

JUDGE DAVID OTIS FULLER CONCERNING O'HAIRISM

INSIDE FRONT COVER

I have just received a copy of a message which is being distributed by the pastor of the Wealthy Street Baptist Temple, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

These words are printed on the cover of the little book—"Copies of this booklet may be secured from the Book Table of the Wealthy Street Baptist Temple, Grand Rapids, Mich."

"It is a privilege for me to heartily endorse and recommend this sane, Scriptural answer to the vagaries of 'O'Hairism.' In these pages God's Word is employed with finality and authority."

DAVID OTIS FULLER
Pastor.

Author Note at top of first page:

Please read from the pen of Dr. James M. Gray on the inside of the back cover.

INSIDE BACK COVER:

Letter of Dr. James M. Gray to Pastor O'Hair, March 21, 1933:

"YES, I AM READING AND WITH MUCH INTEREST YOUR BOOKLET, 'MUCH, LITTLE, NO WATER?' AND ALTHOUGH I DO NOT GO ALL THE WAY WITH YOU, I REGARD IT AS A FINE PIECE OF EXEGESIS. YOUR FAULT IS, IF YOU WILL FORGIVE ME, THAT YOU ARE TOO INTENSE."

Letter of Dr. James M. Gray to Pastor O'Hair, March 27, 1933:

"COMING NOW TO THE QUESTION OF YOU TEACHING ABOUT BAPTISM, YOU ARE NOT TO BE CONDEMNED BUT CONTRARIWISE COMMENDED, IF YOU BELIEVE IT IS THE TRUTH. BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU SHOULD EXPECT OPPOSITION FROM THOSE WHO DO NOT AGREE WITH YOU AND YET WHOSE MOTIVE IS ENTITLED TO EQUAL RESPECT."

Letter of Dr. James M. Gray to Pastor O'Hair, February 20, 1933:

"AT PRESENT, HOWEVER, YOU MAY BE RELIEVED TO LEARN THAT IN THE WRITING OF OUR EDITORIAL, 'DISPENSATIONALISM RUNNING WILD,' YOUR NAME NEVER CAME INTO MIND. PERSONALLY, I HAVE NOT ASSOCIATED YOU WITH BULLINGER."

Read carefully the article which Dr. Gray published in the Moody Monthly concerning Dr. Bullinger:

“BULLINGER WOULD BE CALLED A FUNDAMENTALIST WERE HE NOW ON EARTH, FOR HE WAS AN ABLE DEFENDER OF THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE, THE DEITY AND VIRGIN BIRTH OF CHRIST, THE SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT, THE PREMILLENNIAL COMING AND ALL THAT. BUT HE WAS AN EXTREMIST, SOME WOULD CALL HIM A FADDIST, ON DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, AND HE WAS UNSCRIPTURAL AS WE BELIEVE, ON FUTURE RETRIBUTION. BECAUSE OF THESE LAST-NAMED ERRORS, THE MONTHLY HAS NOT FELT FREE TO ADVERTISE BULLINGER’S BOOKS, CERTAINLY NOT ALL OF THEM AND YET THE WRITER OF THESE LINES OWES ONE OF HIS RICHEST SPIRITUAL BLESSING TO THAT GREAT TEACHER, FOR A TRULY GREAT TEACHER HE WAS. NO ONE EVER SET BEFORE US FROM THE WORD OF GOD SO CLEARLY AS DID BULLINGER, THE PROFOUND MYSTERY OF THE BODY OF CHRIST, AND WE ALWAYS SHALL BE INDEBTED TO HIM.”

MAIN MESSAGE

Chicago, March 1, 1942.

Dear Judge Fuller:

Quite frequently judges are merciful toward criminals who plead guilty and as I know that you consider yourself an extraordinary, spiritual Christian, surely you will be compassionate in my case when I make my full confession.

I begin my confession with a verse from the Bible: “Wherein I suffer trouble as an evildoer, even unto bonds; but the Word of of God is not bound.” II Timothy 2:9 Perhaps, Judge Fuller, I ought to be in jail. I know some religious people, including your Massachusetts religious pal, who wish I were either in jail, in the hospital or in the grave. The apostle Paul went to jail for the Divine truth which I am proclaiming and religions men like you put him there and kept him there. Perhaps this statement seems rather disrespectful Judge, but I am the defendant in the case and I feel that I should use some very plain language. Why should Paul have suffered in jail for this wonderful truth and I escape the persecution of religious men?

