddler" or a "puppet." The New Testament Epistles give sufficient warnings, as well as the plain statements of the Old Testament which have pronounced woe upon the man who is a preacher of "peace, peace, when there is no peace." We have many today who are like Balam, who feel duty bound to pronounce curses upon the enemies of the people "from whom we get our hire," and that explains the conduct of some of our preachers today, who preach to please man, whether it be the man in the pew or the so-called leaders of the machine from whom he may expect some consideration.

There is also an element, who, like Jehoikim, hate Jeremiah and all who, like Jeremiah, dare preach the truth of God. Even though they may say they prefer to hear pleasant things and brand the preacher as a calamity howler, unpatriotic and weakening the spirit of the people, they are parading their private passions under the pretext of public welfare. But remember Jehoikim was finally given the burial of a "Jack-ass" and so will every other modern Jehoikim, even though he may be a King or a "religious machine leader."

Second Timothy 4:3 has something to say about "itching ears," and I might also add that some of our

modern preachers are scratching preachers, who have studied the art of relieving the itching ears of these same people. I will advise the man who quakes before the indictment of the prophet to read Ezekiel 13:10.

I remember in 1915, the same day that I preached on the "Signs of the Times" in the Tabernacle in Mineral Wells, Texas, and was telling the people that the worst war the world had ever experienced was now imminent, and went into detail about the character of this war and its cost in both man and money, there was also another preacher who preached that night in an airframe in another Texas city who said that the world was too well educated and too highly civilized to ever have any more war. The following Thursday, the war broke out. The people who had criticised me came back begging for more enlightenment. The following autumn the board had asked that preacher to resign, stating that if he had misled them on everything as grossly as he did about the war that he was not the prophet that they wanted.

I was back in Mineral wells this last spring and some of the newspapers quoted frequently from my sermons preached immediately before the war of 1914 broke out. Had I taken the position of the peace advocate, there would have been some explaining for me to do.

We are now approaching a more disastrous war than the one of 1914, and these pagan machines that are meddling with our preachers and churches today are carrying out the program of Russia or Rosh, the man of sin. Paul was being accused by the Babylonized Jew of upsetting the customs and stirring up the people everywhere. Peter was accused of reflecting on the religious leaders of Judea because he continued his agitation. Jesus Christ was also accused of sedition. So are the preachers of God being accused of making it hard on these pagan machines that have tried to interfere with God's program, but woe be unto the preacher who obeys man instead of God, and woe be unto the church and community who have to depend on the "Piddlin Puppet" instead of a God-sent prophet.

## PROHIBITION FACTS

### Congress Dry and Still Going

Every Congress since the adoption of the Eighteenth Amendment has been dryer than its predecessor. This includes the present Congress. This gain must indicate one of two things—either the voters in the congressional districts are stronger for dry candidates, or else more of the congressmen are convinced of the benefits of the law. Either solution gives scant comfort to the wets.

Yet the organization fighting prohibition are cheerfully promising those

who furnish their big barrel of money that the elections next fall will score great gains for devotees of Gambrins.

One is reminded of the old story of the boy whose father promised him a nickel each for all the rats he could father asked the lad how he was getting on. "Fine" said the boy with youthful enthusiasm, "just fine! When I ketch back the four that got away and two more I'll have six!"

Same with the wets. When they elect back the 25 or 30 that they have lost and a few more they will have several!

### The Cost of Prohibition

In a recent official statement by the Federal Prohibition Commissioner, Dr. Doran shows that during the first nine years under National Prohibition the cost of the enforcement Bureau, and of the prohibition work done by the Coast Guard and Customs Department totalled \$141,178,485, while the collections of taxes, fines, penalties, and forfeitures resulting from enforcement totalled \$460,502,782.

Therefore the receipts above the expenditures for the nine years were

\$319,324,487 showing an annual profit of more than \$35,000,000. Putting it another way, for every dollar of cost there was a return of \$3.26.

Therefore the cost of enforcement is much less than nothing, while the economic saving is computed at six billions per year and the moral and social benefits are beyond computation.

