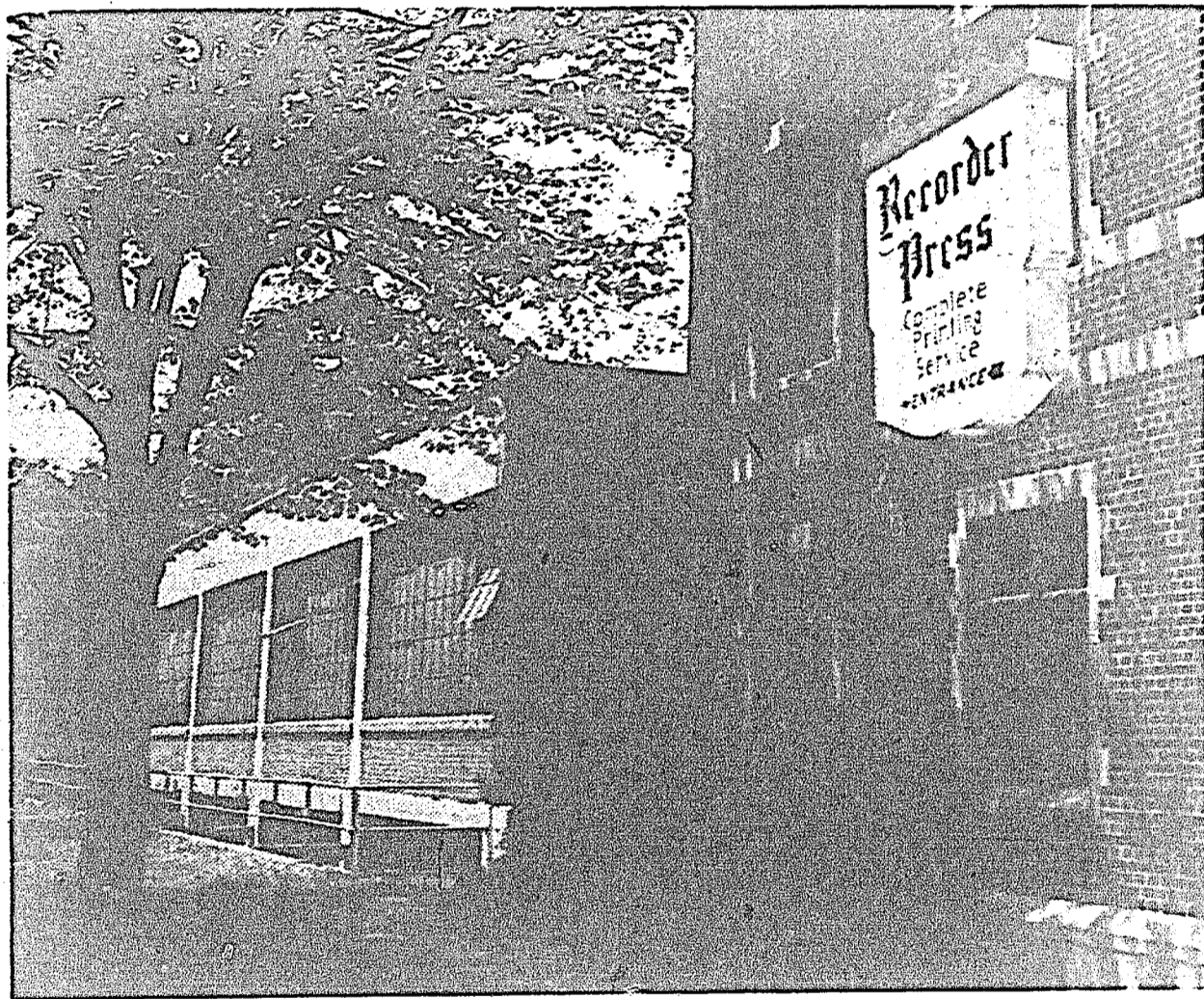


January 6, 1969

# The Sabbath Recorder

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## Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House

The primary work of the American Sabbath Tract Society is publishing and distributing the literature of Seventh Day Baptists. Prominently located in Plainfield, New Jersey, is the Seventh Day Baptist Building, back of which is the well equipped publishing house long known by the name "Recorder Press." Planning Committee and Commission are meeting consecutively in the Board Room of the front building from December 30 - January 10 developing plans and program for the future. Some of these plans involve the printing of more literature in the Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House.

# The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration  
Member of the Associated Church Press  
REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

## Contributing Editors:

MISSIONS ..... Everett T. Harris, D.D.  
WOMEN'S WORK ..... Mrs. Earl Cruzan  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, Rex E. Zwiebel, B.D., M.A.

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PLAINFIELD, N. J.      January 6, 1969  
Volume 186, No. 1      Whole No. 6,331

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## Tract Society Emphasis

This blue-ink issue, as may readily be seen, is one of a series of first-of-the-month emphasis issues following the same schedule as last year. The work of the American Sabbath Tract Society is featured. It is hoped that through these articles our readers may become better acquainted with the work of this major board and may be challenged to make greater use of our tracts and the other services offered. It is further hoped that this will help to round out the picture of all the boards and agencies which Seventh Day Baptists and their friends support with their gifts through OWM or designated to a particular board or agency. The Missionary Society was featured in December. The Board of Christian Education and the Women's Board will have emphasis issues in later months.

## Giving by Guess

Do you give by guess? Some of us do and would commend it to others. Since that could be easily misunderstood an explanation must be quickly made. Two considerations prompt my giving. The first is love, and, I guess, the second is love also. I give because, in response to God's love, and His provision of spiritual and temporal blessings, I want to respond by contributing to His cause on earth. In the second place, love prompts me to give where it will seem to do the most good. This is where some educated guessing is needed for part of my benevolences.

No guessing is required for the support of the local church or our denominational budget. We have had a hand in determining the items to be included in those carefully worked out budgets. There may be just a few items that we would have liked larger or smaller or eliminated. However, we accept the action of the majority and support the whole local or denominational budgets with our undesignated giving. It is much better that way. Only thus can a unified work be carried on with each of us having a part in all of it. Few of us would want to try to figure out better proportions than have been agreed upon. So much for the undesignated giving which

should probably take the major portion of our tithes.