As an expert exegete of the Scriptures you know the meaning of the Divine truth in I Corinthians 4:1 and 2: “Let, a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man he found faithful.” You are a minister of Christ. Are you a faithful steward of the mysteries of God? You should be. Paul was. And note carefully his words in I Corinthians 11:1, “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. Again, I Timothy 1:16, “that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all long suffering for a PATTERN to them which should hereafter believe on Him to life everlasting.” Again, I Corinthians 3:10, “According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a, wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every men take heed how he buildeth (together) thereupon.”

According to the Word of God, Christian ministers are to follow Paul, the PATTERN and WISE MASTERBUILDER.

Perhaps you can explain to my satisfaction, as well as to your own, why Paul was the only apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ who went to jail for the mystery, and you say that Peter and the other eleven apostles preached the same message that Paul preached. If, as you say, Peter and Paul preached the same message, is it not strange that Peter was not imprisoned for the mystery?

Now, is it not true, that, if Paul had perpetuated the ministry and message of Peter, he never would have been in jail for “the mystery of the gospel”? Does not this convince you that there is a difference between “the gospel” and “the mystery of the gospel”? Paul was in the Roman jail for doing exactly what you say he did not do. Paul was not in jail for preaching the gospel of I Corinthians 15:1 to 5. That was all in fulfillment of prophecy. Paul was in the Roman jail for preaching what the Lord’s prophets never preached. It was God’s secret until revealed to Paul.

Humanly speaking, Paul had rather a lonely life, because he was true to his convictions and preached what the Lord Jesus Christ led him to preach. Paul Said, “For if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.” Galatians 1:10. But let us see what this cost him. Galatians 2:11 to 14. James, Peter, John and Barnabas turned against Paul. Later Paul wrote, “This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me.” II Timothy 1:15. Again, II Timothy 4:15, All men forsook me; I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.” “Only Luke is with me.” II Timothy 4:11. Rather a lonely life, wasn’t it Judge? But in the same chapter he was assured of a crown from the Lord, in spite of all his religious enemies.

And Judge, did you know that Paul was in that Roman jail for you? Note his own words, “I Paul the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles.” Ephesians 3:1. Now, tell me the truth, if you had lived at that time, wouldn’t you have said that the evil one had led Paul astray, and he deserved to be in Jail? Judged by the earthly ministry of Christ and the ministry or the Twelve on Pentecost was not Paul an ultradispensationalist”? Surely you know that Paul very plainly states the reason for his imprisonment in Colossians 4:3 and 4 and Ephesians 6:19 and 20. Let me bring these statements, to your remembrance:

“Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.”

“And for me (Paul), that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth. boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in bonds; that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.”

Surely then you agree with me that Paul was in jail for telling God’s secret. Paul wanted his fellowsaints to pray for open doors and open mouths to proclaim the most precious truth for saints in all the Bible. He wanted to speak it as he ought, boldly. How does God want you and me to speak it? Of course, a defendant before a Judge should not judge the Judge. In fact the Scriptures plainly state, “judge not,” and Judge, they plainly instruct Christian “lie not.” I shall refer to this later on. But just now, I would be willing to say that neither you nor one single member of your congregation is opening a mouth to speak this Divine truth either boldly or any other way. Do You Have any idea what “the mystery of the Gospel “ is”? Tell me, are you a faithful steward of the mysteries of God? Are you not rather helping out “The Accuser of the Brethren”? And of course, you know John 8:44: “When the devil speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.” And of course you know what becomes of liars according to Revelation 21:8. You surely agree with me that every Christian should be honest and just, as well as gracious. Your Massachusetts religious pal might be excused on the grounds

of ignorance for his ungracious, dishonorable, malicious accusations, but both you and your official board know full well that I do not teach or believe any of the extreme dispensationalism with which I am charged in your book "O'Hairism." I wrote you at length concerning my teaching some months ago when you were misrepresenting me in your public utterances, and if you had done what any spiritual, honest Christian should have done, you would have publicly apologized for your false and ungracious charges. But you are still maliciously, intentionally falsifying. Unless you have deceived the members of your official board, I cannot understand why they would permit you to continue your untruthful accusations especially at this time when this world is torn asunder by strife and bloodshed and when men of God should be united in giving forth a clear gospel testimony to millions of hell-bound sinners.

