

The Assistant Pastor

January, 1936

The Scriptural Doctrine of Conversion

II

REASON RAISES THE QUESTIONS: If all men are by nature spiritually dead, blind, and enemies of God; if our conversion is entirely the work of the Holy Spirit, why is it that some are converted while others are not? Does not God wish to have all men saved? Does not the Holy Ghost desire to create the saving faith in all hearts?

The Bible answers these puzzling questions: "God will have all men to be saved and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." 1 Tim. 2, 4. "God is not willing that any should perish." 2 Peter 2, 9. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3, 16. "How often would I have gathered thy children together as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." Matt. 23, 37. "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost." Acts 7, 51. "O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself; but in me is thine help." Hosea 13, 9.

Thus saith the Lord in answer to the above questions and if Christians at all times had accepted His answer as final, there would never have been any controversy about the doctrine of conversion or election, — naadevalg — at Saude or Jerico or any other place among us Norwegians or among anyone else.

But the trouble is that there always have been, and there always will be those who have not learned to be silent where Scripture is silent, but want to be wise beyond that which is written. When Scripture has made it crystal clear that "God will have all men to be saved," that "eternal life is a gift of God," Rom. 6, 23, that "by grace are ye saved through faith," and that "Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith," Heb. 12, 2; and when, on the other hand, He has made it perfectly clear in His Word that rejection of grace through Christ Jesus, is the only reason why souls are lost, He has said all that He, in His infinite wisdom and love, wishes to say on that subject.

But proud human reason wants to know more and begins to think along various lines. Calvin thought and argued himself into his blasphemous doctrine of predestination. Others have by their reason been led into Synergism, which means, a co-operation with God in the salvation of one's soul. It is here Dr. F. A. Schmidt enters the scene as the cause of strife and division among us Norwegians.

Lutherans in this country.

The Assistant Pastor

Published and edited by the pastor of the Jerico and Saude Lutheran churches, affiliated with the Norwegian Synod of the Synodical Conference.

Church Directory

H. M. Tjernagel, Pastor

SAUDE CONGREGATION

Trustees: Chris Treider, John Borlaug, E. Firkingsstad.
Treasurer: Oscar Natvig.
Secretary: Ole N. Anderson.
Cemetery Committee: Martin Borlaug, Chris Treider, Mrs. Andrina Munson, Mrs. C. O. Natvig, Miss J. Ellingson.
Ladies' Aid: Mrs. Nels Ellingson, president; Mrs. N. Hereid, secretary; Mrs. John Natvig, treasurer.

JERICO CONGREGATION

Trustees: Geo. N. Anderson, Ole J. Johnson, J. A. Knutson.
Secretary: A. N. Anderson.
Treasurer: J. A. Robinson.
Ladies' Aid: Mrs. C. O. Vigdal, president; Mrs. Tollef Knutson, secretary; Mrs. Carl G. Johnson, treasurer.

Standing Services

JERICO

First Sunday, Norwegian, October-April, 10:30 a. m.
Third Sunday, English, October-April, 10:30 a. m.
Saturday School every Saturday, 10 a. m.
Confirmation class, Fridays, 2 p. m.

SAUDE

Second Sunday, bilingual service, Oct.-April, 10:45 a. m.
Fourth Sunday, English, October-April, 10:45 a. m.
Saturday School, 2 p. m.
Confirmation class, Fridays, 9:30 a. m.
Fifth Sunday by special announcement.

A HAPPY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR

This is a wish. But to believers in Jesus, it is more; it is a statement of fact, "for in Him we live, and move, and have our being." To believers, therefore, it will be a happy and blessed year. It can not be otherwise, for "all things work together for good to them that love God." Knowing this it becomes evident that the course of wisdom in the new year is to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness," while to reject or neglect seeking the love of God and to love Him in return, is positively the one greatest of all follies.

The Saude Aid crowded Mrs. Andrina Munson's spacious home from cellar to garret December 12th, yet everyone was made to feel that she was a special guest.