It is in the area of designated giving that we can practice and advocate some guessing with good conscience; granted, however, that this has its dangers and disappointments. That is one reason for suggesting that we might feel more liberty in going beyond the tithe for some of the giving by guess. In case we should make a wrong guess as to the worthiness of the cause or as to the oversubscribing by others responding to the same appeals we would feel better if these were over-and-above gifts to some extent.

I cherish the individuality of Christian giving. I like to think that I alone am responsible for determining how much I shall give, and to what causes. Realizing that what I have come from God and I am but a steward of all that I possess it is still good to know that the Lord trusts me to be a responsible steward, investigating as much as possible and responding with my best judgment, motivated by love.

Guessing comes in where complete knowledge has to leave off. It is in the area of need. It is trying to figure out what other people are likely to do so that my gift will be well invested. Is that selfish? Maybe just a little. Why should my money have to be better spent than that of other people? Well, I feel better if I have helped a cause along that other people would not (for lack of knowledge or interest) support. If subsequent events prove that I guessed right, I have a joy of giving that would not otherwise have been possible. My extra giving counted where it was needed. If I guessed wrong about the worthiness of the cause, prospect of results, or the response of other people I can retreat gracefully and try again. At least I haven't guessed with other people's gifts.

I see two categories where guessing comes in, the individual or not yet recognized missionary work of Seventh Day Baptists and the interdenominational missionary or relief causes, supported on a very broad base. I want to guess right and strike a good balance in both cases.

JANUARY 6, 1969

## MEMORY TEXT

Then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive thy people which have sinned against thee. 2 Chron. 6:39.

Within our denominational structure as well as outside it there are numerous opportunities for designated giving, with all the uncertainties as to response. Each major board has its projects; each mission field has some unbudgeted opportunities for service. There are also certain ecumenical commitments dependent on designated giving. It is always interesting to read the church bulletins at Christmas time and see what the various Sabbath School classes or the church organizations picked out for "white gifts." Fortunately, like our potluck dinners, a certain degree of over-all balance usually shows up. Sometimes we wish that not so many other churches had picked out the same project that our group chose, but generally we are happy in our giving by guess — much happier than if we had waited to see what others were doing or hadn't given at all. On the other hand, if we respond too generously to a new project to the neglect of the more important appeals, then we are not quite happy.

Doubtlessly we should engage in deliberate praying over a period of time before we give by guess. The relative importance of the various needs will come to us in response to prayer — rather than snap judgment based on an emotional appeal.

The American Tract Society, instituted in 1825 as a non-profit publisher of Christian literature, is an interdenominational organization serving over 13,000 churches and over 20,000 individuals. Its board members include a broad representation of denominational leaders as well as a number of outstanding Christian businessmen. Total volume last year exceeded 36½ million pieces of literature published of which over 58% were in full color.

## President's Column

### Impressions from Boston

Two of the most spiritually stimulating days of my life were spent October 17 and 18 in Boston, Massachusetts, attending the International Convention of Christian Business Men. To be one of approximately 1,000 men from all parts of the world was in itself a thrill, but to be associated with a group of men who were serious about their commitment to Jesus Christ was even more impressive.

To make their presence known in the Boston area these men set themselves to work witnessing for Christ in many ways. In addition to man to man witnessing, they spoke to civic clubs and churches throughout the Boston area. The primary purpose of this organization is to win other business men to the cause of Christ.

One thing that stood out as a general impression was the fact that I did not observe any of these men using tobacco, alcohol or profanity. These were not rules of the organization but something that these men felt was important in their effort to show respect for God and His holy temple.

In order that I might gain every experience that I could from this meeting I decided to take part in the "Good Will Ambassador" program. The object of this program was to select from the telephone directory of the city of Boston a business that was related to your own and to contact the executive officer, make an appointment to see him, give your personal testimony, present him with a New Testament, and invite him as your guest to a noon luncheon. The final objective of this program was to seek to win this man for Christ if he was not already a Christian. I can say from personal experience that this is one of the most humbling, yet, most rewarding experiences one can have.

Another rewarding experience was to be a part of an *open air witness* in the "night life area" of the city. To see hundreds of "hippies" was real shock for a "boy from Lost Creek." I am

convinced that these people are in need of spiritual gratification. They have not been provided the opportunities to know the satisfaction of experiencing the Holy Spirit and thus they continue to search in other realms.

These kinds of experiences truly make one "Sensitive in His Service." Have you shared your Christian experience with a stranger lately? What about a friend or neighbor? It will make you *sensitive*.