I thank the devil for the service he has rendered me. He never told a lie on me that did not bring me a blessing.



## Inspiring Incidents of Ham Campaigns

### A DRUNKARD MADE SOBER

While holding a meeting in a store building in R——, Ky. I asked if anyone had a desire to be saved. A man staggered up and cried out, "pray for me." I put my arms about him and we bowed in prayer. He arose praising God. Many doubted his conversion at first but that night before an audience of 1200 people he told what God had done for him and he has remained a faithful Christian. He also led his wife to Christ during the meeting.

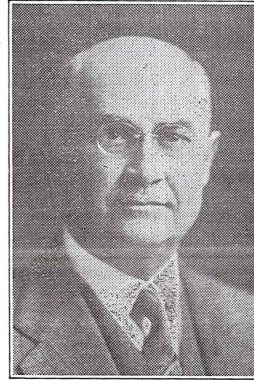
In another city where we were having great difficulty in organizing sentiment against the saloon the liquor men sent a man whom they had gotten silly drunk, to disturb the meeting. When he began to make trouble in the rear of the building, I asked the ushers to bring him to the platform and made him sit in a chair close to where I stood. His maudlin performances very soon disgusted the crowd. I simply pointed to him and said this is a fair sample of what your saloons are doing to the men of this community, if you want it to continue go ahead and keep your saloons. The saloons went.

### GOD WILL AVENGE HIS ELECT

My first evangelistic tour was along a river in prohibition territory. A certain man with a floating saloon began to peddle liquor at our meetings. The river was the state line and when officers tried to arrest him he would dodge across the river. Gods people began to pray that he would be saved or removed. Within a few days a man galloped up to the church after me to go and pray with the man for he was dying.

### REMARKABLE CONVERSION

During my first meetings the proper scriptures were seldom at my command and I used some very rough tools which the Lord singularly blessed. As I came into the church yard one day a young man met me and pointing out a particularly rough looking old gentelman said, "that is my father, go and talk with him." As I was passing hurriedly, I suddenly paused and looking him in the face said, "my man, you have served the devil so long you almost look like him. He will get you sure." I left him looking anything but grateful for my remark. After the song service I noticed some confusion in the rear of the room and going back to investigate, I found the old man pounding the floor with both hands and crying "Lord save me, Lord save me I am lost." He was carried home in a wagon by the family still crying Lord save me, I am lost. About 4 o'clock next morning the family was awakened by the old man shouting praises to God for salvation. When he related his experience to the church he said, "I had heard that that preacher was hypnotizing folks and I came out to hear him and this is what I got."



Mordecai Fowler Ham

### A HAPPY FAMILY

In the course of one his meetings Dr. Ham visited a man who was serving a sentence in jail, he had been a distiller and bootlegger. His wife, had suffered greatly because of his life was praying earnestly for his salvation. Mr. Ham arranged with the authorities for him to attend some of the meetings. He accepted Christ and went back to jail to serve out his sentence. When he came out of jail he did not have a cent and his family was destitute of the common necessities of life. He was able to borrow a little money and together they went to work on a farm. The Lord blessed him with a good crop and he soon paid himself out of debt. He said, "this has been the happiest year of my life. Some folks thought I would not stick but they are going to be fooled. I have made more this year than I ever made out of liquor and I am through with that life for good." The wife, with tears in her eyes told how happy she was and how thankful that God had given her a saved and loving husband. While we were there one of the little boys stood out in the middle of the floor and sang "Everybody ought to love Jesus" while the father and mother sat smiling with tears of joy streaming down their cheeks. And yet some folks will say Revivals do not pay. God have mercy.

### HOW A YOUNG GIRL GOT HER FATHER OUT OF THE SALOON BUSINESS

A young girl came up to me one evening and said, "Oh, Brother Ham, my father is a bartender in a saloon and it is just breaking our hearts wont you help us?" I went to his home the following Sunday but he refused to see me. Before I left the city we made a covenant to pray until God removed him from the business. Three months later I was again in that section of the state in a meeting, when this little girl rushed up to the platform and said, "Oh, Mr. Ham, Daddy has quit the saloon."

