

MIXING SEEDSContinued from page 1

People in the religious world as a whole are deceived because of lack of knowledge of God's Word. The same thing is true in the Lord's church. Because of ignorance of the truth, far too many are led away by what "sounds good" rather than being like the Bereans who "...searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11). We cannot please God without a knowledge of His Word, nor can we "rightly divide the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15). Let us be sure that we can tell pure seed from mixed seed. Our soul and the souls of those that we can influence is at stake. Remember, sowing "divers seeds" will cause "the fruit of thy vineyard to be defiled" (Deut 22:9). If we fail to uphold and maintain the truth, future generations are going to suffer the consequences. Included in this number will be our children and grandchildren. Are you willing to pay this price?

4004 Murray Paris Road, Hazel, KY 42049

Free Book *The Gospel Proclaimer,* This is a reprint of a book of sermons by E. S. B. Waldron in 1898. Waldron was a school teacher and gospel preacher,

who was born July 8, 1851 and passed away at the age of 73 on July 11, 1924 having never married. He preached in Middle Tennessee in Hickman, Perry, Williamson, Bedford, Davidson and other counties, traveling to his preaching appointments on horseback until he was able to buy a buggy. Very little in the way of support was given to him for his labor in the Lord's vineyard. At times he was "paid" with a chicken or other farm produce. David Lipscomb was his good friend. He was the son of William V. Waldron of Rutherford County, and the brother of James Charles Waldron. The latter being the great grandfather of Jim E. Waldron. The sermons he preached, wrote and published are sound in doctrine and well constructed. The lessons are as needed today as they were a hundred years ago. They are ideal for preachers, elders and members of men's training classes. Many of the descendents of Waldron's siblings are faithful members of the church and some of these have paid for this re-print to make the book available to this generation. You or any member of your congregation may have a copy by simply sending \$1.50 by check for postage and packing to Randall Standefer, P. O. Box 123, Dunlap, TN 37327. It contains ten sermons on 113 pages and is in perfect binding. Be sure to ask for the book by name.

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MIXING SEEDS

Virgil L. Hale

"Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with divers seeds, lest the fruit of thy seed which thou has sown, and the fruit of thy vineyard be defiled" (Deut. 22:9). Please note that the mixing of seeds would defile the vineyard. What a lesson for the religious world in general, and the Lord's church in particular. It seems that some in our time do not care what kind of seed is sown as long as what is sown is pleasing to the masses.

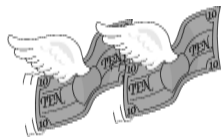
In explaining the parable of the sower, Jesus said, "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God" (Luke 8:11). Jesus talked about a man who "sowed good seed in his field" (Mt.13:24). However, while he slept an enemy came "and sowed tares among the wheat" (v.25).

We need to recognize that all seed being sown today in the spiritual realm is not "good seed." There are many who are the enemies of truth and right, and they are scattering their false doctrines in every place that they can find an audience. Far too many are sound asleep, and thus allow false doctrines to continue unchecked. We are told to "...mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have received; and avoid them" (Rom. 16:17). Again we read, "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11). We must not fellowship error, but we must go a step further and "reprove them."

It is time to wake up and speak out against error or else the "divers seeds" being sown will continue to corrupt the Lord's vineyard (His church). Rather than reprovng error, some are determined to reprove those who would dare speak out against the error. It is sad, but true, that those who claim to be so loving and kind will get quite vicious when the mask is pulled from their doctrines of deceit. Continued



The Steep Price of Gambling



Jim Waldron

From the *Reader's Digest*, June 1999: "Gambling is exploding across America, from the mega-resorts of Las Vegas to the gambling parlors of Indian Reservations, from riverboats on the Mississippi to the corner mini-marts selling lottery tickets. Now with all but three states (Hawaii, Utah and Tennessee) sanctioning legalized gambling, evidence is mounting that society is paying a steep price. In 1997 betters blew (lost) a whopping \$50.9 billion – roughly five times the amount lost in 1980. That is more than the public spent on movies, theme parks, recorded music and sporting events combined (Addicted to Luck, Matea Gold and David Ferrell, *Reader's Digest*, June 1999, pp. 147-152.)"

The above quote gives strong support to the conclusion drawn by Robert Goodman in his assessment of legalized gambling on the economy of a city, state or his region (*The Luck Business, The Devastating Consequences and Broken Promises of America's Gambling Explosion*, Robert Goodman, The Free Press, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY, 10020, ISBN: 0-02-912483-2, 1995.)

Goodman wrote "In the new convenience gambling economy the money flowing into casinos, riverboats and slot machines is money that is diverted from goods and services in other local businesses. Instead of bringing new wealth to the community, convenience gambling enterprises cannibalize the local economy."

