

## INFANT BAPTISM

 onsectoxs abr.

1. It is objected, "There is no Soriphture precepp $1-n$ express command -for baptizing infants; therefore the autho
rity upon which they are baptized is not that of the Seriptures.
In answering the obiection, it is admitted that there is in the Seriptures no plain, positive command. in so seree of "no
 premises, docesnot follow
It would be gratifying to be furnished and fortified with practice ; but in the absence of " express command," legtimate practice; but in the absence of "express command, eegrimat inference, founded upon obvious warrant of Scripture, may
indieate the will of God as unmistakably as it is possible for express precept to do it.
No Church waits for express command in all matters of
saith or practice ; but all classes of Christians proceed upon evidence merely inferential, in matters as important as the nothing like express command for giving either Christian baptism or the Lord's supper to females, and yet no Church withholds these ordinances from this class of its membership. The
Church, therefore, that would withhold baptism from infants for want of "express command,", would for the same reason,
to be consistent, withhold both the sacraments from its female members.
II. "It can do no good; what good can it do to sprinkle a It might as properly be asked "what good will it do" to
baptize any person in any manner? It it not our business to
nsk "what good," or how much or how " little good," it will baptze any perso" or how much or how " little good," it will
nsk "what good,
do to administer baptism to any. We are not required to bap-
tize on the ground that we can estimate the good that may come of it, either directly or indirectly. It is sufficient to
believe it to be the will of Gool; and upon this ground, and th other, can we be justified in giving the ordinance either to
infauts or adults, or in withholding it from either. There can be no donbt as to the benefit or usefulness of the dine insti-
tutions, but our opinion of their utility is not the ground on
which we are either to reeceive or administer them. Abraham might not have been able to pronounce upon the good of cir-
camcising his sons, but he did well in complying with what he believed to be the Divine will in placing the sign of the

## III. "Infant baptism takes away the liberty of the child."

Mr. Woolsey, Baptist, author of a treatise on baptism,
says: "Infant baptism deprives the subject of the rights of
private judgment", He descants like a patriot upon the "noble and evangelical sentiments of the framers of the Declaration
of American Independence, 'That men are created equal ; that of American Independence, "That men are created equal; that
they are endowed by their Creator with certan inalienable
rights; that among these are life, luberty,"" etc. He talks of "our parents" having not the right to take "advantage of our
infancy," etc. The whole thing looks like making a man of straw to shoot
at. The " liberty of the child," the " right of private judgment," and the " inalienable rights of liberty," are phrases Which none may deprive us without injustice; but in the connection in which Mr. Woolsey has placed them they must
mean either, first, "The liberty" of cloosing between baptism and $n o$ baptism, which is really choosing between religion
and $n o$ religion, in which case the objection would be equally against all religious teaching of the youthful mind, as the
tendency of such teaching is to bias and preposses it in favour of religion, to which no Christian could object; or, second,
must mean "The liberty" of choosing between different modes

## Now, it is a significant fact, that no class of Christians ol- ject to infant baptism (unless it be the Quakers) but those wh

 ject toinfant baptism (unlessitsion; and they, of all people,paptize exclusively by immersin
should be the very last to declain about the injustice of "depriving the subject of the rights of private judgment" in the
matter of baptism. D, they allow the subject or candidate the right of private judgment in choosing a mode of baptism?
Far from it! The objection comes with ill grace from such a quarter. The truth is, we may as well object to a parent grages the faith and affection of the child in favour of any par-
ticular system of religious teaching or doctrine, as to object to its baptism. But that it is the duty of all Christian parents to
instruct their children, and to train them up, in accordance Instruct their children, and to train them up, in accordance
with their own views or religion, no one will deny, and none
are more tenacious of the right than those who urge the objection under consideration.
IV. "Many persons baptized in infancy are dissatisfied
with their infant baptism; it should therefore be dispensed
vilh." wilh.
in lant baptsm. That the great majority disratisfied with their with it, it is evident from the fact, in the great majority of the most populous Churches, that the number of infants annually Church, in 1865, baptized 32,891 infants. There was a uniform increase up to 1871 , when the number baptized was 54,517 , an
a cgreyate increase in sis years of 21,626 . Since 1869 the numaggreyate increase in sia years of 21,626 . Since 1869 the num-
ber baptized each year is considerably in excess of 50,000 . This is probably a fair sample of the increase in American
Pedobaptist Churches. These facts do not indicate much "dissatisfaction" with the practice. It is presumed that none their minds were perplexed and perverted by the selfish in-
termeddling of proselyters. Efforts have not been wanting in some communitios to o diststurb the mind of some be wa the suggges-
tion: "In case you are not satisfied with your infant baptism,

