

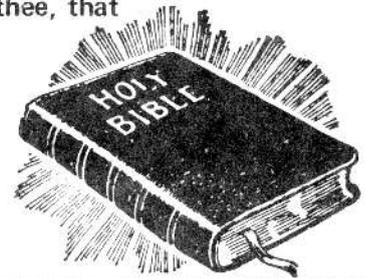
Baptist Banner

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Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth.

Psalms 60:4



VOLUME 9

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NUMBER 3

MARRIAGE IS HONOURABLE

By Calvin Perrigo

The purpose for this essay is to give you an opportunity to see the reality of life and to help you understand at an early age what God's plan is for replenishing this earth. From the beginning, God's plan for marriage has been honourable and the bed undefiled. If you know God's plan, you have a better opportunity to select a husband or wife that you can live with all your life, bringing honour to God and giving the next generation a chance at a better life.



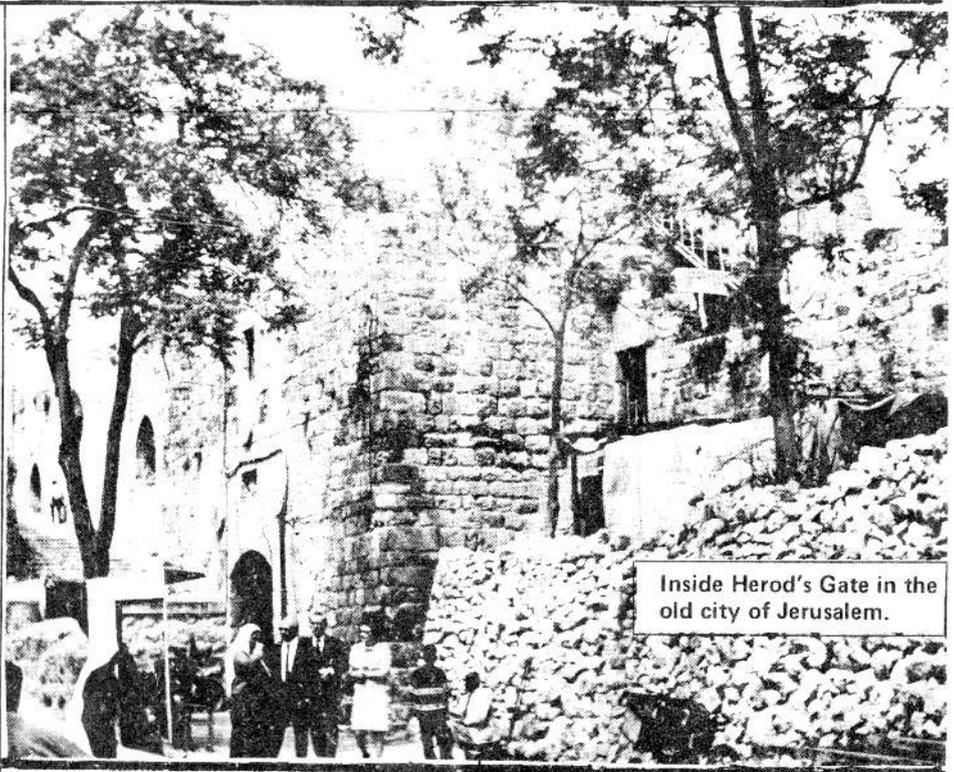
Perrigo

Let us look at the beginning in the history of man to find the relationship God desired for man and woman. Adam, the male, was first formed, he became a living soul. God knew it was not good for man to be alone, he made woman as a help meet

for the man. God brought the woman unto the man. Due to the fact that woman was made from man, Adam stated, that she was bone of his bone, flesh of his flesh. Therefore, shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife; and they shall be one flesh.

This one flesh relationship, that God desired, is still His Will or Plan today. The truth of this statement can be ascertained from some New Testament scripture. Look at some changes man had made in his life style by this time in his history. Man thought God was approving these changes, but Jesus, the son of God, gave them a review from the beginning. This question was ask, "Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?" Jesus went back to God's original plan and said what we have already mentioned, concerning man and woman being one. He plainly gave this answer to the question, "What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder." This brought

(Continued on Page 2)



Ordination Service New Bethel Baptist Church

An ordination service was held at New Bethel Baptist Church, Old Dickerson Rd., Goodlettsville, Tenn., on Sunday, June 30, 1974. The services began at 2:00 P. M.