—Leland W. Bond

### Amazing Story of One Tract

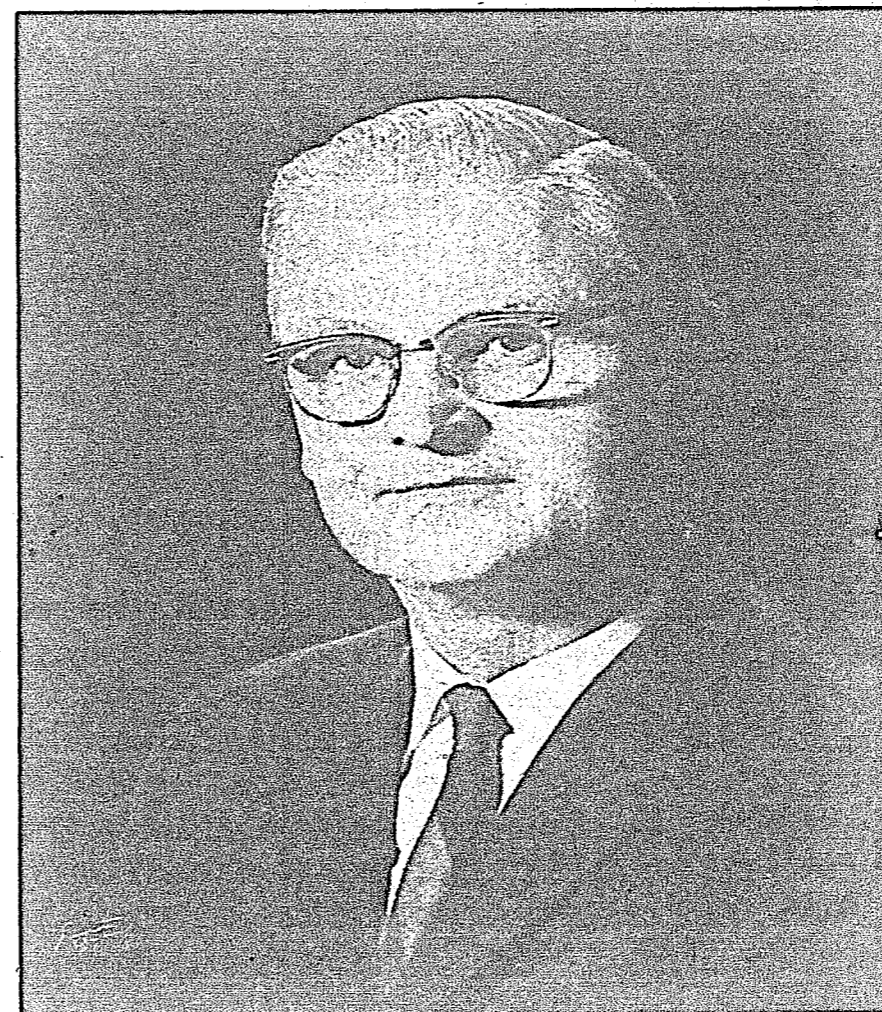
Not long ago Ithamar Quigley, a 90-year-old minister from Elizabeth (N. J.) who is spry and active, drove to Plainfield to pick up some tracts, which he had originally printed himself. Mr. Quigley has been in touch with the Tract Society since the days when Dr. A. J. C. Bond was pastor at Plainfield and encouraged him to publish his first Sabbath tract on the relation between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

The sweet-spirited, full-bearded veteran in the Lord's work (who claims he hasn't touched any medicine for 65 years) dropped in to call on the secretary, who has recently taken quite a bit of medicine and gets around the house in a wheelchair. Mr. Quigley told an amazing story about that first tract of his, which was printed in the *Sabbath Recorder*.

The tract went to a friend in California, Theophilus Gill. He in turn sent a copy of it to a man named Edwards in Jamaica, W. I. Mr. Edwards said it was just what he needed to combat one of the Sunday arguments and to convince people of the permanence of the seventh-day Sabbath. He called for large quantities for distribution. It is stated that on the basis of the message of this one tract Mr. Edwards established ten Sabbathkeeping churches in Jamaica affiliated with Mount Zion Sanctuary. Mr. Quigley is the active pastor of a small church of that name in Elizabeth. For many years he had his own printing press and a very extensive tract ministry—all resulting from that first tract.

### Tract Society President

In the 1968-69 denominational program of "Facing Frontiers with Faith" there is a strong emphasis on "Know Your Boards and Agencies." Featuring



the Tract Board this week we introduce the president of the American Sabbath Tract Society and its Board of Trustees, Charles H. North of Plainfield, N. J.

Mr. North has been president since September 1966, elected at the corporate meeting upon the resignation of Frederik J. Bakker. He had previously been the treasurer for a number of years. The new president has brought much to the society and board in the way of energetic leadership. He has given much thought to the appointment of committees and as ex-officio member of all he has taken an active part in the work of most of them during his years of presidency. He has been a champion for a greater ministry to the denomination by the Tract Society and its publishing house. The new president took over at a time of transition and problems in the publishing work and has had to spend a great deal of freely given time to the complicated process (legal and otherwise) of closing out the commercial business and convert-

ing to a strictly denominational operation.

To be president of one of our major boards can be a very important and time-consuming task. Mr. North has often expressed the opinion that it means far more than presiding at the quarterly meetings and the annual meeting of the society. At the present time the president is guiding the board through a revision of the bylaws which involves consolidation of committees and working out job analyses for officers and committees. Changes in the constitution also are expected in the near future.

### NABF Encourages Baptist Sharing in Education, Publications, Conferences

Representatives of nine Baptist groups with a combined membership of more than 15 million in North America have suggested that their conventions and conferences work together more closely in the fields of education and publication.

Forty members of the General Committee of the North American Baptist Fellowship met recently in Washington for two days of examination of the concerns they hold in common and an exploration of ways to help each other.

They also welcomed the General Association of General Baptists as the ninth and most recent addition to the fellowship. Other participating groups are the American Baptist Convention, Baptist Federation of Canada, National Baptist Convention of America, National Baptist Convention of Mexico, North American Baptist General Conference, Progressive National Baptist Convention, Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Duke K. McCall, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., was elected chairman of the fellowship to succeed V. Carney Hargroves of Philadelphia, an American Baptist pastor who has headed NABF since its organization in March 1966.

L. Venchael Booth of Cincinnati, a pastor and executive secretary of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, was named to succeed Senator Jennings Randolph as vice-chairman. Senator Randolph, of West Virginia, is a Seventh Day Baptist.

## A Denominational Publishing House How It Is Possible

Some large denominations do not own and operate their own publishing houses for good and sufficient reasons. Smaller denominations face real problems in equipping and operating their own printing plants. For many years the American Sabbath Tract Society, which developed our publishing house, reasoned that it could not buy and maintain the necessary machinery for high quality denominational printing without the profits of commercial business to plow back into the enterprise. It was good reasoning. It worked up until a few years ago. Old equipment was replaced with new, more efficient machines, almost a complete turn over of presses, folders, etc., within the past 15 years. In addition, the publishing house contributed as much as \$5,000 some years to denominational budgets. Times changed; the shop was operating at a loss on its commercial work. Could it survive if it did only denominational work at competitive prices? That was the question.