No practice of the Church has, in these modern days, met
with fiercer opposition from certain classes of professed Chriswith fiercer opposition from certain classes of professed Chris-
tians than that of infant baptism, and the reason is obvious.
Unless the baptized in infaney can be disturbed in their belies of the evangelical eharacter of the ordinance thus administered,
they ean never be prosedted He that becievecth and is baptized shall be saved;'"but infants not ecercise failh; they should not the saved;' but infants

Faith, in order to baptism, is required of adults only. The For F and iety and injustice of applying the rule (requiring faith in order to baptism to is sunsely debar them from salvation as
thus appliea it would as surel thus applied' it would as surely debar them from saveal and is
from baptism; because it is said, "He that believeth and is daptized."
We do not beliert that infants should chey cannot believe; $\AA^{\text {hy }}$ should we believe that infants shoulc give an answer to this oo'jection, on the ground of the abore question? If (in the light of Mark xvi, 16) not believing be no barrier to an infant's being baptizea3 "lt's a poor rule proves nothing."

## twemoun humeme

(1.) Acts xvi, 15. "She wass baptized, and her houshold. Lya, a seller of purple, of the eity of Thyatira, hearing the
postle preach, was converted and baptixed. We can find no ther believer in that family, and yet " her household was bap-
(2.) Acts xvi, 33. "And was baptized, he and all his
straightway" The jail keeper at Philippi and his fomily were saightway" The jail keeper at Philippi and his fomily were
baptized immediately upon his conversion. Though " all $h$ is"
were baptized, there is no record of the failh of any other per son but that of the jailer
of Stephanas." Neither Paul nor Luke, his historiars, tell how many infants there were in these families; but,
(a.) O the ene recorded cases of Cristian batism by the
apostles, three -a third of them-were household baptisms. apostles, three-a third of them-were household baptisms.
(b.) There were probably as many infants in these tiree Gmilies as there would be in three others, selected at random in these communities.
(c.) During the more than sixty years of the apostles' min-
istry, we have no account of the baptism of an adult person istry, we have no account of the baptism of an adult person,
who had been brought up by Christian parents, or in a Chris-
tian faily Christians did not have their infant children baptized But would be easily accounted for, and ineritable, on the hypothe-
sis that their infants received the ordinance. In an anti-Pedobaptist community such a thing could never oc
persons were converted to the Christian religion.