### CHRIST TURNS HATE INTO LOVE

A foreman in a N. C. R. R. Yard gives this remarkable testimony. "I had not been in a church for more than eight years but one day I attended the Ham meeting with the chief of police and a special agent for the company. It was on a Sunday morning and while listening to Mr. Ham preach, I became deeply convicted. I went back that night and was converted on the way between the tent and my home. I tried to keep my conversion a secret but I could not hold in and on the following Sunday morning I made a public confession. At the time of my conversion I was carrying a revolver with which I intended to shoot a man to avenge a wrong done against me during a strike. Now this man and many others against whom I held hard feelings are my best friends and we frequently work together. And all are happy in the blessed Saviour who turned our hate into love.

### HOW GOD HELPED US TO WIN AN ELECTION

We were in the closing days of a very successful revival but I was having difficulty enlisting the Christian forces to unite on the temperance question and it looked as if I would have to leave town without putting the saloons out of business. I prayed earnestly that the Lord would do something about it. That night the saloon men got a man drunk and sent him down to the meeting with instructions to go up to the front seat. He came in while I was preaching and staggered down the aisle and took a seat beside his wife. He soon began to behave in such a manner as to greatly embarrass his wife and shook the entire congregation. That night the pastors got together and said, "By the help of God we will have a dry town." The people flocked to the altar to pledge themselves to the movement and the saloons were closed. The devil simply put himself out of business.

### AN UNUSUAL MAYOR

Following the Ham meeting in a North Carolina city one of the pastors went to the mayor of the city who was a devoted and active Christian man, and told him of a young man who was very wicked and ought to be handled by the authorities. The mayor asked if he had ever tried to get the boy saved. The preacher replied that he had not and that there was no use trying, he would have to be scared into doing right. The official looked the boy up while he was at work on a painting job and told him to come down. He took him off to one side and putting his hands on his shoulders he told him about Christ and prayed for him and got him to pray for himself. The boy accepted Christ right there and promised to go home sober that night and take his pay envelope to his wife. He did and has been a changed man ever since. God be praised for officials like this.

There is no use bemoaning our lot and saying we are having a hard time as churches. Nothing short of everlasting winning souls will put life into our churches. When we cease to make disciples the Lord has no further use for us and spiritual hard times just naturally set in.

### A BOOTLEGGER'S CONVERSION

A converted bootlegger and general bad man tells of his conversion. He said, "Last year I sold \$300 dollars worth of whiskey on the opening day of the tobacco market. I got my liquor in bulk and sat up on top of the warehouse and poured it into pop bottles while looking down through the skylight at the officers who were looking for me. This year I celebrated the opening of the market by participating in a prayer meeting. When I was converted I was awaiting trial on a liquor charge. I told my lawyer I had been saved and that I wanted to plead guilty and throw myself on the mercy of the court. He told me I would be a fool to plead guilty and that my religious friends would not stand by me. I fired him and when my case came up for trial, I pleaded guilty. I had previously prayed that the Lord would enable the judge to see in my face that I had been converted. He gave me a suspended sentence." A year ago at this time I had my feet under a card table with the chips piled before me. The time since I have been saved has been the happiest of my life.

### ANSWER TO PRAYER

During a meeting in E——, Ky., a young woman asked prayer that she might locate her brother who had been missing for three years. Within five days she received a letter from him in a city about 600 miles distant.

No man succeeds because he is a liar, a thief or impure. He may attain certain financial success in spite of these things but they are never an asset. The wages of sin is death. It never pays to be vile.



## Jonah and the Gourd Vine

(Continued from Page 3.)

the church at Jerusalem. It was not interested in anything but itself. The members said to themselves, "We put everything into one pool and we are listening to and studying the doctrines of the Apostles" and it certainly was a fine and great church, but all at once the Lord said, "You are not going to all the world." "But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." First in Jerusalem—at home—then to Samaria, and then not only in Judea and Samaria but to every single province of the world. When you once begin, never stop preaching and never allow anyone to stop you until you have preached over all the world. These miserable old Jonahs in Jerusalem said, "Oh, we have the greatest church in the world." They were so self-satisfied that the Lord turned Saul of Tarsus loose on them and he began to persecute them. If God cannot wake people up any other way, He will allow the devil to turn loose on them.