With all my heart I agree with you concerning the verbal Divine inspiration of the Bible, the virgin birth and eternal Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ. His once-for-all sacrifice on the cross of Calvary, salvation by grace through faith in the crucified, resurrected and glorified Christ. Therefore I do not believe that any sinner can be saved without repenting. I believe in eternal life for the saved and eternal perdition for the unsaved. I believe in the premillennial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. I believe in the highest possible Scriptural Spiritual walk for the members of the Body of Christ. I believe, with all my heart, as surely you do, that Christian unity is to be kept on the basis of the seven-fold unity of Ephesians 4:3 to 7. And this means just as much one Body and one Baptism, as it means one Faith. How any intelligent spiritual Christian can teach that there are two baptisms for the One Body when the Scriptures plainly teach, One Baptism, I cannot understand. Of course the explanation is, sectarian tradition and religious zeal instead of the plain teaching of the Word of God.

Perhaps you can do for me what no other Christian minister has done. If so, please do it. Tell me why nothing will stir up the old nature of a zealous immersionist as will challenging his, interpretation of water baptism while at the same time he teaches that his immersion was the witness to the world that his old man is dead and buried and he has been raised to walk in newness of life. I have not found one such brother who has told the truth about what I teach and answered it with the Word of God. Tell me why water baptism should make them lie. If you and your Massachusetts religious pal are really as honest and as spiritual and as Scriptural as you claim to be, I beseech you, in the Name of the Lord, to call a meeting in your church with some members of your official board and some members of the board where I have pastored for more than eighteen years and let us prayerfully consider our differences, and agree thereafter to tell nothing but the truth.

Tell me Why Fundamental Baptists join with other immersionists and change the Word of God to fit into their religious program. Why do they teach "He that believeth and is saved shall be baptized," "and no signs to follow," when the plain Word of God is, "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved and signs to follow"? Mark 16:14 to 18. Why do they have no explanation for their contradictory teaching that the twelve apostles were to preach the same gospel of grace to Gentiles all over the world, the gospel that Paul preached, when the Scriptures plainly teach that during the "Acts" period they remained in Jerusalem (Acts 8:1), that they agreed with Paul to go to the Jews (Galatians 2:9), that one mouth of the twelve apostles was chosen to preach to Gentiles (Acts 15:7)? Why do they teach that this Present, dispensation of grace began with Peter and Pentecost, instead of with Paul and his ministry of reconciliation, and twist and pervert the message of Acts 2:38 and do nothing about selling their houses and lots in obedience to the closing verses of that same chapter? Why do they teach that Christian baptism began on the day of Pentecost, that the Christian Church (the body) began on that day with the

twelve apostles, and then admit that not one of the twelve apostles received Christian baptism, for they were baptized several years before Pentecost, when John the Baptist baptized that Christ might be manifest unto Israel, a baptism unto repentance for the remission of sins? (John 1:31, Luke 3:3 to 16). Did not Paul testify that he was told to arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins? Acts 22:16. Were the twelve apostles buried with John's baptism to witness to the world that they had been crucified and buried with Christ, when Luke 18:31 to 34 plainly teaches us that they knew nothing of the resurrection of Christ and not one thing about identification with Christ in their own spiritual resurrection?

THE BELIEVER'S WITNESS TO THE WORLD

How are members of Christ's Body to witness to the world that they have been buried with Christ by baptism and have been raised? They have been raised to walk in newness of life. Romans 6:3 to 6. Note the scriptural witness in Colossians 3:2 to 5 . . . "If ye then be raised with Christ" do what? "Seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." May I ask you, brother, a simple question, "is there a tank of water at Christ's right hand?" Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth. That's the true witness. If the old man is actually dead, put to death all those earthly, sensual things with which he is identified, and thereby prove it. No man convinces any witness that his old man is dead because he has been immersed especially when he comes out of his Baptist tank to lie about a Christian brother.