We do now have a tax-free denominational publishing house owned and operated by the American Sabbath Tract Society. Much of the credit for undertaking the present program goes to General Secretary Alton L. Wheeler who studied the figures and worked with the Supervisory Committee of the board. It was figured that there might be enough income from the printing of the parent society and that of the other boards and agencies to break even if personnel was reduced to a skeleton crew and other expenses were cut. The printing of the *Sabbath Recorder* would provide about

two-thirds of the income for a balanced publishing house budget.



Coordination and spacing out of all the other printing would be necessary to make the best use of the time of shop personnel. Mr. Wheeler became the coordinator, lengthening his days so that this could be done in addition to his other denominational duties. He does this without reimbursement. His vision of a printing service and a printing ministry, using the large building and adequate machinery accumulated during the years or purchased for the new service encouraged the Supervisory Committee to carry on instead of liquidating (at considerable loss). We are operating our own plant, printing our literature the way we want it printed, with the help of quite a little dedicated service, work that is given by local people and visitors who want to see this denominational venture succeed. Others besides Mr. Wheeler regularly take some time from other denominational duties to devote to this major project.

What of the future? There is a continuing and stepped-up effort to relieve Mr. Wheeler of his coordinating duties. The problem, if the right person could be found, is largely budgetary. The income from our printing at present prices would not cover another salary. It might cover part of a salary. If other agencies at the Seventh Day Baptist Building need the part-time service of another man it may be worked out.

### Planned Parenthood Overseas

The Rev. Charles R. Ausherman, former director of social and economic services for Taiwan Christian Service in Taipei, Taiwan, has been named director of the Planned Parenthood Program of the National Council of Churches' Division of Overseas Ministries.

Mr. Ausherman's office, within the Church World Service Department of

DOM, will provide program planning and supplies needed to carry out effective family planning services by overseas Christian medical institutions, CWS field personnel, doctors and nurses.

He will be responsible for linking the Planned Parenthood Program with the NCC Priority Program on World Hunger. Mr. Ausherman and his family will live in Glen Rock, N. J.

### Good Tracts — Better Tracts

Who is to say whether or not the tracts published by the American Sabbath Tract Society are good, better or best? There is no single answer to that question. Not to be overlooked are the answers that come from the people who receive and read the literature. It may take many years of correspondence, many years of filling orders to evaluate the effectiveness of given pieces of literature. Neither the supplying office, the most active distributors, nor the people who read and respond can make a clear pronouncement as to the quality and effectiveness of tracts produced and distributed. There are quite a few human factors involved. The same person who will have nothing to do with a salvation or Sabbath tract today may a year later think it is just what he needs.

There are at least three types of responses that filter back to the publishers of tracts: affirmative responses, negative responses, and no responses. Every publisher wonders about the proportionately large number of tracts that seem to be wasted. The lack of response may indicate that the tract was not all that it should be in eye appeal or content. It may also be due to the method of distribution, whether personal or by some type of scattering. Publishers of the very finest printed materials have learned not to expect a high percentage of either favorable or unfavorable response. There is a big gap, part of which is delayed response. In our own experience we have had letters about tracts that were printed up to twenty years ago and have been unavailable from our office for nearly that long.

Some tracts are initially very popular because of their striking appearance. Certain well financed interdenominational tract societies are able to print many small pieces in full color and come out with a large variety of new titles each year. Their hope is to keep abreast of the times and perhaps capitalize on popular sports figures or current events in a way that will catch the eye of the reader and then influence his thought along religious lines. This is good; it serves a

purpose. But a denominational publishing house has subject material other than prayer, salvation, stewardship or general topics which must be presented and do not lend themselves to full-color, mass production publication, with high initial costs.

If we may be permitted an observation gathered from books, articles, reports and correspondence it would be this: There is no clear relation between the eye-catching or non eye-catching appearance of a salvation tract and the salvation that results from the reading of it. From the testimonies one reads he would get the impression that a great many of the people who have been saved by reading tracts came to that experience through messages printed on cheap paper without much illustration. This may be one of the reasons why individuals or organizations with great zeal but limited resources often decide to use those resources for quantity of pamphlets rather than quality of paper.

The American Sabbath Tract Society has a program under way to produce some small tracts in larger quantities at low cost, some well designed two color tracts and some larger study-type pamphlets. To achieve the right balance and to promote the proper distribution of the various kinds of literature is not always easy. The committees are made up of devoted people who want to do what is best but do not have all the answers. The people out in the churches, those on the home and foreign mission fields who see the vision of a tract ministry can help the committees and the society by reporting efforts and results, by observing which pieces of literature best accomplish their purpose.

In recent weeks and months a number of very interesting short letters have come to the office from people who have read some of our tracts and have been greatly helped by them. They liked the appearance; they were moved by the message.

To come back to our title and first sentence, we firmly believe that we have some good tracts. The message of many of them was put into appealing tract

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form by some of the best writers of a past generation and some of the best of the present day. Almost every tract now available has been considered, reconsidered and updated where necessary before reprinting. But no one connected with the publication of our tracts would deny that we need better tracts. We are working at it. But time and again the Tract Society has calls for reprinting tracts that the committee thought should be dropped, revised, or replaced. Sometimes with these requests comes nearly enough money for the reprinting. The society wants to put into the hands of faithful people the largest amount of the best material for producing new Christians, new church members.

The Publication and Distribution Committee of the Tract Board is one of the larger committees under the new committee organization this year. Headed by Mrs. Anna North the committee has the following members besides the president and the corresponding secretary: Mary C. Ayars, Florence B. Bowden, Theresa D. Parvin, Herbert E. Saunders, Ella K. Sheppard, Victor W. Skaggs, and Peggy W. Van Horn. Consultants outside the board membership are: Gladys Drake, Everett T. Harris, Evalois St. John, and Rex E. Zwiebel. Communications in regard to the tract service of the board may be presented through the chairman or any member of the committee.

#### Christian Concessions

One of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowships in California had a scheme to raise money to spread the gospel on college campuses. The group set up concessions at sporting events at which they not only sold food but dispensed the gospel. Their posted menu read:

Hamburgers .....	40c
Hot Dogs .....	30c
Coffee .....	10c
Coke .....	10c
Living Water .....	Free

### Our Prayer Corner

"Men ought always to pray and not to faint."