### Devil Limited.

I thank the devil for the service he has rendered. He never told a lie on me that was not a blessing. Another thing, many times he has warned me against what might have been a curse had I not been warned. As the blacksmith said to the little boy who was watching the two blacksmiths work one day. One was using a little hammer; the other a big one. The little fellow came up to the man with the little hammer and said, "You ain't doin' no good; you with the that little hammer."

The blacksmith said, "Yes I am. I am showing the man with the big hammer where to hit."

The Lord always shows the devil where to hit. And only permits him to go so far.

"And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28). Even Jonah's miserable trip was a blessing to the world. When he found himself down in that big fish, he did some praying. He came to the place where he was willing to say, "Lord I will pay that which I have vowed." "They that regard lying vanities forsake their own mercy. But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that which I have vowed." "And Jehovah spake unto the fish and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land." Jonah had a new revelation. The man who is going to disobey God is going to forsake his own mercy. There is not a greater misfortune that could come to any man than to disobey God.

I speak to you very religious people. Do not think for one moment that religion may not be a "lying vanity." Religious ceremonials and rituals may be "lying vanities." Loyalty to our religion is not a thing in this sword but slavery.

### Ritual Service Cold and Hard.

There is not any service as hard as the ritual or the ceremonial.

Jonah was an example. The truth Jesus proclaimed in the Synagogue in Nazareth, when He announced He had been sent to bring salvation, to bring sight to the blind, and to relieve the masses in this world, met with opposition from Peter. He had the same disease Jonah had. He was not willing to preach to anybody except those labeled "Jews." Poor old Peter was on the roof asleep and fell into a trance; and the Lord let down a sheet filled with four-footed beasts and creeping things of the earth and birds of the heaven, and said, "Arise, Peter; kill and eat. And Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common and unclean. And a voice came unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, make not thou common." Some of you need to see that sheet filled with every creature. (Not only do you need to see that honorable, first-class creature, but you need to see that debauched creature in sin, see the outcast, the rejected, the unfortunate. God does not think any more of the man in the mansion than he does of the unfortunate in the slums. Some of you old Scribes and Pharisees will land in hell, while some of these unfortunate ones, like Mary Magdalene, who had seven demons cast out of her, or like the publican Zacchaeus, will be in paradise.)

Jonah could not see that. He was a miserable rebel who refused to allow God to send him on the mission he had been called to perform. I cannot stand in the way of the unfortunate criminal, when he is being punished, but our mission is to bring salvation. We cannot prevent you from arresting criminals for you have to bring them before the judgment bar of man. That is your duty. But, as messengers of grace, we come offering a pardon. Until you have that pardon, as God has prepared it through His Son, Jesus Christ, you stand condemned, and one day you are going to have to appear before the judgment bar of God.

I cannot be a policeman and a preacher too any more than you can be a judge and a pardoner too. A judge cannot pronounce judgment and then turn around and pronounce pardon. "By the deeds of the flesh, no one is justified." The one your judges have sentenced by the law cannot be pardoned by you. You and I as messengers of grace cannot be messengers of grace and of judgment at the same time. God sent Jonah as a prophet, but it was not his business to destroy Nineveh. It was his business to warn Nineveh that in forty days that great city would be destroyed. Because a man may be a messenger and warn people of a coming judgment, certainly

he is not to be peeved if God sends mercy and prevents a destruction. It is the duty of officers of the law to arrest and punish and restrain criminals and prevent crimes, but it is our duty to get them before or after you do and save them. Yet we have some like Jonah who get mad if we offer mercy to a poor, unfortunate sinner.

