

# SALT



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**Volume 1 Number 3**

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You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavour, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be



## Volume 1 Number 3 – Series: *Studies in Fundamental Beliefs*

Dear Readers,

This special issue of SALT is dedicated to a man who many of us knew as ‘Grandad’ Barrar. There are many things that could be said about Edward Barrar by those who knew him better than me, and perhaps with more insightful observations of his attributes. However, I believe that my comments bear weight by the very fact that my encounter with Grandad was brief. The strength of his effect on me is a self-validating tribute to the influence of the man.

For me, Edward Barrar was one of those people that one hears so much about before one actually gets the chance to meet in person. For that reason Grandad became something of a legendary figure to me.

I remember well my encounter with Edward Barrar at Camp Akatarawa, New Zealand, where his sincere concern for the welfare of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Australasia and its pastorate was apparent. Although his opinions perhaps seemed a little quaint at the time, the essence of his counsel has never been forgotten. His consternation was centred on the diminishing respect for the position of pastor in the church and he placed the blame, at least in part, on the conduct of the leadership. He proceeded to address the meeting with a parade of practical tips on the matter, for which I thank him.

On a few occasions I was able to be in Christchurch to listen to Grandad's weekly sermon and I once visited him in his lofty chalet set high up on the hillside. There is something strange about meeting a man like Edward Barrar. When most of what I knew about Grandad was rooted in the myth that people wound around his life and times, it was perhaps inevitable that a psychological conflict would ensure when that mystery yielded to the realisation that here was a man who was in many ways a regular person just like you and me. It is because of the discovery that Edward Barrar was not ‘ten feet tall’ that I consider him a fitting example for those who survive his passing. His hard work and dedication are admirable features but are not beyond any of us who would choose to follow in his steps. Edward Barrar was a man who, with the

courage of his convictions, never believed in retiring from the good work that he had been called to do.

*Precious in the sight of the LORD [is] the death of his saints.*  
Psalm 116:15

David Hill

Although I have for a long time referred to Pastor Edward as Grandad, we were sadly, never close. Was it the age difference, or some perception of mine that he was "out of my league"? When as an impressionable teenager you meet a man of such presence the impact has a lasting effect. I guess it's different for those of you who knew him when you were much younger children. But for me I viewed Grandad with a certain wonder and respect that I never quite overcame.

I am very thankful to Grandad for his effort in establishing the Seventh Day Baptist Church in NZ. If it wasn't for his correspondence with Pastor Johnson in the 1940 my life could have been very different. I attended the Church Pastor Johnson founded, with Grandad's encouragement, and it was there I met Angela. So, I have good reason to be thankful. All the other Church members appreciated Grandad's input too, and I'm sure they are saddened at his passing.

One of the things I will always remember about Grandad was his preaching. A few years ago at a Church Conference in Christchurch He told the story of his visit to Jerusalem and Calvary. I particularly recall his passion as he told the story, even though he was a few years short of 100. It was like he was reliving the occasion and he wanted us all to experience it. So what if he spoke a little (or a lot) longer than expected to, he needed to if he was going to get across the significance of the experience, and impart to us some of the same passion.

Grandad was first and always a man of God. I wonder if it was that passion that allowed him to live so much longer than we might expect. Who knows? The thing is, it might be good if we all had something in our lives brings out that sort of passion.

Andrew Peters

# President's Piece

A Tribute to Rev. Edward Francis Barrar 31.1.1903-11.6.2004

I joined the Seventh Day Baptist family in 1987 by way of the Auckland St Lukes church. It was under the teaching of Pr Ronald Barrar that I cut my teeth, so to speak, in my spiritual childhood. I used to read the Gospel messenger when it was delivered and asked who was Edward Barrar? The reply I got was that he was Ron's father, a boxer, a man who lived on a hill and was in his eighties. I was fascinated and not to say a little curious and wondered if I would ever meet this as it seemed to me "this living legend."

Soon after The Pastor came to Auckland and preached a sermon about the holiness of God. This young Christian was totally swept away by his preaching and how he helped me to understand God in a way that up until then I had not totally understood. I will always remember how while preaching he almost caressed the fresh flowers Mrs Atkins had as always placed at the altar. He seemed to preach from Mt Zion but showed the beauty of God in one message. I was introduced to Edward and was very nervous because he had preached in a way that put the fear of God into me and so as I saw it; he was God's representative and as such I should be nervous. However, when I shook his hand, I noticed his eyes were so gentle and loving the nerves just left and I felt at home with him.