The following is an epitomized statement of the leading tounded upon long and thorough examination of the subject by Dr. Wall, than whom there is no higher authority. And
they are hereby commended to the careful attention of the
"Lastly, as these evidences are for the first four hundred
years, in which there appears one vised the delay of infant baptism in some cases ; and one Gregory, that did, perhaps, practice such delay in the case of
his children, but no society of men so thinking or so practicing; and no man saying it was unlawful to baptize infants:
so, in the next seven hundred years there is not so much as one man to be found that either spoke for, or practiced, any year 1130, one sect among the Albigenses declared against the body of that people rejected their opinions, and they of them
that held that there being no more heard of holding that tenet till the rising
of the German anti-Pedobaptists, A. D. 1522."-Wall, vol. ii, chap. x, p. 501 . amply justify the following conclusions:
in the apostolic or primitive times. No man appears to have questioned its divine authorization until the twelfth century subject, so far as history shows, until the time of Peter Bruis,
2. This state of things could not possibly have existed unless it had been either universally Practiced or universally
GONORED, from the time of Christ down to the time in which the early fathers made undoubted reference to it.
3. It could not possibly have been universally ignored
from the time of Christ, to the time these Fathers thus referre to it; being observed by them without objection, and then
have found its way into recognition and practice by all classe ot professed Christians, by the time of Origen, A. D. 230 unless the ever vigilant and faithful pen of history had taken
cognizance of it as an unwarranted 4. But history has not thus recognized it. Not less than six of the Christian Fathers, namely, Irenous, A. D. 178
Hippolytus, 222; Epiphanius, 370 ; Philastr tus; 380; who, ac Hippolytus, 222, Epiphanius, 3 ; Philastr tus, 380 ; who, a
cording to Mosheim, " travelled nearly all over the Roman Empire, combating and endeavoring to convert, errorists of Tertullaran and others who wrote less extensively upon the heresies that were known to have existed from the days of Simon Magus down to their times; describing minutely, and
with a careful hand, the rise, progress, and final issue, so far as known, of every erratic theological opinion and anti-Chris
 ance that Infant BaptisM is of God.


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BIBLE LESSON （I）QUARTER：sivides in
4．D． 60 Lefson iv．Paul before tig Couvcil ；or，Sustained in Suf－ fering．Acts $23,1-11$. THE covNCIL．The Sanhedrin，which accosation against Paui．He probably seess many familiar faces，for doubtless
twentr－five years before he was one of them．See chap． 7,$58 ; 8,1 ; 9,1$ ．Men nified equality and a forginng heart．II
have lived．This seems to be a continua． tion of his speech the previ hich they doubtless listened． which they found fault，
whole life．See chap．26，
Anantas．Son of Nahedacus．Appoint－ ed high－priest by Herod，A．D．48；sent
to Rome under charges of oppression A． D．52；was acquitted，and probably re－
sumed his office．Them that stood by．Off．
cers in charge．Smite on the mouth．Still cers in charge．Smite on the mouth．Still
practiced in Oriental courts to command
silence．A gratuitous indignity，doubt． less instantly done．God shall smite thee． ecy，which was literally fulfilled ten years
later in the assassination of Ananias． later in the assassination of Ananias．
Whited wall．The walls of sepulchers
were annually whitewashed．Our Saviour were annually whitewashed．Our Saviour
uses the same figure for the hypocritical
and Pharises．Nat．
judge．The whole counsel were sitting in
judgment，professedly under Mosaic law， judge．The whole counsel were sitting in
judgment，professedly under Mosaic law，
but this command was contrary to the
very spirit of justice on which the law
was based．This indignant outburst was example，and not Paul＇s was given us to
follow． GoD＇s high－priest．In reviling the
office of hightpriest，one reviled God．So
nuw God looks upon tridignities offered to his children as if they were offered to
him．I wist not．Did not know．This answer has been distorted into a denial of
the official character of Ananias，but it
simply means that Paul was not aware
that he held the offee．Many changes councili，and it in is not prouable that met the the
oformal meeting the high－priest either robably Lysias presided，as thesy were
fore him at his command．It is written． earal quotation from the Septuagint of
Exod．22，28．
Sadvcers．The Sadducees were the materialists and iufidels among the Jews．
They did not believe in the immortality of
the sonl，ņor the existence of spirits．They