### God Has a World to Save.

God has a world he wishes saved. You cannot fill any bigger hole than you are capable of filling. If you whittle yourself down to a little peg you cannot expect to fit into a big hole. A little peg in a big hole will fall through. In order to fill a big hole, you cannot be a little sectarian or partisan peg. The Lord sent you to the world. We must fill our place in the educational world, in the under-world, the lawless world; also we must be ready to fill our place in the legislative world; also be ready to fill not only every phase and every department of this world, but every part of this world—the religious world. There was a vision Jonah did not have. He was a little, old, selfish, sectarian bigoted Jew and was not interested in anyone else. When Jesus would eat with a sinner, these proud Pharisees would say, "He is eating with sinners. He ought to know better." We were holding a meeting in a Texas town and an unfortunate woman was converted and expressed a desire to unite with one of the churches. The pastor of that church came to me and said, "Brother Ham, three of our best women threatened to leave the church if this woman joins my church."

I said, "You wait until after the service tonight." I took for my text that night, "This Man Receiveth Sinners," a miserable, sarcastic reply from an old hypocrite. I said, "I understand some of you ladies threaten to leave your church if this woman joins. If I were your pastor, I would say, 'Give me your names and I will see that the letters are granted at once.' I would say, 'Here are some ladies who want their letters because an unfortunate sinner has been converted and wants to join our church, and we are glad to get rid of them.' I will make the recommendation to this church."

Jonah was that type. He got angry because God did not destroy these people. He was mad because God had mercy on him, when God said He was going to destroy the city.

### Fire and Love

You say, "Did God change His mind?" Yes. He changed His mind because they changed their attitude. God is fire and God is love. Fire will burn and destroy everything that is not like fire, and God being a fire destroys anything that is unlike God. He could not do anything else with Nineveh, with such pagan idolatry and suspicion, but destroy them; but it was another Nineveh that appealed to God, calling for mercy, and offering sacrifices and then God said, "No, I will not destroy Nineveh."

Jonah then began to pout. He said, "I knew you would not destroy them. I knew you would be merciful to them" and that was the very reason he had not gone in the first place. Jonah was more zealous about his own reputation than about the salvation of these poor sinners. He had gone through the City announcing that God was going to destroy it in forty days, and he went over on the hill to watch the destruction God would send. He kept waiting and waiting and waiting and God did not destroy it and then he said, "Why don't you go on and destroy Nineveh, like you said?" Then the Lord causes a gourd to spring up and while it shaded him Jonah felt a little better. He was under the gourd vine. Then the Lord sent a worm and cut the gourd vine and it wilted. Then Jonah got mad, even unto death. The Lord said, "Jonah are you doing the right thing, and have you a right to be mad at a gourd vine?"

"Yes, it is all right for me to be mad even unto death."

The Lord said, "You did not have anything to do with it. It grew up over night and passed away over night. It is merely a temporal thing. Here is a city with a large population and, because they have repented and I have mercy on them, you are mad because I am merciful to them."

That did not please Jonah. He was an egotistical, selfish, Pharisaical, sectarian Hebrew, but the Lord was merciful. He was even merciful unto Jonah. If He had not been merciful unto him, he would not have been on land. Of course, there was another way of looking at it. That old fish had eaten everything probably—weeds, dead fish tadpoles, tin cans and garbage, but when he got that old backslider Jonah in his stomach, he pulled for the shore. A miserable old backslider is about the hardest thing for the Lord to take care of. To that church full of works, but neither hot nor cold, the Lord said, "I would thou were cold or hot. So because thou art lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spew thee out of my mouth." Church members say, "I do not believe in being entirely indifferent to this or that. I think we ought to be loyal to our church, but I do not believe in all this revival. I am neither hot nor cold."

The Lord says, "You make me sick with this lukewarmness. I am going to spew you out of my mouth." There is a difference between being evangelical and evangelistic. Evangelicalism is truth on ice; evangelism is truth on fire. An evangelical church is like a reservoir without a single pipe running from it, but an evangelistic church is like a reservoir with a pipe line and a spicket in every home. We want an evangelistic church with every member a pipe-line from God's fountain into every home or office and then out into the world. It makes little difference how loyal you may be to your religion, if you are lukewarm, God is sick at His stomach because of your lukewarmness. Neither do I like this insipid, tepid stuff. Some of you say you are trying to "hold out." You are not holding much when you do. That reminds me of a Church over in Kentucky. When they sent their report to the association, it was about as follows: "Additions none; conversions none; pastor's salary none;

(Continued on Page 8.)