I wanted to do this magazine in honour of a man who was a pioneer in this country for Seventh Day Baptists. You will read in Edward's life story that he achieved much in his life but his spiritual life was just as busy. He started the first Seventh Day Baptist church here in the southern hemisphere. He published the Gospel Messenger from 1942. He raised a family of two boys and a daughter who all remain in the faith. Pr Ronald Barrar was the catalyst to re-igniting the work of Seventh Day Baptists in Malawi and is still working in the field as of now at the age of 79. Daniel of course has been with his father all these years running businesses and farms with his father which has been the major funding for the Malawi mission.

When we were down at Christchurch we had a barbecue with Edward and I asked him was he very zealous when he first came to a knowledge of Christ. "Zealous, young man, I have preached in the little church for over sixty years is that not zealous." Recently we celebrated Anzac Day here in New Zealand when we hon-

our those who have died fighting for the freedom of our country. We as young Christians in New Zealand and Australia have much to be grateful for with men like Edward Barrar who ran the race and remained steadfast in his beliefs until his death. He is one of the saints who has given us the heritage of Jesus Christ.

At our Conference session at Akatarawa in Wellington we were blessed by Pr Edwards's presence. It was a special camp with Edward telling us young Pastors to wear our ties and appropriate clothes for Pastors. As you can see from the photo we are casual at camp but Edward with the heat was still wearing collar and tie. Pr Edward preached a very long sermon and what remained for me was that Jesus was a practical man, he was a man who was not scared to get his hands dirty.



The Rev. Edward Barrar was also a very practical man. He for more years than I have lived preached the gospel but at the same time worked hard for a living. He was a man who understood the language of Greek and Hebrew but was not a scholar who could not talk the language that the average working person could understand.

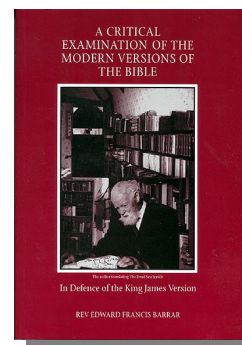
For me as a young Pastor I have always felt it a special privilege to have known Edward Barrar and early in my Christian walk I was so grateful to be given the chance to sit with him in his house on the hill and listen to his thoughts. There was so much experience and wisdom in the mind of that man and now this has gone.

Today at church I preached on 1 Sam 16 about Samuel anointing David. David was not given a second thought by his father as a choice to be King. He put forward his big men, strong men. Jesse did not want to even show David to Samuel. God saw the potential in David that man could not. Edward was not a big man he was quite small in stature but I believe God new his heart and the Spirit of God was on Edward and he grew in stature and achieved much for God. He was in my opinion a "man of God" and on 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 2004 we laid him to rest at the little cemetery at the Church of Epiphany at Gebbies Pass.

I look forward to meeting him again on the other shore.  
— Ian Ingoe President

# The Virgin Birth

A excerpt from  
*A Critical Examination of the Modern Versions of the Bible*  
by Rev Edward Barrar



The first-born in Matthew 1:25. Among the Hebrews great attention was paid to the birthright of the firstborn; if this fact of the firstborn is not mentioned it suggests and has been suggested many times that Jesus was not Mary's first child and that He was born out of wedlock if this was the truth then we have no Saviour.

But praise the good Lord, that Mary was without doubt a Virgin, this fact is well established. The Greek word "Prototokon" (first born) has been omitted by most of the modern versions including, the New International Version, New English Bible, New World Translation by the so-called Jehovah's Witnesses, The Living Bible, The Revised Standard Version 1952, The Revised Version, the New Revised Standard Version, New American Standard Version, and The Good News Bible, and others. Isaiah 7:14: "The virgin shall conceive." This word here for virgin is without doubt carefully chosen.

The word in question is "*alma*", a Hebrew word. The following is a list of the occasions when this *word* is used in the Old Testament:  
Genesis 24:43 *ha-almah*  
when the virgin cometh forth (Rebekah)  
Exodus 2:8 *ha-almah*  
the virgin (the maid)  
Psalm 68:25 *almoth*  
(the) virgins (the damsels)  
Proverbs 30:19 *b-almah*  
with a virgin (a maid)  
Song of Solomon 1:3 *almoth*  
the virgins  
Song of Solomon 6:8 *v-almoth*  
and virgins  
Isaiah 7:14 *ha-almah*  
the virgin

Note the Hebrew article, "The virgin" especially in Isaiah 7:14 which in full reads "Therefore, the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." This inspired verse from Isaiah is one of the strongest pillars of the Christian faith. It not only predicts the im-

**"Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."**

movable will of God in the annals of mankind, but also states that this Son would be Immanuel (God with us.).

