

Bryan Station Baptist Church

INDEPENDENT ESTABLISHED 1786 MISSIONARY

THE PIONEER BAPTIST

"Preaching The Same Truth We Preached Before Kentucky Was A State"

HE HAD NO SONG

October 1968

Or, Trying to Get to Heaven Without a Saviour

Several years ago, as I was passing out of meeting one evening, a lady sought me and asked me to go with her and see her husband who was quite anxious about his soul, knowing he would soon have to die. When I entered the room, I found him sitting in an easy chair, and he could not lie down without coughing. After a few words about his bodily sufferings, I asked him about his soul; did he think his sufferings would end when his body yielded and death came.

"Well," he said, "I think my chances for getting to heaven are pretty good."

I felt he was not real; so I said, "Do you believe heaven is a reality?"

He said, "Yes."

"Is it true there is a hell?"

He replied, "Yes, I believe it."

"And you have an immortal soul that will soon be in one or the other of these places forever?"

"Yes," he said, earnestly.

"You just now said you thought your chances for heaven were pretty good; you believe heaven is a reality, and hell is a reality, and your precious immortal soul will



Location: 3.3 miles out Bryan Station Road. Right on Briar Hill Road.

- Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
- Evening Service 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Air-Conditioned Nursery Provided

Pastor Alfred M. Gormley
Ph. 299-1430 347 Sierra Drive
Lexington, Ky. 40505

soon be happy in heaven forever. You must have some reason for it. Will you please tell me what it is? "

His voice was weak and I waited for his answer as it came slowly. It was this: "Well, I've always been kind to my wife and children, and I have not intentionally wronged my fellow man. "

"That's all very good," I said, "and it is nice to be able to say that; but now tell me, what kind of a place do you think heaven is, and what do they do there? "

"Well," he said, "I think there is no sin or sorrow there. It must be a happy place, and I think they sing there a good deal. "

Turning to Rev. 1:5, I said: "Yes, they do sing there, and I'll just read you a song they sing. It is this: 'Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood'. You see, they are praising their Saviour, the One who loved them and died for them. I'll read it again. 'Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood'. I want you to take notice: they have not a word to say about what they have done. It is all about what HE has done. He loved them and died for them. Now, suppose you were up there and had got there in the way you say, because you had been good to your family, and so on. There would be one sinner in heaven that had never been washed from his sins in the blood of Jesus; you could not join in the song they sing, could you? "

I waited for an answer. His head had dropped and his eyes were turned to the floor. I shall never, never forget his look as he raised his head and turned to answer me. It was as one waking out of a life dream. He was now coming face to face with eternal realities and his only reply was:

"Well, I never thought of that before. "

But I said: "God has, and He has written a verse for persons like you, who are willing to take their chances, as you said on their good works, and are deceiving themselves by the false hope of getting to heaven in that way. I'll read the verse. It is the 4th verse of the 4th chapter of Romans; 'Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.' Let me explain this: When you were well and could work, you received your wages because you earned them. You were under no special obligations to the man that paid you. You would come home to your wife and say, 'Here is what I made today'. You could talk

about what you had done, and what you had got and you would not have a word to say about the man that paid you. That is just what God means by that verse. 'Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt'. If you could get to heaven by what you have done, there would be no grace about it. You would know nothing of God's love as shown in Jesus. You could not sing 'Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood;' for you would be there without a Saviour; and you would have no song. Do you think you could be happy? "

He was now ready to give up his ground and for the first time frankly owned what his wife had said, that he was anxious about his soul and wanted to have the question settled. He fully confessed that in spite of all the good he claimed, he was a sinner and needed a Saviour. It was with joy I read to him this Scripture (I Tim. 1:15) "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." He repeated, "To—save—sinners!—to—save—sinners!"

"Yes," I said, "to SAVE sinners—not to HELP sinners to be saved, but to SAVE sinners. He is not a helper, but a Saviour, and God's Word is 'to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness'. And again, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved,'" He did believe. I left him that night, after reading other Scriptures to him, with a new hope—not based on what he had done, but believing what God says about what Christ has done.

I called the next morning to see him. As I entered he looked up with joy in his face and said: "Oh, I'll have a song now. It will be 'Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood.

He was with us about a week afterward, and fell asleep, happy in the Lord.

Reader, will you be able to sing that song? Or will you have to say, 'I am tormented in this flame?' It will be one or the other. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." John 3:36. And again, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment; but is passed from death unto life." John 5:24.

RADIO MINISTRY: The Bryan Station Baptist Church is in the fifteenth year of its radio ministry. Listen to our pastor every Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. as he preaches the Word of God. Our program is broadcast through the facilities of WPDE-Paris, 1440 on your dial.

The Pioneer Baptist is being published monthly by the Bryan Station Baptist Church of Lexington, Ky. The name "Pioneer Baptist" was selected because of the meaning of the word "pioneer". It means "one who goes before, preparing the way for others to follow." Bryan Station Baptist Church was established April 16, 1786. The land we have was deeded to us in the year 1804, before many of the so-called denominations of today were started. Today, we preach the same truth and teach the same doctrine we preached before Kentucky became a state. Truly, we can say we are Pioneer Baptist. Baptist who sowed this land with the Word of God.

The Pastor gladly offers his services to all who are in need of prayer, comfort or spiritual guidance.
Call him if you are troubled about your salvation or if you need help from God's Word in solving any of life's problems.

This paper is a missionary work of the Bryan Station Baptist Church in fulfilling the commission of our Lord.

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