## Undevided Allegiance

BY MORDECAI FOWLER HAM.

**G**OD does not accept any service or offering that does not come freely from a prepared person. He rejected Cain's offering because by it Cain sought to glorify himself. It was the fruit of his own skill and not the type of Christ's redeeming blood. So long as you church members seek to please yourselves rather than to honor Christ, all your bridge parties, dancing, theater-going and other stunts by which you show your allegiance to the world, are an abomination in His sight.

God would not accept the worship of Israel in Egypt; because there they were under bondage to the Egyptians. God never had another thing to do with Lot after he pitched his tent towards Sodom.

And you can't blame God for exacting just what you yourself exact. You are Christ's servant, purchased by His blood, and you have surrendered yourself to Him and are subject to His orders. Now suppose you have bought a cook's service, hired her to cook for you by the month, and she should cook for you only when nobody else wanted her service? Would you stand for it? Or, take another view: Your time and talents belong to Christ, and when He is calling for them, you have no more right to use them for your own amusement than you have to use the automobile or the team of your neighbor. Or take still another view: You are Christ's bride—then how can you consort with His enemies? For the Bible says, "Know ye not the friendship for this world is enmity to God?" And the apostle calls all such adulterers—spiritual adulterers. As Christ's bride we should keep ourselves just as pure and chaste spiritually as every wife should keep herself physically.

### God Never Compromises

Christ never compromises one iota; and as His ambassador I cannot do so either. He says if you love father or mother, or house or lands

"Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that we should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin; but yield yourself unto God as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you."

better than you love Him, you cannot be His disciple. If you want to know how to treat your rebellious, pouting, stubborn old church officials, just consider how Christ treated Peter. Jesus just let him pout 'till he manifested contrition by weeping bitterly.

From the time they crossed the Red Sea the Israelites were a continuous trial to God; but He never did compromise with them. They grumbled and complained at the bitter waters, they growled about the manna, they growled at the protracted absence of Moses at Horeb, they murmured at the order to leave Horeb, they rebelled at Kadesh Barnea, on the border of the promised land; but in no case did God compromise with them. Every time they rebelled He slew them by the thousands, in one way or another, till every last one of them sooner or later died and rotted in the wilderness, except Joshua and Caleb, who never joined in any of the rebellions or murmurings.

Now I am sure that every church member who is at fault has had the fault pointed out by the Holy Spirit; and the only reason everyone of you has not confessed and come clean is because you are defying the rebukes of the Holy Spirit, and you can't make that go. If your sin is publicly known and therefore is hindering the salvation of others, it must be publicly confessed and publicly abandoned. No secret confession in such cases will have any merit whatever. God says "He that covereth his sin shall not prosper."

No, we cannot afford to compromise with either sin or the sinner. The prohibition campaign in Kentucky was when I kept silent and winked at wrong-doing by your side. It was

in the second campaign in my home town. Some of the church members had purchased certificates the year before. I knew of it, but rather than expose my own following and create division, I kept my mouth shut, and God sent defeat on us, as He ought to, and I am glad He did; for I have never forgotten that lesson.

### Ye Are Bought With a Price

When you surrendered yourself to Christ and accepted in return His salvation, you dedicated all your time, your talent, your ability, your powers, your service to Him; and thereafter you have no right to barter any of these to the world, the flesh or the devil, for they no longer belong to you. "You are bought with a price."

And don't you fool yourself one minute with the belief that you can do such things and get away with it. God warns you not to think that because judgement is not executed speedily you shall escape it altogether. Very few, like Ananias and Sapphira, have had judgement swiftly visited upon them. But though it be slow, it is inevitable.

We are the bondservants of Jesus Christ, purchased by His blood from slavery to sin; and when a slave is purchased by one master from another he no longer serves the former master, but the new purchaser.