## rection of the dead．See Acts 4，1； 5,17 ； etc．Pharises．The＂orthodo＂＂Jeww． Their

 Their traditions and＂creeds＂were con－ sidered as binding as the written word．Panl，in claiming to be a Pharisee，the
＂son of a Pharisee，＂used no quibble，be－ cause，in the great distinguishing features
of their belief，he was still a Pharisee，as he always had been．Hope．＂The hope
of Israel，＂（chap． 28,20 ，）the looked－for fulfillment of the promised Messiah，and tion of Christianity，are the fundamental themes of all Paul＇s preaching． A dissension．The intensely bitter
contention of years between these sects was awakened in an instant，showing
Paul＇s tact and wisdom．Matt．10， 16 ． So sometimes in the dissension between
the sects of Christendom，the truth of God finds opportunity for triumph． Scribes．The doctors of the Jewish
Church．No evil．in this man．They his statements，if true，would be proof of their doctrines．But God caused them
thus to the cause might not suffer．Spoken to him． Referring to Paul＇s account of his con－
version．Chap．27，7－10．Let us not fight against God．A very sensible eonclusion，
but wanting in the most important manu－ scripts．The sentence ends abruptly，as
if broken of Pulled in pieces．The Pbarisees in wrath，the deputy might well fear for in wrath，the deputy might well fear the
Paul＇s safety．How must some of the
violent disputes among Christians in these times put the very Gospel in jeapardy，in sight of unbelievers！Go down．Literally
true，the castle true，the castle being above
assembly．See chap． 22,30 ．
The Lord stood by him．How kindly the Lord cares for his children．Paul
might well question in a moment of reac－ tion，if he had not been too headetrong in coming＇to Jerusalem contrary to adrice；
（chap．21，10．14，）bat just then as （chap．21，10．14，）but just then as once
before（chap．18，9，10，）and once afterward， （chap．27，24，）the Lord himself came to （chap． 27,24, ，the Lord himself came to
bid him be of good cheer．His testimony

shall be gratified．See Rom．1，10， 11 ；15， 28．25；Acts 19，21．These words not only held him up now，but in subsequent evente this promise must have afforded him
much comfort．Have we no promise to much comfort．Have we no promise to
cling to for comfort in trial and danger Golden TExT：－And they were no which he spake．Acts 6,10 ．
Docreing ：－The resurrection from the
dead．Matt．22，31，32；Jobn 5，28， 29 ． dead．Matt．22，31，32 ；Jobn 5，28， 29. The next lesson is Acts 24， 10.25

BODILY RECOIL
The curious fact has recently been pointed out by Mr．J．W．Gordon，in
the Journal of Anatomy and Physiology， that at every beat of the heart，the Whole body is projected a small but
perfectly observable distance in a di－ rection from foot to head－that is，so
that any pressure exercised by the would undergo a diminution，while pressure exercised by the head would be
increased．When the heart contracts， a quanty of blood is propelled down the
aorta，while at the same time，the whe body is caused to recoil with a velocity
which bears the same ratio to the velocity of the blood as the weight of blood
driven out bears to the weight of the Joy is a prize unbought，and is freest，
purest in its flow，when it comes unsought． parest in its flow，when it comes unsought．
No getting into heaven as a place will
compass it．You must carry it with you else it is not there．You must have it
in yon as the music of a well－ordered soul，
the fire of a holy purpose，the welling．ap，
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WHSLETAN ALMANAC

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 Conarad Lariase? go forth apon thy way!

 Thy steps ifitity giued be, add guided right.