A friend wrote me that he firmly believed what I teach, but added this prayer, "may God give you the hide of a rhinoceros and the heart of a dove, for all the fiery darts of the religious traditionalists will be shot at you and they will try to cut you to pieces with their religious axes."

One of your leading Michigan Baptist friends publicly made a false charge against me and my teaching. A friend of mine told him that he had done me an injustice, for he had misrepresented me to his hearers he asked the speaker if he would read in my printed message what I believe. He replied emphatically, "No." He preferred to lie. Why? Water.

My dear brother, why did not you and your friend write a book against Seventh Day Adventism which is troubling so many church members in Michigan? Hundreds of pulpits in Michigan and Massachusetts are filled with Modernists who deny, the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ and salvation by His blood, and all of the Christian fundamentals. Why don't you join with the Lord's redeemed servants against Modernism, Christian Science, Anglo-Israelism, Pentecostalism and Romanism? Why attack a brother in the Lord who loves the Lord Jesus and the Word of God as much as you do, and who is earnestly contending for one Faith one Body and one Baptism?

What about the Postmillennial Lutherans who put a little water on the infants heads to make them Christians, and confuse the kingdom of heaven with the Body of Christ?

If their water ceremony is Scriptural, yours is absolutely absurd.

If your "burial" ceremony is Scriptural and as important as you seem to think, you certainly could not fellowship with sprinkling Presbyterians who teach that a few drops of water on the head takes the place of Israel's circumcision. But you know as well as I do that every regenerated Presbyterian, Lutheran, Methodist, and all the saved members of the Reformed Churches were buried with Christ by baptism the very moment they received Christ.

You zealous immersionists are determined to force your religions "burial" ceremony on other Christians who have seen the fallacy of your theory. Even your leaders acknowledge that a sinner can be saved without water baptism, get into the Bible Church without water baptism, get

into heaven without water baptism. You are preaching a religious theory and trying to impose it upon those who know that the only baptism left for the members, of the Body of Christ is the Divine baptism mentioned in Colossians 2:12 and Ephesians 4:4 and 5. Fully eighty percent of your own “grace” immersionists teach that there is no water in Colossians 2:12, Ephesians 4:4 and 5, and Romans 6:3 and 4.

CONCERNING SOME OF YOUR CHARGES

I believe with all my heart in Bible repentance and therefore, I most, heartily believe that you should repent for your false accusations.

Never once have I taught that Peter’s Epistles, Jude and James are not for this age.

I believe that every message of the Lord Jesus Christ in Matthew, Mark and Luke that is compatible with Paul’s message and program of grace is for the obedience and practice of members of Christ’s Body, but that there is much kingdom and legal truth which have no place in the dispensation of grace. Surely the grace messages of John’s Gospel are for present day sinners.

SIGN-GIFTS IN THE “ACTS” PERIOD

Concerning the sign-gifts during; the transition “Acts” period my eyes were first opened to this truth by a message printed and sent out by the Moody Colportage Association. It was the teaching of Dr. C. I. Scofield. I quote From this printed message:

“There is no foundation in the Word of God for the prevailing popular doctrine of ‘Divine Healing’.”

“A careful study of the Epistles, especially of the latest Epistles of Paul, which give the normal course of the Church during the present dispensation, would dismount all from their hobbies, eliminate the last vestige of Judaism from their lives.”

“After repeated study of the Epistles written after Paul’s arrival at Rome, I am convinced that in them is found a curative teaching for all of the present-day delusions and fanaticisms found among many of the most sincere saints in the Church.”

“The sign gifts of I Corinthians 12 were operative only during the Book of Acts period.”

FROM THE MOODY MONTHLY

Note these statements printed in the Moody Monthly Dr. Will Houghton was Editor in Chief.

