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PORTING THE ENLARGEMENT OF A PRESBYTERIAN WITNESS LOYAL TO SCRIPTURE AND THE REFORMED FAITH

What Kind of Hand?

Certainly in the vanguard of the devil's army is this woman who wrote to our government, in part: "We find the Bible to be nauseating . . . God to be sadistic . . . the Lord's prayer to be that muttered by worms." With such statements Mrs. Madalyn Murray O'Hair, mother and atheist, pressed her case against Bible reading and prayers. And she won! Today her children are free of religious influence in school, and our children are denied it. Thus her evil hand is rocking the cradle of 20th-century America.

What kind of hand will rule tomorrow? This question can be answered only by God's Christian mothers, for the hope of the righteous can be compared to the curse of the godless: "As is the mother, so is her daughter" (Ezek. 16:44). A positive answer must come from Christian mothers.

—James L. Ransom
See p. 7

AY SCHOOL LESSON FOR MAY 28
LE BIBLE STUDY FOR JUNE

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Mailbag

GET YOUR COPY

For about eighteen years, the United Presbyterian Mission in Ethiopia has published a periodical called *Ethio-Echo*. Now, with the phaseout of the Mission in Ethiopia, this publication will cease. The final issue is just off the press and ready for distribution.

We have a problem and need your help. For some unknown reason, the Ethiopian government has not permitted us to bring our mailing list out of the country. Therefore, we are ask-

ing you if you would help us by publishing a notice to our subscribers that in order to get this final expanded issue, they must write to Mr. Glenn R. Noble, 4900 S. Lewis, #110, Tulsa, OK 74105, requesting it and giving their address. Of course, there is no charge to subscribers for this final issue.

For others who would like to receive a copy, the cost is 50 cents per copy.

—Glenn R. Noble
Tulsa, Okla.

PROPHECY

I was delighted to see the articles on prophecy in the April 19 issue of the *Journal*.

The article listing the signs of Jesus' second coming omitted the one

sign which pinpoints the time more accurately. Matthew 24:14 indicates the end will come after the Gospel is preached to every nation. This is the real sign of the end. Fortunately, we have a massive attempt in this generation to get that job done. The Bible is being translated into many tribal languages, and, of course, the communication sciences are speeding the Word out to the uttermost corners of the earth. Christians who are eager for the second coming are supporting financially the attempt to get the Gospel preached everywhere.

—Mrs. Joan B. Finneran
Columbia, Md.

JESUS AND THE DEATH PENALTY

The article "Should We Restore the Death Penalty?" (*Journal*, April 5) calls our attention to the fact that the Old Testament law repeatedly decrees the death penalty for deliberate murder. Indeed, this decree occurs in every one of the five books of the law.

But I differ with those writers when they state, "Jesus seems to sweep them all under the rug in His Sermon on the Mount." In neither of the passages cited from the Gospels, Matthew 5:38-39 and Luke 6:27-31, does Jesus mention the taking of human life. Accordingly, we respectfully challenge the right of the authors to put into the Lord's mouth words He did not utter.

After citing the eye for an eye and tooth for tooth in Leviticus 24:20, the law reads in verse 21, "And he that killeth a beast shall make it good; and he that killeth a man shall be put to death." Numbers 35:31 reads, "Ye shall take no ransom for the life of a murderer. He shall surely be put to death."

It was with reference to such repeated statements of the law of capital punishment for deliberate murder, among other things, that Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, "till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law" (Matt. 5:17-19). Thus, in my opinion, the Sermon on the Mount confirms the permanent validity of the death penalty when properly applied.

God has given to civil governors this power of the sword to execute murderers; this was taught by Christ

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Seeking to promote a rising reformation in God's Church according to the whole counsel of God known as the Reformed faith; to define, describe, popularize and promote the Reformed faith; to encourage and assist Reformed conservatives; and to report on activities in Presbyterian and Reformed bodies.

THIS WEEK—

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What a nation's mothers believe will shape the destiny of that nation's people

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Christ will return in a physical body that can be recognized by everyone at that time

by CARROLL R. STEGALL JR.

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The Church today is a continuation of God's plan and not a pause between periods of His time

by GROVER E. GUNN III

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(John 19:16) and His apostles (Rom. 13:1-7; Tit. 3:1; I Pet. 2:13-17). These officers of government, when executing such murderers, are ministers or agents of God visiting His wrath upon evil doers.

—(Rev.) William C. Robinson
Clinton, S. C.

AFRAID TO DIE?