## $\frac{\text { andversary }}{\text { of the missionary society }}$

 site anirierary meeting of hic M1s.
 much interest in the proceedings. servee was opened by the Rev. Elias Brettle, President of the Nora-scotia $\underset{\substack{\text { Conferenee, who gave out } \mathrm{g} \text { hym, an } \\ \text { aftervards } \\ \text { led the congregation } \\ \text { it }}}{\text { the }}$ prajer. Mr. Sherif in Wood then introduee quested by the Cominttee to occup ${ }^{\text {the charl }}$ Tonte Chaniruan fett much interest ; contrasting the past with the present. fev converted Indians, used to attena some of our meetings, with the present
when our misisions extend all orer $t$ thi great Tominion, and when our mission. aries, not content with sol large a field
hare
gone
 rould give an in inpulused to to meuntiong work and develop the espepirit of fliberalitit
The Rer. Enoch Wood, D.D., Senio Missiouary Secretary, then read an ab tract of the General Report, showin the present encouraging state of
work in the lndian, Foreign and tained cumerous interesting from letters of missionaries, which be read in full in the published Repor of the Society for the present year. The financial statement was present
ed by the Rev. A. Sutherland, Secre
 after which
The Rev. James Gray, President of
the lows :-
" That the Report, an abstract of
which has soww been read, be adopted
and published." He thought the Report was one
which must commend itself to evory
Christian heart It was a wonderful
docoument. There was nothang gqual to
it in the Dominion. The cost of pub.
it in the Dominion. The cost of pub-
lishing it was alige, but the feld was
large, and it required an extended re.
port to coverer the ground. The Report represented more than appeareded upon
its face. It represented the toil of the





 Manitoba, and the Siskatchewan, and British Columbia, and elsewhere. Na-
tions had gained much by missionary much. Large numbers of Indians and of white men had been brought to Gio missionary labor. While he rejoiced in he swifter spread of the gospel; an he longed to see the Society placed i
a better financial state. He hoped soble key-note would be struck to-nigh Applause.)
The Rev.
The Rev. S. F. Huestis, of Halifax
seconded the resolution. It was the first time he had found himself in the hauds of the sheriff; but he would ge He cordially seconded the resolution He hoped that, when published, the Report would not lie in the studies of among the people. The debt of the Sociely not appall us. need not appall us. He trusted a no
ble effort would be made to pay it during the present year. He had no sym. pathy with croakers, who thought the talk about cannibal Fiji. We had glorious field at home. He had the privilige of spending last winter in Ber muda, one of our mission districts, and he would give a few facts about the
work in those islands. It was the end of the last century that the first Wesleyan missionary landed Bermuda. He was bitterly opposed
law was passed prohibiting his wo

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 New Brunswick Conference, movedResolved, ""That we rejoice in the
Rcouraging amount of support which, ne ina
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state of the treasury and the needs of the work the ree suchury as an call loudly of for
till increased liberality, and we cherish
the confident hope that the goodness of the con
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will dgments as will ruch prieve the Sol ackno Socty its present embarrassment and enable it to spread the gospei more widely
through the new settlements of this $\stackrel{\text { thr }}{\text { Do }}$ land

We were engaged in a great enter prise; for it was one which had orginated not in the mansions of the great,
nor in the halls of learning, but in the counsels of the infinitely merciful God. blest human hearts were engaged in it to-day. A great enterprise, if we con
sider its extent. The sun never se upon the mission work of the churches
True, the wealth of the world was not ull with us,-the learing of the world
was not all with us,-but "the best of all was God was with us." A great
enterprise, if we consider its resources. Millions are daily praying, sw

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 John MacDonald, Esq., M. P., sec-onded the resolution. He said we could not separate from the history, the civ-
ilization. the education, and the social life of this country, the work' of this
Society, without distorting the facts of

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peace. The result was, in the Unite
bloodshed, while in our country the In-
territory to the Dominion Governmen And this result was largely due to the preparatory work of our missionaries,
notably of George McDougall. If our causs were not of God, the expenditure
of our money would be foolish; if it
were of God, we were not doing enough.
We ought to have an income this year of $\$ 250,000$. The church could well they imbibed the spirit of the first pehad men fired with the missionary sp 1t, our givings would be paltry. He trusted the manifest tokens of the di
rine goodness would prompt to greatl increased liberality during this year. The Rev. J. Goodison, President o
the Newfoundland Conference, support ed the resolution, which was carried unanimously.
A vote of thanks was then passed to friends of the Society, and to Mr. Sher iff Patrick for his services, after which the doxology was sung, the benediction LORD DUFFERIN AT WINNIPEG At a farewell banquet given to Lord Dufferin on the 29th ult. by the citizens of Winnipeg, His exceellency, in reply $t_{0}$
a toast to his health, responded in an admirable speech: His introduction abounded in rich humour, of which he seems to have great stores in his con-
stitution. We make a few extracts from stitution. We make a few extracts from his address, to show the wonderful e lent of the Dominion, and to indicat
some of its resources.
From its geographical position and
its peculiar characterists, Manitoba may its peculiar cha
be regarded as