“The simple answer is that in this Book (Acts), we have the Divine record of the Pentecostal dispensation, and that transition period was now ended. And here we notice a very significant fact, which surely can not be said to be accidental, that in the New Testament Books written after the date of Acts 28, there is not a word to be found about Spirit manifestations except as a warning, such as I Timothy 4:1 and 2. Therefore, we heartily agree with the late Sir Robert Anderson when he says:

“As there were no miracles in Jerusalem after the stoning of Stephen, there were none in Rome after that solemn “Ichabod” had been pronounced by the Apostle. For the age of miracles was past, with the dispensation to which they belonged; and the Apostle himself entered upon

the life of faith beneath a silent heaven. Such is the character of this Christian dispensation; for ours is the blessedness of those who have not seen but yet have believed.

“That explains why the Apostle Paul performed no miracles in Rome, did not even speak in tongues.”

CONCERNING THE MYSTERY

The writer of the booklet, “O’Hairism,” wholly misunderstands my teaching concerning the mystery. I would be glad to send my printed message “Bullingerism, the Preacher’s Scarecrow,” if you desire.

The Joint-Body of Ephesians 3:6 is only one phase of the mystery. The mystery is the eternal “grace” purpose of God concerning the heavenly position and possessions of members of Christ’s Body concerning truth which God predestinated but did not prophesy. I am uncompromisingly opposed to the teaching that the Body of Christ did not have its’ historic beginning until the close of Acts. Surely Romans 8:28 to 33 refutes that teaching.

My belief and teaching concerning the Body of Christ is in exact agreement the printed messages of Dr. H. A. Ironside, which, I hereunder copy:

“The whole counsel of God was not made known until Paul received this revelation of the mystery.”

“It was a special revelation given not to the twelve, but to him as the apostle of the new dispensation.”

“Now if the mystery be for those who have faith to obey, it is certainly of vast importance that every child of God be instructed as to its true character.”

“The mystery formed no part of the revelation of the previous dispensations. Had it been otherwise, Paul could not rightly have written that it was ‘kept secret since the world began.’ It was part of the good news he was commissioned to publish abroad but he learned it not from the former Scriptures, but by direct revelation from the Lord Jesus Christ in glory.”

“The Old Testament will be searched in vain for it. It is not there because it was ‘hid in God.’ It was the secret purpose of His heart, only to be revealed after the rejection of His Son.”

“This was not until Israel had been given every opportunity to receive Christ both in incarnation and resurrection. When they definitely refused Him God made known what had been in His heart from eternity, that from all nations, Jews and Gentiles, He would redeem and take out an elect company who would, by the Spirit’s baptism, be formed into one Body.”

“Let the reader not fall into a mistake very commonly made today. The kingdom is not the Church. The latter is the Body of Christ, composed of all who, in this dispensation, are called out from Jew and Gentile, and baptized in the power of the Holy Spirit. During the period in which God is doing this special work of His grace, the kingdom, properly speaking, is in abeyance.”

“The rejection of the Messiah has caused God not to cancel His promises made to the fathers of the Hebrews, but to bring to light His hidden purposes, hitherto unrevealed of grace for the Gentiles during a period of undefined duration.”

“There is one Body and I know of no other. Nor does this result in unkind feelings or hard critical thought concerning others, equally dear to Christ, who may not be enlightened upon this great mystery. The very fact that we are all members one of another should hinder this.”

“While Messiah is on the Father’s throne and the people of Israel are rejected because of their refusal of their King, God is displaying the hidden purpose of His heart in bringing in of ‘a

new thing in the earth,' even the mystical body of His Son to share with Him all the glories He is yet to enter upon, when, the regular line of prophecy is taken up."

"The mystery of the Church as the Body of Christ was never made known in Old Testament times, nor yet in the days when our Lord was on the earth. We are told distinctly it had been hid from ages and generations, but now is made manifested to the saints: The Divine method of making it known was by a special revelation to the Apostle Paul, as he tells us in Ephesians 3. But this revelation was not for him only. It was a ministry committed to him to pass on to the saints."

"How earnest was the apostle in seeking to lead Christians into the knowledge of this precious truth."

"But this doctrine of the one body is never referred to by any other apostle than Paul. He calls it 'the dispensation of the mystery' which he had especially been entrusted with."

"It was the secret purpose of His heart only to be revealed after the rejection of His Son."

"Paul was the apostle to the Gentiles and as such he magnified his office. He was not the apostle to the Hebrews."