"But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet."

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

#### Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) The ministry of the *Sabbath Recorder* in city, college and seminary libraries, that by reading it in these places people may come to know and respect the position and work of Seventh Day Baptists.

2) The missionaries and lone-Sabbath-keeping people whose most regular and most up-to-date connection with our whole work comes to them through the *Sabbath Recorder* (airmail or regular mail).

3) The American Sabbath Tract Society in its biggest program of editing and publishing our denominational weekly in the face of rising wages and other printing costs.

4) The tract ministry, that the committees may know which tracts will best meet the needs, that the tracts sent out may be as seed sown that eventually comes to harvest.

5) That our people will take full advantage of all the tools available to them through the Tract Society for spreading the Sabbath truth.

6) The seemingly dormant seed of literature distributed may spring into life when hearts are prepared to receive the message of salvation.

Suggestions for intercessory prayer are solicited from all who see the need. Send them to the editor or to the Conference president so that there can be many voices raised in intercession for the people who most need to be upheld at the throne of grace.

#### SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for January 18, 1969

#### EARLY REACTIONS TO JESUS

Lesson Scripture: Mark 2:1-12, 15-17.

### "Pleased to Know You"

When introductions are in order we greet the new acquaintance with a handshake and may say, "Pleased to know you." We start from there accepting the man as he is. It is not quite the same when we are being introduced to a Seventh Day Baptist agency as old as the American Sabbath Tract Society. One cannot really know this long-established society by shaking hands with the 30 members of its present Board of Trustees or by glancing at a list of its pamphlets now in print. An introduction must include a little background if we are to really appreciate this sturdy agency and lend a hand in its great work.

The American Sabbath Tract Society was organized in 1843. At its beginning it devoted its attention chiefly to printing and distributing tracts. The *Sabbath Recorder*, now its major printing project, did not come into existence until the following year. It was not until 1872 that the society raised \$15,000 to purchase the *Sabbath Recorder* in the name of the denomination from the Utter Company. After some years of publication in Alfred, N. Y., the publishing work was moved to Plainfield in 1895. Since that time Plainfield has been the base of operations for the society's printing work. The present publishing house, built prior to the construction of the Seventh Day Baptist building (1929), has been owned and operated by the American Sabbath Tract Society since 1922. Whether from Alfred, New York City, or Plainfield, in rented quarters or in its own building the society has been publishing and distributing literature for over 125 years.

The years bring some changes of emphasis but not changes of purpose. That is stated in the first article of the constitution as follows:

"Its object shall be to promote the observance of the Bible Sabbath and the interests of vital godliness and sound morality, and to print and circulate the religious literature of the Seventh Day Baptist Denomination of Christians."

Individuals as they grow older lose some of their strength, vigor and gen-

eral manliness. Institutions, like this 125-year-old Sabbath promotion organization, are constantly infused with new life through the annual election of board members and officers and the changing of committee personnel. The society adds the years that mark it as being something old and stable, but the board is always in the prime of life, older members constantly being replaced by younger ones. This year's new members include several capable young men and women. The combination of continuity and new blood sought by the Nominating Committee makes for adherence to ideals and continued growth.

The constitution states that the trustees shall not be more than thirty in number. In order to keep the board as representative as possible the number is kept at thirty, besides the consultants who are elected as representatives of other boards or because they have special competence to advise on certain matters. Normally people who are too far away to serve on committees or to attend quarterly meetings are not nominated as trustees. Most of the members at the present time live in New Jersey or Pennsylvania. One, Winfield Randolph, lives in Florida the major portion of the year. The names and places of residence and committee assignments of those serving on the board this year are as follows:

William W. Armstrong (Supervisory, Finance) Middlesex.

Frederick M. Ayars (Audio and Visual) Lansdale, Pa.

Mary C. Ayars (Publications), Shiloh

Rev. Charles H. Bond (Sabbath Promotion) Shiloh

Florence B. Bowden (Advisory, Publications) Shiloh

John A. Conrod (Sabbath Promotion, Finance) Bridgeton

James Davis (Audio and Visual, Finance) Bridgeton

Jonathan B. Davis (Audio and Visual) Shiloh

Thurman C. Davis (Finance) Shiloh

Ray Froding (Audio and Visual) Bridgeton

**Overseas Ministries Assembly  
Attended**

By the Rev. Edgar F. Wheeler

(Note: Upon request this review of the Triennial Assembly of the Division of Overseas Ministries of N.C.C. was prepared by the Rev. Edgar F. Wheeler, pastor of the First Hopkinton Seventh Day Baptist Church of Ashaway, R. I.)

I was privileged to be a delegate from the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society to the Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM) meetings held at New Haven, Conn., Nov. 19-22, 1968, and found these sessions most stimulating.

In his opening address, "Living Missions in a Changing World," Dr. David Stowe, Secretary of DOM, set the keynote for the entire session as he declared that all of our churches are experiencing a crisis of missionary identity. In a

changing world, with an increasing awareness of the needs of society and nations and with growing concepts of Christian service, we are trying to determine the scope and nature of the church's work in mission.

Missionaries of more liberal persuasion, a Catholic priest from India, a sociology professor, a professor in economics, a nationally known clergyman of evangelical persuasion, lectured on matters of interest to the church today ranging from radical theology of missions, to economic reform, to political order, to social service, to the dimensions of personal conversion. All these factors and concerns enter into the Church's concept of mission today.