THE KEYGTONE OP THAT MIGRTY AEOT of sister Provinces which spans the con-
tinent from the Atlantic tinent from the Atlantic to the Pacifie.
(Great applause.) It (Great applause.) It was here that Canada, emerging from her woods that
forests, first gazed upon her forests, first gazed upon her rolling
prairies and unexplored North-West, and learnt, as by an unexpected reve-
lation, that her historical territories of the Canadas, her eastern seaboards of
New Brunswick, Labrad New Brunswick, Labrador, and Nora
Scotia, Her Laurentian lakes and val-
leys, leys, cornlands and pastures, though
themselves more ext dozen European kingdoms, (applat a were but the vestibules and antecham. minion minion whose illimitable dimensions alike confound the arithmetic of the
surveyor and the verification explorer, (Tremendous applause). It was hence that, counting her prelude to her future exertions and and panding destinies, she took a fresh do-
parture, received the afflatus of imperial inspiration, and felt herself
no longer a mere settler banks of a single river, but the owner of half a continent, and in the ampli.
tude of her possession, in the wealth of her resources, in the sinews of her ma.
terial might, the peer of any power in cent remarkably witty speech the Marquis of Salisbury alluded to the geo-
graphical misconceptions often engen-
dered by the smalless of the dered by the smaliness of the maps
upon which the figure of the world is depicted. To this cause is probably to
be attributed the inadequate idea en. tertained by the best educated persons
of the extent of Her $M_{\text {ajesty }}$.s North American possessions. Perhaps the
best way of correcting such a universal misapprehension would be a summary
of the rivers which flow through them, for we know that as a poor man cannot
afford to live in a big house, so a small country cannot support a big river.
Now, to an Englishman or a Frenchman the Severn or the Thames, the
Seine or the Rhone would appear con-
siderable streans siderable streans, bat in the Ottawa,
mere afluent to the St. Lawrence, an
afluent, moreover, which reaches the arent, stream six hundred miles from
its mouth, we tave a river nearly five
hundred and fifty miles long, and three Applzuse.) But even after havin as-
ended the St. Lawent
. Huron, the Niagara, the St Clair, and tance of one thousand five hundred
miles, where are we? In the estimation of the person who has made the journey,
at the end of all things-(great laughof the grcely at the commencent minion ; for from that spot, that is to say, from Thunder Bay, we are able at
once to ship our astonished travellers on to the Kaminstiqua, a river of some
hundred miles long. Thence, almost in a straight line, we launch him on to river-whose proper name, by the by, ed it-a magnificent stream three hun. dred yards broad and a couple of hundred miles long, down whose tranquiI bosom he floats into the Lake of the
Woods, where he finds sheet of water which, though diminutive as compared with the inland seas be found sufficiently extensive to render him fearfully seasick during his passage ighty miles of his voyage, however, he will be consoled by sailing through a succession of land-locked channels, the
beauty of whose scenery, while it resembles, certanly excels, the far-famed (Loud cheering.) From this lacustrine paradise of sylvan beanty we are able at once to transfer our friend to the Winnipeg, a river whose existence in the is in itself one of nature's most delightful miracles. So beautiful and varied are its rocky banks, its tufted islands,
so broad, so deep, so fervid is the volume of its waters, the extent of their lake-like expansions, and the tremen-
dous power of their rapids. (Tremendous applause.) At last let us suppose dous applause.) At last let us suppose
we have landed our traveller at the


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