If you belong to Christ you will recognize it by your conduct as well as by words. It is good spiritual gymnastics to practice saying, "Lord I'm thine by purchase and I am thine by choice." For that is always the case with every child of God. While He paid the price of your purchase with His blood shed on the cross, He leaves it to you to elect or reject the benefit of that purchase.

And that is one sort of slavery that is ineffably beneficial. I like Christ as a master. He never makes a blunder and never permits me to make one, so long as I consult Him. Then He is never unjust in His requirements or treatment of me. And He is always merciful of me. I have found that even His chastisements, like that whipping my father gave me, like that defeat He sent upon me in the prohibition fight, were merciful to me and entirely for my good.

And the life of a servant of Christ is not a hard one. So long as we remain on earth, we have the very best anybody can have, and when we are called up yonder still better awaits us. Come what may, I can't forsake Him; for He has never forsaken me.

I sometimes have to pray to Him to take what I am not willing to give. If I find myself not strong enough to give it in all sincerity, still I can say, "Lord, I can't give it to thee; but I am willing for you to take it."

Do you remember that when Jacob was fleeing from the army of his father-in-law he wrestled all night in prayer; and finally as day began to break, the angel said, "Let me go," but Jacob replied, "I will not let thee go except thou bless me." God had to cripple him, but He gave him the blessing. He asked, "What is thy name?" and an angel told that it was Jacob, which means a supplanter, deceiver. He said, "Thy name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel," which means prince, a prevailer, an overcomer.

Brethren, can't you wrestle with taking away your deceptive, traitor-God till He will bless you, too, by His nature and teaching you that the only life for a Christian to live is a life wholly abandoned to Christ? Whenever you become willing to do God's will, the Holy Spirit will reveal that will to you.

### JONAH AND THE GOURD VINE

(Continued from Page 7.)

gifts to the poor none; gifts to missions none; brethren pray for us that we may hold our own."

Poor old Jonah. It was hard for him to get along with the Lord, because His God was a judgment of fire as well as love. He was mercy and love to repentant Nineveh; an consuming fire to the hard-hearted, persistent sinner. Whether that sinner be in a mansion or in the low-down, dirty places of vice, whenever they repent and turn to God, He is a God of mercy, love, and transforming power. It is because of His mercy and power that He told you to go to that sinner. "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

Let me say to you unconverted sinners, you lost souls, this God of mercy is ready now to receive you. Christian people, let us not fret ourselves about these gourd vines that to-day may shelter us, but tomorrow are gone. It is well to have a good home, good business, and all material things, but the greatest and best of all is going to be that eternal home that comes through mercy and love. Jonahs, get out from under the gourd vine! Elijahs get out of the cave! "What doest thou here, Elijah?"

"Oh, I'll tell you, they tried to kill everybody and I fled to this cave."

"Get out of here, Elijah, and go tell Ahab my message. Go and anoint my next king."

And, until He got Elijah out of the cave and Moses away from Horeb and Jonah from under the gourd vine, they were worth nothing to God, and until you get out of your indifference, the woe of God is upon you.

God is a God of glory, a God of mercy, and a God of power. We are going to move on. How many of you are willing to come at least as Jonah did "down in the whale" so to speak, and pray over the matter. I nearly got myself under conviction while reading about Jonah. I said, "Lord, I must be a Jonah! thinking more about gourd vines than about cities about to be destroyed."

### Example or Substitute

At the close of a service in Germantown, Pa., some time ago, a stranger accosted the late Dr. D. M. Stearns as follows: "I don't like your preaching. I do not care for the cross. I think that instead of preaching the death of Christ on the cross, it would be far better to preach Jesus, the teacher and example." "Would you then be willing to follow Him if I preach Christ, the Example?" replied Dr. Stearns. "I would," said the stranger, "I will follow in His steps." "Then," said Dr. Stearns, "let us take the first step. 'Who do not sin.' Can you take this step?" The stranger looked confused. "No," he said, "I do sin, and I acknowledge it." "Well, then," said Dr. Stearns, "your first need of Christ is not as an example, but as a Savior." And this is every man's need. (See Rom. 3:23-26.)

"All we, like sheep, have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all." (Isa. 53:6.)