Opposing concepts of the nature of the Church's mission were criticized. "Puritan morality" was condemned for "stressing personal sin and responsibility" (Continued on back page)

- Stella V. H. Gauch (Audio and Visual) Dunellen
- Charles F. Harris (Advisory) Shiloh
- John L. Harris (Advisory, Supervisory) Pennsville
- Iris S. Maltby (Audio and Visual) Plainfield
- Rev. Leon M. Maltby (Supervisory, Publications, Sabbath Promotion) Plainfield
- Rev. Wayne C. Maxson (Advisory) Philadelphia, Pa.
- Anna C. North (Advisory, Publications) Plainfield
- Charles H. North (ex officio) Plainfield
- Theresa D. Parvin (Publications) Shiloh
- Owen H. Probasco (Advisory, Supervisory) Bridgeton
- Winfield F. Randolph (Advisory) Daytona Beach, Fla.
- Rev. Albert N. Rogers (Advisory, Sabbath Promotion) Plainfield
- Rev. Herbert E. Saunders (Advisory, Publications) Plainfield
- David T. Sheppard (Finance) Cedarville
- Ella K. Sheppard (Publications) Bridgeton

- Ardale C. Skaggs (Sabbath Promotion) Plainfield
- Rev. Victor W. Skaggs (Supervisory, Publications) Plainfield
- Peggy W. Van Horn (Publications) Plainfield
- Ethel M. Wheeler (Audio and Visual) Plainfield
- Albert W. Withrow (Audio and Visual) Plainfield
- Consultants:**
- Frederik J. Bakker (Finance) Plainfield
- Lloyd R. Coon (Finance) Succasunna
- Mrs. Arthur Drake (Publications) Milton, Wis.
- Rev. Everett T. Harris (Publications) Westerly, R. I.
- Franklin A. Langworthy (Advisory) Plainfield
- Loren G. Osborn (Advisory) Concord, N. H.
- Miss Evalois St. John (Publications) Plainfield
- Rev. Alton L. Wheeler (Supervisory) Plainfield
- Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel (Publications) Alfred Station, N. Y.

**Books at Reduced Prices**

Some years ago the American Sabbath Tract Society reduced the prices of its bound books in an effort to get them out to our people where they would be read. The prices were dropped so low in some cases that valuable books have been selling below the cost of present-day handling and postage costs. It has now seemed wise to the Board of Trustees to announce price increases, not up to the level of current prices for books of comparable size and quality, but substantial increases. Prices too far below value tend to downgrade the books.

Until May 31, 1969 the following books (while they last) may be purchased at present prices. After June 1 the following new prices will be in effect.

	new	present
<i>Seventh Day Baptists in Europe and America</i> , 2 Volumes .....	\$9 & \$10	\$9 & \$10
<i>Spiritual Sabbathism</i>		
—Lewis .....	3.50	1.00
<i>Bible Studies on the Sabbath Question</i>		
—Main .....	1.25	.75
<i>A Manual of Seventh Day Baptist Procedure</i>	1.25	1.00
<i>Sabbath History Before the Beginning of Modern Denominations</i>		
—Bond .....	1.50	.50
<i>China Letters</i>		
—Palmborg .....	2.50	2.00
<i>Letters to the Smiths</i>		
—Uncle Oliver .....	1.00	.25
<i>Letters to Young Preachers</i> — Lewis .....	1.00	.25
<i>Sermons to Boys and Girls</i> — Bond .....	1.00	.75
<i>Poems</i> — Bond(paper) .....	1.00	.75

(Order from American Sabbath Tract Society, P. O. Box 868, Plainfield, N. J. 07061. Cash with order plus postage.)

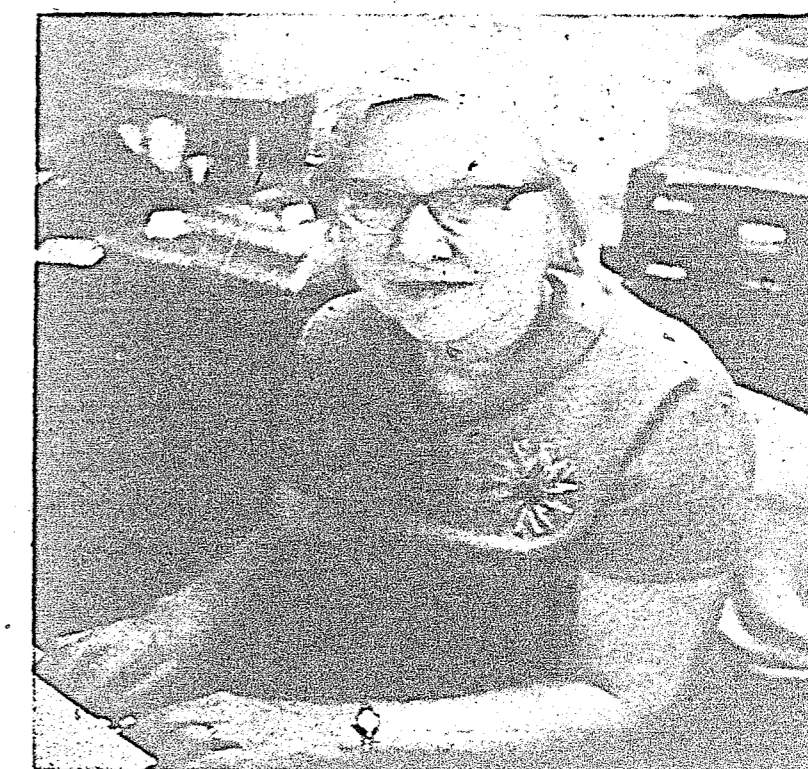
"Frequent naps keep you from growing old—especially if you take them while driving."

—Ray Savage

**The Denominational Desk**

In the office of the publishing house at Plainfield there is quite a bit of space. It is occupied with desks, files, cabinets, cases and a busy photocopier, not to mention equipment for the coffee break which draws together once a day the workers from all the offices in the Seventh Day Baptist Building.

Only one of the desks in the office has a name. It is what for many years has been called the "denominational desk." There has never been any placard over it; it is just understood. Perhaps the term does not have quite as much meaning as when two or three of the other desks were devoted to commercial work, reception, bookkeeping, etc. On the other hand, this desk, the area around it and the active files devoted to *Sabbath Recorder* and *Helping Hand* subscriptions, proofreading, etc., make that "denominational desk" more important than ever before.



Presiding at that desk is Etta O'Connor who knows Seventh Day Baptists better than anyone else in the whole organization. While still in high school this daughter of our long-time manager, the late L. H. North, started working part-time at the publishing house in shop and office. She has done almost everything that could be done by a woman. Her service has not been continuous since her marriage but she came back to the office nearly fifteen years ago and has

faithfully discharged the many duties that cluster around that desk.