The Jerico Aid held its last meeting of the old year on December 11th, entertained by Mrs. John S. Roberston. The aid functioned splendidly during the entire year.

The parents and the younger brothers and sisters of our Saude Saturday children gathered at the parsonage on the afternoon of December 21st and enjoyed a program, a good lunch, and a pleasant social hour.

The Jerico experiment of combining the children's Christmas program with the regular Christmas services has not received its verdict as yet. Snow-blocked roads kept quite a few away from the services.

After a short course of instruction in the fundamental as well as specific doctrines of the Lutheran Church, Mrs. T. G. Vaala was confirmed, and together

with her husband and invalid sister-in-law, Carrie Vaala, partook of the Lord's Supper at a private service in the Vaala home on Sunday, December 22.

REFLECTIONS ON REPORT

A pine which selfishly chooses to stand alone on the foothills, is whipped and thrashed this way and that and, if it survives, becomes a fantastically deformed tree. In a forest, on the other hand, where the pines protect each other from the winds and are mutually helpful in conserving moisture by shading and mulching the ground in which they grow, become tall, stately trees yielding valuable logs to the lumberman.

This idea is true not only of trees, but also of animate things. We observe flocks of birds, schools of fish, packs of wolves, etc. And there is a reason. Among men as well, the life of the hermit is abnormal, while living in settlements and being mutually helpful to one another, is the normal condition. The same holds true also of Christian congregations, and this has naturally led to the formation or organization of synods.

We have recognized the wisdom and need of working together with other congregations under an organization and have, therefore, joined a synod. The following is a report of what we have donated towards the current expense of our synod for the year 1935.

What does it mean that so many have given 0.00? Are many of our members poverty stricken? That cannot be judged by what we have seen and heard all about us during the year so laden with blessings from God as was 1935. Does it mean then that there are so many spiritually poverty stricken among us, or that there are so many negligent and forgetful ones? There is a reason, what is it?

What is your opinion, dear member? Have we many married couples among us that are not able to give 25c per month for ten months of the year to the current expenses of our synod? Are there many single persons, boys and girls, above 18 years that cannot give 15c per month for 10 months? And many confirmed boys and girls up to 18 years that can not give 10 cents, and children from 5 to 14 years that can not give 5 cents, and younger ones that cannot give 1 cent a month? Judged by the report it is so.

Your pastor dares not keep silent in regard to Christian Giving for the Holy Ghost says in speaking of donations, 2 Cor. 9, 6 f.: "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly." "God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work; . . . Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness."

According to resolutions by the congregations, envelopes for 10 months will be distributed as soon as possible. If God does not prosper you sufficiently to give the small sum suggested, then, God bless you, don't let it bother you at all that you do not give anything. But if He does bless and prosper you in the new year, but, nevertheless, you do not give, then bear in mind, "God is not mocked."

If anyone has the means and wishes to make his donations to these funds all at one time, he may, of course, do so. But please hand your envelopes to the ushers in church after some service. Do not hand them to the pastor at odd times. That makes it so much more difficult to avoid mistakes in the book-keeping.