"To the epistles of Paul alone do we turn for the revelation of this mystery. He was the special vessel chosen to make known the heavenly calling. The twelve were, as we have seen, connected primarily with the testimony to Israel. Paul, as one born out of due time, was selected to be the messenger to the nations, announcing the distinctive truths of the present dispensation."

(Concerning Colossians 1:24 to 27)

"What is especially insisted on here is that the mystery is the great truth that completes the Word of God."

"It is the capstone of Scripture teaching, as the Cross is the foundationstone of the gospel. Christ is now working among the Gentiles, while rejected by Israel. This, the Old Testament did not contemplate."

(Concerning Ephesians 3:1 to 3)

"This is the fullest declaration, or unfolding, of this precious and wondrous mystery that we have in all the Bible. It is so plain that one would suppose that every spiritual mind must see at once to what it refers. Yet the commentators and expositors generally are content to make it mean that in the present age God is extending to the Gentiles the same grace He offers the Jew, so that the former, by closing with His offer of grace, becomes a sharer in the kingdom promised to Israel."

"Throughout the writings of the Apostle Paul he again and again refers to a wonderful secret, which he designates in a special way as 'the mystery' or 'the great mystery'."

"For centuries it was almost entirely lost sight of. In fact, until brought to the fore through the writings and the preaching and teaching of a distinguished exclergyman, Mr. J. N. Darby, in the early part of the last century, it is scarcely to be found in a single book or sermon throughout a period of sixteen hundred years."

"Of ordinances exalted to the place of mysteries, as in heathen rites, we will find much; but as to the mystery, which to the apostle was so unspeakably precious, rarely a reference."

“That a doctrine so clearly revealed in the Scriptures could have become so utterly lost is only to be accounted for by the Judaizing of the Church, and the consequent minding of earthly things that beclouded the heavenly ones.”

“The mystery is made known, in the prophetic writings of the apostle himself. He was the chosen vessel to whom alone it was given to set it forth ‘for the obedience of faith’.”

“The mystery then is not simply centered in the term ‘Body’ but whatever expression may be used, the mystery is that during the present age all distinction between believing Jews and believing Gentiles is done away in Christ.”

“‘The mystery’ was not something of difficult, mysterious character, but a sacred secret never known to mankind until in due time opened up by the Holy Spirit through the apostle Paul.”

“It was not hid in the Scriptures to be brought to light eventually; but we are distinctly told it was hid in God until such time as He chose to manifest it.”

“This was not until Israel had been given every opportunity to receive Christ both in incarnation and resurrection. When they definitely refused Him, God made known what had been in His heart from eternity, that from all nations, Jews and Gentiles, He would redeem and take out an elect company who would, by the Spirit’s baptism, be formed into one Body.”

Now note carefully:

“The dispensation of the mystery was not made known while Christ was on earth. It was not made known, to the Twelve Apostles. It was made known to the apostle of the new dispensation, Paul. To Paul’s Epistles alone do we turn for the revelation of the mystery. The mystery did not begin until Israel had the opportunity to receive Christ in resurrection; yea, every opportunity.”

Paul was the apostle of the new dispensation. Dr. Ironside states in his printed message, “A dispensation begins with a new revelation.” Only Paul received the revelation concerning the Body. These are his words.

CONCERNING THE GREAT COMMISSION

Note the teaching of Dr. James M. Gray:

“This is the kingdom commission, as another expresses it, not the Christian commission. The latter is in Luke, distinctively the Gentile Gospel but not here, which is distinctively the Jewish Gospel. And this is all the more remarkable because in Luke, the disciples are commanded to go to the Jews (Luke 24:47), while here they are commanded to go to ‘all Nations.’ It points to the close of the age when the commission will be carried out by the faithful remnant of the Jews so often spoken about. It has not yet been carried out. The story of Acts is not its fulfillment. Its accomplishment has been interrupted, but will be taken up before the Lord comes to deliver Israel at the last.”