Brethren Harold Cole, Galen Porter and Billy Woodard were ordained as deacons of New Bethel Church.

Fourteen churches were represented in the presbytery by sixteen ministers and thirteen deacons. Elder H. C. Vanderpool, pastor of the church, was elected moderator of the presbytery. Elder Kenneth Massey was elected clerk. Deacon Harold Porter presented the candidates to the

presbytery and Elder F. L. Ray interrogated them.

Elder Bobby Sutton led the ordination prayer after which the laying on of hands by the presbytery took place.

Elder James (Pete) Porter gave the charge to the newly ordained deacons and the charge to the church was given by Elder A. G. Gregory. The Bible was presented by Elder Wilson Gregory.

A spiritual service was enjoyed by those in attendance. As the hand of fellowship was extended to the new deacons and to one another, rejoicing and testifying gave praises unto the Lord.

The church had a great day. A large crowd attended the Sunday School and worship service in the morning and witnessed the first baptismal service held in the church, when Brethren Ronald Armstrong and Charlie Mickle were baptized in the newly constructed baptistry, during which time the Lord met with His people.

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MARRIAGE (Continued from Page 1)

forth another question, "Why did the law (Moses) command to give a writing of divorcement and put her away?" They were referring to a law imposed on the Hebrew nation that allowed this putting away. This writing of a divorcement paper was to give some protection to the woman that had been put away. Their hearts were so hardened in those days, that man would just cast out a wife. In those days, a woman that had been put away was marked, having no opportunities whatsoever. The writing of a divorcement paper gave an explanation and gave the woman a chance or some hope. Jesus answered, "Because of the hardness of your hearts, Moses (law) suffered, (allowed) you to put away your wives; but from the beginning it was not so." Man had misunderstood God's purpose and continued to sin.

God's original plan came before the law was given to Israel. We are not under law today, but under grace. Our promise to each other, before God, "Until death do us part", is more binding than any written law. Before God, it does become one flesh, just like in the beginning. Keep God's design in mind as you think of marriage. The laws written in our hearts control the things of love and marriage.

from many directions today. Many say, "I want to be free!" Others cry, "I do not wish to be bound by a vow!" Many seek to get released from a marriage. The civil laws today grant divorce for any or no reason, but the most frequent reason for a marriage ending in divorce is, "to get another mate". Divorce and remarriage are common today because there is very little importance placed upon marriage in our society. Marriage, as God ordained, is seldom mentioned today, as young people plan their future together. Marriage has been devalued to very low position by forgetting or being ignorant of God's plan.

Let us look at it from God's view point, the Bible. We have already established his permanent view. The title of this essay is a statement from Hebrews, chapter thirteen, verse four; Marriage is honourable in all. God's inspired word states, marriage is honourable. God places marriage in high esteem. He permitted the Apostle Paul to use this relationship to describe Christ's association with the church. Anything sacred enough to be used as an example of this union, Christ and the church, must be of utmost importance in the mind of God the Father. How important is it to us today?

Man is permitted, and I believe, expected to live joyfully with the wife he loves. This statement is supported by Ecclesiastes, 9:9. We can determine thus; an honourable marriage would be a joyful permanent union between man and woman due to their love. God blessed the union of the first man and woman and required them to be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth. Can you find where God put his blessings on multiplying outside of marriage? Strive to obtain God's blessings in all your plans for the future. If Christ loved the church enough to die for it, husband and wife should have the same feeling, one to the other. Love, the greatest gift, is the bond that endureth all the storms of marriage and never fails.

Now, for comparison, look at dishonour in our marriage system. The latter part of Hebrews 13:4 tells of God judging the whoremongers and the adulterers. These are two of the sins that exist outside an honourable marriage. Would you want God's condemnation or blessings? We understand marriage to be a divine appointment from God, a most solemn, sacred union between a man and a woman. When unfaithfulness enters this relationship, a severe trespass is committed and God will judge the guilty party. How much shame is there in our marriages?