Report on Monthly Envelope Offering to Teachers' Salary and Synod Fund

SAUDE			
Mrs. Anna Anderson	\$ 1.50	Mr. and Mrs. Nels Ellingson.....	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. O. N. Anderson.....	2.50	Eleanor Ellingson .....	.75
Arthur Anderson	1.50	Omer Ellingson .....	.70
Theodora Anderson	1.50	Arlene Ellingson .....	.70
Nels Anderson	1.00	Doris Ellingson .....	.50
John Anderson	1.00	Mr. and Mrs. E. Ferkingstad.....	2.50
Orin Anderson .....	.50	Mr. and Mrs. R. Hagen.....	.75
Ruth Anderson .....	.50	Mrs. O. Hanson	2.00
June Anderson .....	.10	Hilda Hanson .....	.90
Mr. and Mrs. Boleng.....	2.00	Nos. 52, 53, 54.....	0.00
Philip Lee Boleng .....	.16	Lena Landsverk .....	.45
Mr. and Mrs. H. Borlaug.....	.50	Alfred Larson	1.00
Norman Borlaug .....	.30	Belle Larson .....	.50
Palma Borlaug .....	.25	Halvor Larson	1.00
Charlotte Borlaug .....	.25	Nos. 59-64	0.00
Mr. and Mrs. John Borlaug.....	1.75	Mrs. Andrina Munson	2.00
Harold Borlaug .....	.35	Martha Munson	2.00
Anna Borlaug .....	.07	Mrs. A. O. Natvig.....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. M. Borlaug.....	2.50	Pearl Natvig	1.00
Alice Borlaug	1.00	Carrie Natvig .....	.50
Ethel Borlaug	1.00	Louie Natvig .....	.50
Carman Borlaug	1.00	Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Natvig.....	2.50
Envelope No. 23.....	0.00	Carlyle Natvig	1.50
Oscar Borlaug	2.00	Ledru Natvig	1.50
Nos. 25-29	0.00	No. 74	0.00
Mrs. E. Ellingson	1.35	Mr. and Mrs. D. O. Natvig.....	3.25
Johanna Ellingson	1.05	Mr. and Mrs. Nelvin Herreid.....	2.50
		Nos. 77-80	0.00
		Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Natvig.....	12.50
		Adelia Natvig	1.50
		Juel Natvig	1.50
		Mr. and Mrs. Iver Natvig.....	1.50
		Sylvia Natvig .....	.70
		Mr. and Mrs. John Natvig.....	2.75
		Odell Natvig	1.65
		Godfrey Natvig	1.65
		Nos. 89-94	0.00
		Mr. and Mrs. Ole Natvig.....	2.00
		Nos. 96, 97	0.00
		Gerald Natvig .....	.15
		Nos. 99-101	0.00
		Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Natvig.....	2.25
		Kenneth Natvig .....	.90
		Ann Marie Natvig .....	.17
		Nels Paulson	1.30
		Pearl Paulson	1.55
		Mr. and Mrs. H. Reinhart.....	1.10
		Carl Swennumson	3.00
		Mr. and Mrs. Tom Swennumson	4.70
		Beulah Ruth Swennumson.....	1.18
		David Swennumson .....	.71
		No. 112	0.00
		Mr. and Mrs. Chris Treider.....	2.00
		Gunhilda Treider	1.50
		H. M. Tjernagel.....	2.50
		Bertha C. Tjernagel	2.50
		Helga Tjernagel	1.00

GAMBLE STORE AGENCY

NEW HAMPTON, IOWA

Owned and operated by Clarence R. Erickson.
See us for Tires, Batteries, Radios, Washers,
and light Hardware.

HALVOR NELSON & SON

Auto Repairing

JERICO, IOWA

We take pride in giving honest service.

LEUTHOLD-O'CONNOR CO.

HART SCHAFFNER & MARX CLOTHES

Oshkosh Overalls.

NEW HAMPTON, IOWA

GERBER'S CLEANERS

Home of Good Cleaning, Hat Blocking,
and Laundering.

Prompt Service and Satisfaction.

NEW HAMPTON

Phone 167.

LARKIN-KNUTSON

Furniture and Undertaking

NEW HAMPTON

DR. W. J. KELSON

DENTIST

206-207 Commercial Block.

NEW HAMPTON

Phone 78.