A University of South Dakota research report (November 1991) described "a substitution effect" in which spending on gambling had been substituted for other forms of discretionary spending. In the years after gambling was introduced (in the state) the rate of growth for many businesses declined, including those for clothing stores, business and recreation services, auto dealers, and service stations" (Goodman, p.30).

Such reports make it clear that gambling takes away funds from ordinary businesses and the tax revenues that they generate. Not only so but, as *the Reader's Digest* article points out, due to the explosion of legalized gambling there has been an equal explosion in the number of individuals who are addicted to gambling. The report says, "Studies place the total number of compulsive gamblers at 4.4 million, about equal to the nation's ranks of adult hard-core cocaine or heroin users." The article continues, "Today 37 states run their own lotteries" (*Reader's Digest* p.148).

As Goodman points out, "In this new promotional role, government finds itself in a strange and contradictory position which makes it difficult to carry out its role of protecting the public." He gives a number of examples of state's inducements to draw people into playing the lottery. Among these, "No matter what you do

for a living," says a Massachusetts Lottery advertisement, "there's an easier way to make money" (Goodman, p. 136).

What is so insidious about state sponsored gambling is that human nature is such that people are very often willing to overcome any qualms they might have about a questionable activity if it is legalized and supported by the government.

Contact your state legislator and express your view on the lottery. Box 123, Dunlap, TN 37327

ONLY BEGOTTEN

Guy N. Woods

We agree the word *mon-term logos* has in John's writ-must not limit



genes to mean no more than *only* child as when it is used of human parents who either have had only one child or have only one left after others have died. It is significant that most modern, liberal expositors who insist that *monogenes* should be rendered in John 1:14,18 and 3:16 "only son" repeatedly refer to the "only begotten son" in their allusion to the Christ. Don't they trust their own exegesis?

If Jesus is in truth God's "only begotten" Son and we are taught that is so, it is because of John's reference to Jesus as the *monogenes*. If the word does not mean this then this doctrine is not taught in God's Word! Why, then, do writers who insist that *monogenes* does not mean "only begotten" continue to refer to Jesus as such? They are both wrong and inconsistent. It is by all agreed that mono from *monogenes* signifies "only." The rendering "only son," leaves *genes* untranslated. Whatever its derivation, it means something.

Forty-seven scholars who translated the King James' version thought *monogenes* meant "only begotten." One hundred one of the world's ripest scholars who translated the American Standard Version thought it meant "only begotten." Liddell and Scott, in their great classical Lexicon of Greek, give as the first meaning of *monogenes* "only begotten." (Eighth Edition, p.976). Bauer, Bullinger and Bagster thought it meant "only begotten." Bengel, Meyer and Hendrickson believed it meant "only begotten." Jamieson, Fausset and Brown so considered it. So also did Campbell, Lard, Milligan, McGarvey, Lipscomb, Hardeman, Wallace, Boles, and a hundred others of eminence among us.

The earliest "church fathers" — men who lived at the very close of the apostolic age — often allude to the "only begotten Son." These men spoke and wrote in Greek. May we not assume that they understood the significance of their own language? The post Nicene writers, the writers of the Reformation and Restoration and vast numbers of eminent scholars of varied religious backgrounds through the centuries have supported the view. We believe they were right and we

with Lenski that *ogenes*, like the special meanings, and we the word *mono-*

thus question the accuracy and reliability of any rendering of *monogenes* which omits this reference.

We support the view of Vos when, in his excellent work, "The Self Disclosure of Jesus" he asserts that in giving *monogenes* its traditional meaning we are on a solid grammatical exegetical foundation. H.A.W. Meyer, in some respects the greatest of all grammatical exegetes of the Greek text of the New Testament, is eminently correct in saying that the conception, *having been begotten* is in the word *monogenes* itself.

The Informer, Ben Vick, ed., 4915 Shelbyville Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46237

What Would The Prophets Say?

Jim E. Waldron

- ◆ To a congregation that does not want the truth: **"This is a rebellious people, lying children, children who will not hear the Lord; who say to the seers, 'do not see,' and to the prophets, 'do not prophesy to us right things; speak smooth things, prophesy deceits' "** (Isaiah 30:9-10).
- ◆ To those who say the church must change if they are going to keep up with the generation X: **"Thus says the Lord, stand in the ways and see and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls"** (Jeremiah 6:16).
- ◆ To a man who has put away his first wife without the right cause and taken another woman; **"The Lord has been witness between you and the wife of your youth, with whom you have dealt treacherously"** (Malachi. 2:14).
- ◆ To a man who has married another man's wife: **"It is not lawful for you to have her"** (Matthew 14:4).