Your article, "Are You Afraid to Die?" by Richard Allen Bodey, in the March 29 *Journal*, was the best I have ever read on the subject. Many thanks for a realistic, yet Biblically oriented view of death.

Through the atonement on the cross, Jesus fulfilled the statement made many times that He came to earth to bring eternal life to those who believe and follow Him.

—Bob Tippet
Houston, Tex.

LIKES PALM TREE

I am tossing a few bouquets Jean Shaw's way—she is such an asset to the *Journal's* contributing staff. Just thinking about some of the many humorous articles she's written makes me almost laugh out loud. I think of Alexander Pope's definition of wit: "... what oft was thought but n'er so well expressed" and must say that Jean Shaw surely meets that criterion.

Please continue to use her marvelous material. She is one of my favorites!

—Betsy Warner (Mrs. Joseph A.)
Delray Beach, Fla.

MINISTERS

Louis F. Hutchins from New Orleans, La., to the Second Church (PCUS), Memphis, Tenn., as associate pastor.

Thomas H. Rayside from Delray Beach, Fla., to the Calvary Church (PCA), Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Leck Herrington from Albany, Ga., to the Second Church (PCUS), Thomasville, Ga.

William E. Hoffman from Dearborn, Mich., to the Church of the Covenant (PCUS-UPC-USA), Arlington, Va.

William B. Caldwell from Del Rio, Tex., to the First Church (PCUS), Silsbee, Tex.

Robert Ferris Field from Imperial, Mo., to the Bonhomme Church (PCUS), Chesterfield, Mo., as associate pastor.

Donald E. Hoke, formerly director of the Billy Graham Center at Wheaton College, to be supply minister of the Cedar Springs Church (PCUS), Knoxville, Tenn. eff. July 1.

Robert Lee Jarratt has been installed pastor of the First Church (PCA), Waynesboro, GA.

Gerald H. Kirby from Arlington, Va., to the Squires Memorial Church (PCUS), Norfolk, Va.

Judson J. Milam from Fayetteville, N.C., to the St. Andrews Church (PCUS), Winston-Salem, N.C.

Wayne Rogers, Swannanoa, N.C., has been called by the Covenant Church (PCA), Panama City, Fla.

of St. Paul, Minn., is recovering from a campaign similar to the one in Dade County, Fla., where singer Anita Bryant led in winning repeal of an ordinance which had granted sweeping "rights" to homosexuals. After St. Paul citizens voted solidly to wipe off the books an ordinance protecting homosexual "rights," the leader of the homosexual coalition said the citizens had turned against "your accountant, your lawyer, your waitress and the clerk in your favorite store." Speaking for the coalition which calls itself Citizens for Human Rights, Kerry Woodward continued, "We are your neighbor, your friend, brother, sister, teacher, student. We are your parents and we certainly are your children." Similar campaigns to get homosexual "rights" ordinances off the books are in progress in Eugene, Ore., Wichita, Kans., and Seattle, Wash.

• In another story out of Minnesota, we learn that only one Minnesotan in 25 believes he or she deserves to go to hell. But five times that many (one out of five) are convinced they know someone *else* who is a sure bet to go to hell.

• Changing the subject, we have heard from the First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland, Miss., that a drive is on to collect books, or funds to purchase desirable books, for the library of the African Bible College in Liberia whose founders are the Rev. Jack Chinchin and his wife, Nell. *Journal* readers will remember Mrs. Chinchin's moving story of missionary work in the Jan. 25 issue. Interested persons should contact the African Bible College State Side Receiving Station, P. O. Drawer P, Cleveland, Miss. 38732.

• From time to time the *Journal* has received memorial gifts and these are regularly acknowledged to the families of those memorialized as well as the donors. Henceforth we expect to publish the names of both. Most recently, gifts have been from Mrs. Joseph I. Chandler, Charleston, S.C., in honor of a former pastor, the Rev. Frank P. Anderson; from Mrs. Ruth Scott, Richmond, Va., in honor of her mother, Mrs. Martha L. Potts; and from Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Crouch Jr., Mountville, S.C., in memory of Mrs. John Hart, York, S.C. [1]



Across the Editor's Desk

• Our recognition of Mother's Day is somewhat perfunctory, we fear, as the series of articles on prophecy continues to demand a great deal of space. But you will enjoy "The Hand That Rocks the Cradle" (p. 7). And in the back pages (p. 16) the Circle Bible Study on Mary, the mother of the Lord Jesus, would make interesting material for a home Bible study whether or not you belong to a group using the PCUS *Workbook*, which the circle studies are designed to supplement.

• Speaking of parenthood, the city