The world is being filled with unwanted, unloved, unwelcomed children, due to the lack of understanding of God's plan to populate the earth. There is case after case where children are deserted, neglected, separated, swapped off, receiving new parents quite often, living in most unpleasant conditions. Why? Many are products of a plan displeasing to God. Parents, not the children, are guilty. We appeal to you as future parents, avoid this calamity! Know and be obedient to God's plan all the days of your life.

Nothing can come of today's "free love", but trouble. This is just of the eyes, then of

the flesh, not love. Honourable marriages are based on love, not lust. Learn the difference between love and lust, short of experience. Take advice from God, lust is of this world and passes away. Apart from an honourable marriage, enticements and lust soon lose their appeal, and then something new and more exciting are thought of, then sought for, and in most cases, are then indulged in.

The life mentioned in the days of Lot, in Sodom, should be warning enough for Sunday School students. Man has become so vain in their thoughts, as to have left the natural way God ordained in marriage. Destruction awaits those that travel in the modern and popular road called, "free love". Love is more than sex, life is more than sex. Why does the human mind dwell on this subject so frequently in our society? One reason could be, marriage has very little honour today. It has been degraded to a very low position. Naturally, many think only of things like this. We should refrain from evil thoughts, as far as possible. Why? Because continual thinking will lead to the act.

Plural marriages are mentioned in the Old Testament, but with them all have come trouble. Check this fact for yourself from the Bible. I would not advise justification, due to these Biblical recordings. Racially mixed marriages have also brought problems. Some of them work out, others have not been for the best interest of the people. Samson found much trouble, although he thought, She pleaseh me well. Ruth's marriage to Boaz worked out very well. We have no rule on racially mixed marriage, only this warning, be very sure. The more people have in common the better opportunity to make an honourable marriage.

You look at the two; What would you prefer? Honour or Shame.

In summary: God's way is not man's way. Should you not seek God's plan for your life? Shun those things that are advocated by man, that do not agree with God's plan. Depend upon God and the things He has ordained for our future, always remember; God made man, God loves man, God knows man. His advice will be for our benefit. Trust God's plan, even in your future plans for your life. Consider marriage, as an honourable institution given from God, to sustain social order, bringing happiness to the human family. You must keep yourself unspotted from the world, if you ever enter marriage on an honourable level, pleasing to God and respecting your companion. Be true to God and you can stay true to your husband or wife for life.

SUGGESTION

Some churches have chosen someone from the church to make reports, announcements, etc. to the BAPTIST BANNER when there was need to do so. This is a good way to get your church news printed. I suggest that each church do this and to those selected, I would ask you to send these articles for the BANNER to me so I can receive them by the 15th of the month preceding the month of publication.

Singings In The Nashville Area

First Sunday in August — Madison Missionary Baptist Church, Maple St., Madison, Tenn. 2:00 P. M. Featured singers will be the Tomes Four of Louisville, Ky.

Second Sunday in August — Rayon City Baptist Church, 205 Keaton Ave., Old Hickory, Tenn. See Homecoming announcement on this page for the list of singers on this date.

Second Sunday in August — Old Pathe Missionary Baptist Church, Watertown Rd., Lebanon, Tenn. 2:00 P. M.

Third Sunday in August — New Bethel Baptist Church, Old Dickerson Rd., Goodlettsville, Tenn., will not have their regular singing on this afternoon due to the Revival beginning that night. You are invited to attend the revival services.

Third Sunday in August — Gateway Baptist Church, Donelson, Tenn. 2:30 P. M.

Fourth Sunday in August — Harmony Baptist Church, East Trinity Lane, Nashville, Tenn. 2:00 P. M.

Fourth Sunday in August — Bethlehem Baptist Church, 901 Lischey Ave., Nashville, Tenn. 2:00 P. M.

Fourth Sunday in August — West End Baptist Church, 440 West End Ave., Gallatin, Tenn. 7:00 P. M.

The Faults I See in Me

I have so many faults myself
I seldom ever see
A defect in another's life,
But what I see in me.
I make so many fool mistakes,
I feel condemned to find
A bit of fault in anyone
When I'm so far behind.

I used to censure everyone;
I was a Pharisee
Until, quite unexpectedly,
I got a glimpse of me.
I tried to justify myself,
And frame some alibi;
But here I stood — caught by myself,
And I to me won't lie.

And now whenever I'm inclined
Some other's judge to be,
I always go and take a look
At him whom I call me.
I find it is a splendid thing—
Just try it and you'll see—
To keep from criticizing folk,
Let each "I" look at "Me."