Since the change-over from commercial to strictly denominational printing there has been a reduction of office as well as shop personnel. Mrs. O'Connor had been working only half a day. Now in her full day she does the bulk of the proofreading, handles all of the money that comes in for literature, supplies, etc., as well as subscriptions, answers all office phone calls, receives visitors and takes care of other office details that once were divided among several people. Etta is a VIP as far as the office of the publishing house is concerned. Her wide acquaintance through many years of correspondence with people in all our churches makes it possible for others in our offices to say, "Ask Etta."

#### She Does Her Part



When a publishing house has relatively few employed people the importance of each one stands out. So it is with Mrs. William McAllister, bookkeeper in the office of the Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House at Plainfield, N. J.

The term bookkeeper conjures up in some minds a picture of Bob Cratchit sitting on a high stool before a high desk making entries in a ledger all day.

For a bookkeeper of the publishing house nothing could be farther from a

true picture. Job tickets need to be made out for each job that is done. Then time sheets have to be collected and tallied and marked against each job. Other costs are added for the preparation of each "sales" sheet. Invoices are then prepared.

Going on behind the scenes in addition to the process described above there is payroll (also prepared from the time sheet) and payroll deductions for Uncle Sam. There are invoices to be paid on purchases of material and there is the monthly report to the post office on the number of periodicals being mailed in each category.

The stock inventory has to be kept. That means both the actual counting of reams in some instances as well as arithmetic in a little book and making sure the two balance.

Finally the bookkeeper is also the bookkeeper—that is she does prepare the monthly financial report and reconciles the checks with the monthly bank statement as Bob Cratchit himself did.

Our bookkeeper is the daughter of Mrs. Frankie and the late Courtland V. Davis, is mother of a growing family living a few miles from Plainfield. Her husband is highly qualified in the field of electronics research and manufacturing. In addition to her duties with the publishing house, Jean is treasurer of General Conference, handling the funds received from the OWM treasurer for the various administrative and other expenses.

#### G. I. Education Extended

A new law which went into effect December 1, 1968, has extended the educational benefits available to veterans discharged from service after January 31, 1955. Instead of one month for each month of service veterans are now entitled to one and one-half months of school. Some veterans who have previously declined the schooling because of the limited time allowed may now get up to four years of college, depending on individual entitlements. Interested? Contact your nearest VA Regional Office.

#### Happy Birthday

##### To Christian Endeavorers

Christian Endeavor Week will be observed January 26-February 2, 1969, marking the 88th anniversary of this pioneer youth organization in the Protestant Church. Millions of youth and their leaders from scores of evangelical denominations and communions in over 75 nations and island groups around the world will mark Christian Endeavor Week with special services, rallies, and banquets.

Today Christian Endeavor is helping youth to open the doors to a firm spiritual foundation which declares that Jesus Christ and His Gospel have the basic answers for living in today's world. Christian Endeavor is an interdenominational, international, and interracial agency in the local church specializing in service for youth.

#### Young Adult Pre-Con Retreat

According to an announcement from the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church, the Young Adult Pre-Con Retreat for 1969 will be held at Lewis Camp. Lewis Camp is located just outside of Ashaway, Rhode Island, and it is one of the oldest Seventh Day Baptist camps. Recently several improvements have been made in the facilities, and it will serve admirably for our retreat.

#### National SDBYF Memberships

Now is the time to join the National Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship for the year 1969. Membership costs \$1.00 per person. The money is used to help defray the salary of the youth field worker and the expense of publishing the *Beacon*.

To date about 160 of our youth have joined, several having signed up at General Conference. To join, send your name and address, along with your \$1, to Mr. Lyle Sutton, Almond, N. Y. 14804.

#### Youth Field Worker

The tentative schedule for Miss Esther Burdick, youth field worker, for January 1969, is as follows; January 2-4, Syracuse Seventh Day Baptist Church; January 5-7, Adams Center church; 8-11, Verona church; 12-14, DeRuyter church; 15-18, First and Second Brookfield churches; January 19-31, Waterford, Connecticut.

On December 17, Miss Burdick gave an oral report of her work thus far to the Youth Work Committee of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education in Alfred Station.

At each stop her schedule calls for conversations with the minister, the youth advisors, the youth fellowship officers, and others who may be working with the youth program of the church or Sabbath School. As time permits she meets with the total youth fellowship in scheduled meetings. Also, she desires to meet with individuals of the older youth-college age, especially those who have served in the Summer Christian Service Corps.

During the Conference year of 1967-68, two church youth fellowships gave \$100 each toward the salary of the youth field worker; they are Boulder and Milton. We are very grateful for their support.

The National Youth Fellowship is charged with raising \$1,300 during this Conference year, this also to be applied to the salary of the youth field worker. We expect to pay Miss Burdick at the rate of \$4,600 a year with \$2,000 coming from the Memorial Fund of the denomination, \$1,300 from the amount that has been raised prior to this year, and the balance from the youth. Gifts from others are always appreciated. They may be sent to Mr. Lyle Sutton, Almond, NY 14804.

#### Junior High Conference

Junior High Conference at General Conference will be directed again in 1969 by Miss Constance Coon. We are sure that those youngsters who worked and played under her direction at Kearney will look forward to next year's conference.



# The Sabbath Recorder

(Continued from page 12)

ty, while tending to neglect collective sins — massacres, slavery, etc." The view was expressed by one speaker that, "The Christian mission is to make Christ's presence known in all society, not to bring salvation to the individual," with the additional comment that we need "less soul saving, and more society saving."

On the other hand, Dr. Howard Schomer criticized the "faddishness" of present-day emphases, remarking that we typically diagnose our age as a "crisis age," forgetting that crisis is as old as history. He remarked that our theological thoughts are reflections of fads, and we let the fads of immediacy drown out the eternal, and the true human hunger.