Note the teaching of Dr. Wm. L. Pettingill:

“At first sight it seems a strange thing that although the Pentecostal scene of Acts 2 followed the giving of the ‘Great Commission’ of Matthew 28, with only a few days between, yet the terms of the ‘Great Commission’ seemed to have been ignored; for beginning there and going on down to the end of the New Testament history of the church, all water baptisms, instead of being in the name of the Trinity, were ‘in’ or ‘into’ the name of the Lord Jesus (see Acts 2:38; Acts 8:16; Acts 10:48; Acts 19:5). The explanation of this mystery is not far to seek. The

Trinitarian formula is found only in Matthew, which is the Kingdom Gospel. Strictly speaking, it was not under the 'Great Commission.' of Matthew 28 that the Apostles began their work at Pentecost, nor was it under that commission that they their successors continued their work down through the centuries. The purpose of God in the present dispensation is not to 'disciple the nations' but rather 'to take out of them a people for His name.'

"The Commission under which the Church is supposed to work is that of Acts 1:8. We are witnesses unto Him. The Church Age is a parenthesis interrupting the Jewish Age which preceded it, but which is not yet finished. The seventieth week of Daniel, lasting through several years, will follow the completion and translation of the Church. And after that the 'Great Commission' of Matthew 28:19 and 20 will be accomplished. It is then that the 'Gospel of the Kingdom' will be preached in till the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." (Matthew 24:14).

Note teaching of Mr. John Darby:

"The accomplishment or the Commission here in Matthew has been interrupted but there is the promise to be with those who went forth in it to the end of the age. Nor do I doubt it will be so. This testimony will go forth to the nations before the end comes. The brethren will carry it to warn the nations. The commission was given, but we find no accomplishments of it. It connects the testimony with the Jewish remnant owned by a risen Lord or all, with the earth and his earthly directions, and for the present it has in fact given place to a heavenly commission, and the Church of God."

THE VOICE OF THE I. F. C. A.

I quote from the monthly magazine of the I. F. C. A., an article written by one of the members and accepted by the editor for publication:

"'The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.' It was God's Message to Israel, during the earthly ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ, and through the period covered by the Book of Acts. The Kingdom is not at hand today, and will not be at hand again until the Tribulation, immediately prior to Christ's coming to establish that Kingdom, when the Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached once again (see Matthew 24:14). It is thus, because healing miracles are credentials of the Kingdom testimony that Paul's healing power waned in the closing days of his ministry."

Now, my dear brother, if you know what I believe and teach and if you will be honest, you will acknowledge this is more extreme than anything that I have ever taught.

Can you or any other servant of the Lord prove that Dr. H. A. Ironside did not teach sound doctrine when he wrote in his Book, "Romans," that "the dispensation of the mystery" did not begin until Israel had been given every opportunity to receive Christ after He had been raised from the dead? Why did that brother state that Paul was "the apostle of the new dispensation" and that to him ALONE the Lord Jesus Christ revealed the truth concerning the Body of Christ and "the dispensation of the grace of God"? I recently received a letter from Dr. Ironside stating that he still believes this. I am willing to agree with you that for some reason he does not publicly teach it, although he acknowledges that it is precious truth that every child of God should know. Can't you see, brother, that the Lord is causing a stir among Fundamentalists moving them to receive this blessed truth which Dr. Ironside acknowledges has been lost for many centuries? You cannot stop it. You are making a great mistake in your futile attempts. Have you stopped to think that there is not one single "grace" preacher in the country who holds

on to water baptism and makes any consistent effort to obey Ephesians 3:9? Think this over and then do something about it.

You know that Paul in the judgment of the religious leaders of his day, was not only an evildoer for preaching grace, without religion, but he was accused of turning the world upside down. He said, "Follow me." Dr. Ironside acknowledges that the mystery, for which Paul suffered so intensely, was precious to him. It is precious to me. It will be precious to you, if you will get your members to pray that you might experience Ephesians 1:16 to 22. I am willing to be a prophet to this extent: I will guarantee you that there will never be a revival from heaven until the evangelical leaders in the Body of Christ make a sincere and determined effort to lead their followers to obey Ephesians 3:9.

CONCERNING PAUL'S PRISON EPISTLES

Suppose some earnest, Christian should say to you, "Pastor, you believe that no change has taken place in the spiritual program for the Body of Christ since the days that the Twelve and Paul were preaching during the 'Acts' period; then what about I Corinthians 12:28, God hath set some in the Church, first apostles secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, diversities of tongues? Pastor, do you have any miracle-workers and healers in your Wealthy St. membership? What would you do with any member who would speak with tongues?"