—HERBERT BUFFUM

Homecoming

The annual Homecoming services will be held at Rayon City Missionary Baptist Church, 205 Keaton Ave., Old Hickory, Tenn., on Sunday, August 11. Sunday School will be at 10:00 A. M. and preaching at 11:00 A. M., by the pastor, Elder D. W. Story.

Lunch will be served at the noon hour. The afternoon will be given to singing and the featured groups will be the Gospel Four, The Happyaires, and the Fellowship Quartet. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Baptist Mission

Old Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, of Allen County, Ky., has a Mission in Scottsville, Ky. It is located one mile from the square on 31-E South. Services held each Sunday at 2:30 P. M. You are asked to pray for this work and are invited to attend the services.

Revival Reports

Faith Baptist Church, Rose and Burbank Aves., Nashville, Tenn. Eleven professions of faith with twelve additions to the church. Pastor A. G. Gregory was assisted by Elder James (Pete) Porter.

Liberty Baptist Church, Maco Dr., Barborton, Ohio. One profession of faith with one addition to the church. Pastor Don Curtis was assisted by Elder Kenneth Massey.

Madison Missionary Baptist Church, Maple St., Madison, Tenn. Three professions of faith with three additions to the church. Pastor F. L. Ray was assisted by Elder Douglas Curtis.

Ordination Service

On June 15, 1974, an ordination service was held at Rossville Missionary Baptist Church, Rossville, Ill., when Bro. Marvin Chambers was ordained to the full work of the ministry.

Elder Carlos Gammon, pastor of the church, was elected moderator of the presbytery and Elder Bill Martin was elected clerk. Bro. Marvin Chambers preached the sermon. Deacon Jim Doolin presented the candidate to the presbytery.

The interrogation was led by Elder Larry Taylor and Elder Robert Jones led the ordination prayer. The charge to the newly ordained minister was given by Elder Richard Huskins and Elder Jimmy Parker gave the charge to the church. The Bible was presented by Elder Anle Jones. A good ordination was enjoyed with the Spirit of God present. A number of churches were represented by several ministers and deacons. Rossville church is in the Bethel Missionary Baptist Association.

Polk County Missionary Baptist Association To Meet

The Polk County Missionary Baptist Association is to meet in its 107th annual session on August 13-14, 1974, with Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Canton and Chestnut Sts., Bolivar, Mo.

The Association will be called to order on Tuesday, August 13, at 10:00 A. M., by Elder Austin McGinnis, the moderator. Several reports will be given throughout the two-day session. The annual sermon the first day will be by Elder Hobart Mustain at 10:50 A. M. In the afternoon, Elder Alpha Redford will preach at 2:25 P. M. That night services are to begin at 8:00 P. M. and Elder Keith Freize is to preach at 8:30 P. M.

During the second day, August 14, Elder H. C. Vanderpool, of the Wiseman Baptist Association, Tennessee, is to preach at 11:00 A. M. Elder Dennis Spears is to preach at 2:00 P. M.

Brethren and Sisters from this Association have visited the Baptist Associations in Tennessee and Kentucky a number of times and anyone from these areas who can visit with the people of the Polk County Association on the above dates are invited to do so.

NOTE: I appreciate very much the invitation to preach before this Association on August 14, at 11:00 A. M. I will be in a revival meeting during this time and would have to fly out there in the morning and back to Nashville in the afternoon in order to fill the invitation. If this can be done, and the Lord willing, I'll be there, but if this schedule cannot be worked out, it would be impossible for me to be there and the brethren can get someone else to preach in my place. Thanks, brethren for this invitation and expression of fellowship! — Editor

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Revival



Announcements

FIRST SUNDAY — AUGUST

Siloam Baptist Church, Westmoreland, Tenn. Pastor Guthrie Thompson is to be assisted by Elder Douglas Curtis.

Lyons Baptist Church, 904 Gagel Ave., Louisville, Ky. Pastor Kenneth Davis is to be assisted by Elder W. T. Russell.

Lafayette Baptist Church, Lafayette, Tenn. Pastor Charles Moore is to be assisted by Elder Kenneth Massey.

White Hill Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, Tenn. Pastor James Gardner is to be assisted by Elder W. C. Johnson.