It was emphasized that in the future missions must be more ecumenical in spirit, and yet it was acknowledged that "The missionary is here to stay, if the ecumenical movement does not sell them out." The stress is upon the various denominational boards or churches being enabling agencies that are willing to step into the background. The church as a structure should be transparent in revealing the living God, it was declared, and it should consider itself dispensable enough to step out of the way for the Holy Spirit to work in His own way.

The increasing role of the laity in world mission was also stressed, and rightly so.

After all our probing into need areas for the Church's missionary service, and the problem of being relevant, it seemed that the truth was fitly spoken in the words: "If we seek to be obedient, we will not need to worry about being relevant. History will find us. As we reach for the future, the future reaches for us."

Strange as it may seem to some, these

words have peculiar application to us who have traditionally taken an evangelical and missionary stance. We tend to defend structures and traditions, to be static when we ought to be dynamic in our comprehension of the breadth and meaning of Christian mission. The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is bigger than all man's problems and needs; its applications are limitless. We do well to build upon the past for a larger mission for Christ.

Our Lord said: "Every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old" (Matt. 13:35.) There is much that is good in our old concepts of missions, and there is much that is good in the new. And when we put them together, our understanding of our mission will grow to meet the needs of our times.

## Saigon Baptist Chapel Hit

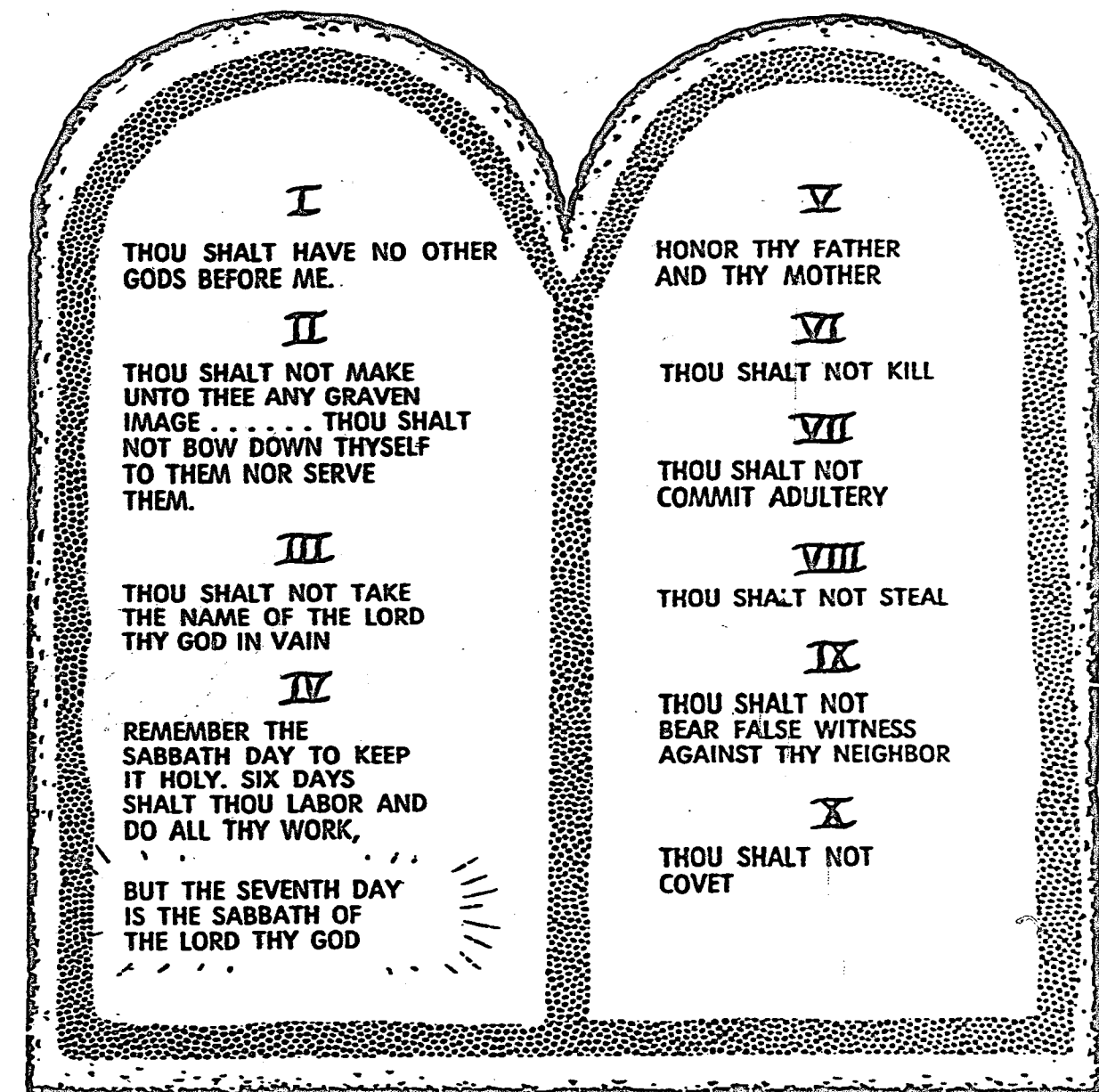
The newest Baptist chapel in Saigon, has become a "veteran."

The chapel building was hit by Vietcong fire a number of times. The greatest damage was done by a mortar shell which made a direct hit on the roof, a small rocket round which hit the front of the building, and small arms fire which peppered the building from all sides.

Ly Cu, a ministerial student who lives in the chapel on weekends, sat huddled on the main floor during the attack. Though the heat and shrapnel from the exploding mortar gave him some anxious moments, he says, "I was not afraid because God was with me."

More than 40 persons, many of them children, were killed in the chapel area, and approximately 200 were wounded.

—EBPS



## The Will of God for Man

As Christians we affirm that the will of God for man is set forth in the Holy Bible in an authoritative way and nowhere else. The Ten Commandments graven on tablets of stone "by the finger of God" are a brief summary of what God expects of man. They have been frequently argued against in whole or in part, and none but Christ has perfectly obeyed them. Upon our repentance He forgives our transgressions of the law—any one or all of its precepts, and gives us the assurance of the Holy Spirit to help us to do His will. He wants us to observe each and every one of the Commandments with His strength.