Bertha J. Tjernagel	1.00	Mr. and Mrs. Otto Dahlen.....	1.00	Mr. and Mrs. Carl O. Knutson.....	1.20
Borghid Tjernagel	1.00	Nos. 67-81	0.00	Kenneth Knutson .....	.60
Nos. 124-130	0.00	Mr. and Mrs. Ole Ellingson.....	1.00	Stella Knutson .....	.60
G. G. Vaala	10.00	Alvie Ellingson .....	.50	Nos. 202-234	0.00
Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Vaala	3.75	Marjorie Ellingson	1.00	Mr. and Mrs. Ole Overboe.....	2.50
L. G. Vaala	7.00	Irwin Ellingson .....	.50	Nos. 236-244	0.00
Carrie Vaala	10.00	Elling Ellingson	1.50	Mr. and Mrs. J. Robinson.....	2.25
Nos. 135-139	0.00	Carl Ellingson	1.50	Milton Robinson	1.35
Mrs. Caroline Vigdal.....	1.50	Bessie Ellingson	1.50	Nos. 247-253	0.00
Mrs. Hannah Vaala	1.00	Mr. and Mrs. Ferkingstad.....	.75	S. T. Roberson family.....	4.00
Nos. 142-146	0.00	Marjorie Ferkingstad	1.50	Nos. 255-262	0.00
John Leifson -	2.20	Clifford Ferkingstad	2.80	Alfred Robinson	1.00
No. 148	0.00	Nos. 92-94	0.00	Nos. 264-269	0.00
Torald Teigen	1.05	Mae Fossen	1.50	Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Robinson.....	5.50
JERICO CONGREGATION		Nos. 96-110	0.00	Knut Roberson	5.00
Nos. 1-5	\$ 0.00	Sigvard Johnson .....	.25	Mr. and Mrs. Carl Roberson.....	.30
J. N. Anderson family.....	4.05	Nos. 112-120	0.00	Nos. 273-276	0.00
Lars Aasen family.....	5.00	Mr. and Mrs. Carl Johnson.....	2.50	Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Roberson.....	10.00
Ella Aasen	1.50	Cletus Johnson .....	.26	Loyd Roberson	2.50
Nos. 15-20	0.00	Donna Mae Johnson .....	.10	Chris. Roberson	10.00
Nels Anderson	5.00	Mr. and Mrs. Ole J. Johnson.....	2.50	S. S. Roberson	2.50
Andrew Anderson	2.50	Calvin Johnson .....	.50	Omer Roberson	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Anderson.....	2.50	Paul Johnson .....	.50	Norman Roberson	1.00
Geraldine Anderson	1.00	Adis Johnson .....	.10	Harvey Roberson	1.00
Ronald Anderson .....	.50	Nos. 128-153	0.00	Pearl Roberson .....	.50
Nos. 26-41	0.00	Orrie Johnson .....	.45	Roy Roberson .....	.50
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Amman.....	3.05	Nos. 155-171	0.00	John Roberson family.....	5.00
Nos. 43-51	0.00	Albert J. Knutson.....	5.00	Nos. 287-305	0.00
George Braham	1.50	Nos. 173-194	0.00	Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Vigdal.....	3.50
Nos. 53-65	0.00	John S. Knutson.....	2.50	Eva Mae Vigdal.....	.50
		Nos. 196, 197, 198.....	0.00	Lowell Vigdal .....	.50

SISSON FOOD SHOP

We specialize in Libby's Canned Foods and Meats. — A complete line of Staple and Fancy Groceries.

NEW HAMPTON, IOWA
Phone 44.

FARM BUREAU SERVICE CO.

NEW HAMPTON, IOWA

Phone 125.

Petroleum Products — Paint — Insecticides

A. P. SCHAECHER, D. C.

CHIROPRACTOR

Palmer School Graduate.

NEW HAMPTON

"Chiropractic adds life to years and years to life."

SHEAKLEY & KENNEDY BROS. DEPT. STORE

NEW HAMPTON

Distributors of dependable and trustworthy merchandise for over fifty years.

Your trade solicited.

THE NEW FIRST NATIONAL BANK

NEW HAMPTON, IOWA

Deposits insured up to \$5000, for each individual depositor.

E. L. BRADLEY & SON

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Mrs. E. L. Bradley, Assistant.

CRESCO, IOWA