Long Fork Baptist Church, Macon County, Tenn. Pastor James (Pete) Porter is to be assisted by Elder Frank Carr.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

Fairview Baptist Church, Woodburn, Ky. Pastor Junior Farley is to be assisted by Elder William Johnson and Bro. Lonnie Cockriel is to be in charge of the singing.

SECOND SUNDAY — AUGUST

Bethlehem Baptist Church, 901 Lischey Ave., Nashville, Tenn. Pastor O. E. Russell is to be assisted by Elder H. C. Vanderpool.

THIRD SUNDAY — AUGUST

New Bethel Baptist Church, Old Dickerson Rd., Goodlettsville, Tenn. Pastor H. C. Vanderpool is to be assisted by Elder Kenneth Massey.

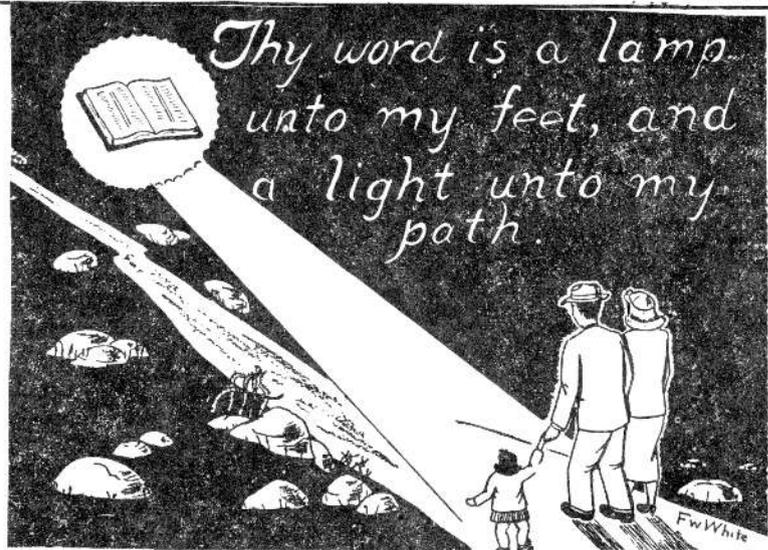
Buffalo Springs Baptist Church, Sumner County, Tenn. Pastor H. D. Linville is to be assisted by Elder James (Pete) Porter.

FIRST SUNDAY — SEPTEMBER

Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, Washington, Ill. Pastor Raymond Hargis is to be assisted by Elder F. L. Ray and Bro. Frank Massey is to be in charge of the singing.



Moses with the tablets of Law
EXODUS 20: 1-17



MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

By F. L. Ray

(Continued from last month)

In this article we wish to show you the need of an education to be able to preach the word of God with power and in demonstration of the Holy Spirit.

Let's take a look at the Bible. God is the real author of this wonderful book. I found the following in a book some time ago.

"This book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of the believer.

"It's doctrines are holy, it's precepts are binding, it's histories are true, and it's decisions are immutable (unchangeable). Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveller's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter.

"Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and hell disclosed. Christ is it's grand object, our good it's design, and the glory of God it's end. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. Let it fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. It is a mind of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is your guide in life, will be opened in the judgment, and remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the highest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with it's sacred contents."

The Bible is the preacher's textbook. I believe he should study it's holy pages, and prayerfully meditate upon it's deep and wonderful truths. God being the author, and He is the alwise and almighty supreme being. The men who wrote the Bible were wise men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit to write, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn,

and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." II Peter 1:19-21.

I believe that every minister of God's word should acquire all the knowledge he possibly can, I believe he should take advantage of every good sound Bible school that is made available, and study all the good helpful books that he can get hold of.

Now, let's notice some more of the things that Paul tells us on this subject.

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others." II Tim. 2:2.

A number of times Paul uses the following statement, "I would not have ye be ignorant". The word "ignorant" means without knowledge. Brethren, we are to be soul winners for Jesus. And Jesus said, "Behold I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." Matt. 10:16.

"And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever." Dan. 12:2.

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise." Pro. 11:30.

"The greatest need of our time is for all men of God to put on the whole armour of God."

"... having done all to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breast plate of righteousness: And your feet shod with the PREPARATION of the gospel of peace." Eph. 6:13-15.

(To be continued)