This same inquisitor might ask you why you do not teach, your members to obey Matthew 8:4, Matthew 10:8, Luke 12:33, Acts 4:34 and 35, Acts 2:38, Mark 16:17 and 18. You do not preach or practice any of these God given commands. Why not? You simply ignore them without giving any explanation. There is no explanation except the explanation of Dr. C. I. Scofield, that God's spiritual program changed after Acts 28:28. Inasmuch as water baptism is inseparably connected with miracles, signs, healings and visions, I cannot use any sane exegesis of the Scriptures that will show that signs ceased and water baptism continued. The exegesis that eliminates the one likewise eliminates the other.

However, please never accuse me of saying that Paul's pre-prison Epistles, written during the "Acts" period, are not to and for the Church of this dispensation. I have strenuously, persistently and uncompromisingly opposed such extreme teaching. I have published and sent forth several thousands copies of a large book, entitled "The Unsearchable Riches of Christ," in which I have clearly set forth my dispensational views. I admit that some of them are revolutionary from the zealous Baptist's viewpoint, but I challenge any Baptist to prove from the scriptures rightly divided, that there is a single vagary presented. Scores of Baptists have been thoroughly convinced But many Baptists are so bitter with prejudice that they will not even read the book. Many Christians are asking why the few men who have attempted to answer this message have resorted to falsehoods and have given no Scriptural refutation. One Baptist pastor recently said to his congregation, if you read Pastor O'Hair's printed message, you will be convinced; so do not read it." Wasn't that the same attitude of the Roman Catholics toward Luther and his teaching? Where would you and I be today if Luther had allowed the religious Romanists to bluff him out of his Christ-given duty by their threats? Are you not pursuing the same tactics employed by the Romanists? Do you think your false statements will deter me? If so, you do not know me.

All intelligent, spiritual students of the Scriptures believe that, this present dispensation began when and because Israel was set aside. This is the plain teaching in Romans 11:11 to 15

and 11:30 and Acts 13:16. This is why many of us accept the great commission of I Corinthians 5:16 to 21. All intelligent, spiritual students of the Scriptures agree with Dr. Ironside that this present dispensation did not begin until after Israel had rejected the resurrected Christ, until Israel had been given every opportunity to receive Christ in resurrection. Does not Acts 5:29 to 32, Acts 10:28, Acts 11:19, Acts 13:23 and 24, and Acts 13:32 to 41 and 46 convince you that Jesus Christ was presented to Israel after His death and resurrection just as definitely is during His incarnation, and that it is a travesty on sound exegesis to teach that the nation Israel had been set aside when twelve apostles stood up on a Jewish feast day to use the keys of the kingdom by preaching the message of repentance and restitution to the twelve tribes of Israel? Would you join with men who teach that the mystery among the Gentiles began on the Jewish feast day in Jerusalem? Would you agree with Dr. Ironside who teaches that the 3,000 Jews of the day of Pentecost were born again before they were baptized but they were saved after they obeyed Acts 2:38 and were baptized? I have this from his own pen.

If you and your religious pal are sincere and consistent, you should not preach eternal security, premillennialism, sanctification, baptism of the Holy Spirit, Divine healing, tithing, or even on any one form of water baptism, for all of these doctrines divide saints. Do you not see that you are not consistent? Has anything that I have ever preached divided saints as has water baptism? Has not the devil used that more than any one thing to create disunion and unpleasant controversies and divisions? You know full well this is true. You object to divisions in the Body of Christ.

Surely by this time you have resolved that you and your religious pal will do a little praying for yourselves while you are praying for me. Perhaps you will pray yourselves even to repentance, confession and restitution.

If after reading this you two decide on a public debate on the whole subject in any building in Grand Rapids, this is my acceptance. Name the time and place. This will perhaps bring your friend out of his obscurity and help him to get the recognition which he craves and is determined to have even if he must defame his fellow-Christian to gain it.

In the meantime let us all remember and obey Ephesians 4:1 to 7 and Ephesians 4:32, "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Yours eternally secure in Christ by the Grace of God, for the Book, the Blood and the Blessed Hope.

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