In the NRSV the section to the reader informs us that the Bible Committee has a Jewish member who serves in the Old Testament section, and that is good, so long as modern scholarship do not use him as a stool-pigeon, that is, to further their own ends and beliefs, in such important doctrines as the "virgin birth", and one cannot but wonder just how much Jewish Rabbi influence was behind the altered text of Isaiah 7:14, which reads; "A young woman shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." The erroneous reading in the RSV and other modern versions, make it possible to dissociate this prophecy from the New Testament re-

cord of our Lord's miraculous birth by the Virgin Mary. Nevertheless, if the Jewish Rabbi's influence had anything to do with the change over from "virgin" to "young woman" as noted above, he (the Rabbi) is in no wise to be blamed, the onus was on the translators who were dealing with the New Testament together with the Old Testament; and they ought to have known, (and probably did know) the truth of the prophecy as set out in Isaiah 7:14, and embellished in the New Testament in texts such as Matt.1:23: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." And Luke 1:27: "To The Virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary."

What has been said above, That the Jewish Rabbi was in no wise to be blamed, the Apostle Paul gives further proof of that statement in Romans chapter 11, noticing in particular the 25th verse; "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in." And so we can assume, with very good reason, that when the times of the Gentiles be come in, that as for Israel, the eyes of their understanding will be opened, and hardness of heart will be removed, and they will see Jesus Christ as the true Messiah and will accept Him as such; the next verse the 26th makes that fact plain and clear to all that want to know." And so all

Israel shall be saved."

### **A Vindication of the Prophecy in Isaiah 7:14**

"Against the misinterpretations of Theodotion, Aquila, the Ebionites, and the Jews there is the authority of the Septuagint version, and arguments in proof that CHRIST WAS BORN OF THE VIRGIN..., but not as some allege, among those now presuming to expound the Scriptures (thus): 'Behold a young woman shall conceive, and bring forth a son.' as Theodotion the Ephesian, has interpreted, and Aquila of Pontus both Jewish proselytes. The Ebonites, following these, assert that He was begotten by Joseph, thus destroying as far as in them lies such a marvellous dispensation of God, and setting aside the testimony of the prophets which proceeded from God."

IRAENAEUS AGAINST HERESIES. THE ANTE-NICENE FATHERS p.451.

### **The Revised Standard Version**

Its general adoption by English readers was commented on without disapproval by Professor Buce in his article entitled: "One Bible-Many Versions." *The Christian* October 9, 1964.

It is quoted by evangelical organizations. Notwithstanding its present popularity and the misleading and sometimes ill-informed testimonials to its excellence, there are very good reasons why discerning Christians with a reverent regard for the Divine inspiration, authority and inerrancy of the Holy Scriptures should exercise great caution in the use of this version and refrain from encouraging its general use by undiscerning readers."

"DIVINE ORIGINAL." THE TRINITARIAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The 1952 version of the Revised Standard Version Luke 1:34 makes Mary say that she has no husband, which is the very words that the woman at the well said to

Christ in John 4:17.

Luke 1:34 RSV. And Mary said to the angel "How shall this be, since I have no husband?"

However, it is plain that Mary did not use that expression but said: KJV. "Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" It is quite obvious that the word "know" as here used and in other places in the Old Testament means that there is not, and there has not been, a sexual connection. (For the Scriptural meaning of to "know" as here used see Genesis 4:1). " And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived and bear Cain..." This statement of Mary's as recorded in the Traditional Text emphasized her virginity, but the translation in the RSV puts her in the same class as the woman (much married or

**"To The Virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary."**

sexually immoral) at the well. "Even a novice in Greek would understand that 'know' and 'have' are different words."

"BIBLICAL CRITICISM" DR. WICK BROOMALL p.294.

I am aware that the translators of the New Revised Standard Version have come to notice this stupid rendering in the 1952 version of the Revised Standard Version and tried to do something about it; and so they rendered the statement thus: "Mary said unto the angel, How can this be, since I am a virgin?" This latter is man's notion, for there is no sign of such a rendering in the ancient manuscripts. I have checked the Sinaiticus and the Vaticanus. They all have the same reading as the Traditional Text as followed by the King James version. " And knew her not

(had no intercourse with her)-till she had brought forth her first-born son." Matt. 1:25. of whom the evangelist had been speaking, the first-born, the eldest of the family, to whom the birthright belonged, and who was miraculously conceived before she knew any man, being yet in a state of virginity.

### **Comment of a Jewish Rabbi**

The corrupted text met with the warm approval of Rabbi Balfour Brickner of Temple Sinai, Washington, who declared. I am delighted to know that at last this great error of translation has been finally corrected and that at least some elements of the Christian world no longer officially maintain that Isaiah 7:14 is a prediction that Jesus was to be born of the virgin Mary."

"THE DIVINE ORIGINAL" , TRINITARIAN BIBLE SOCIETY P10.

A Virgin-Hebrew The Virgin i.e. some definite well-known damsel, whose identity was then unmistakable. See Matthew 1:21-23. There is no doubt whatsoever that the Masoretic Hebrew Text is correct. And the fact is that the Hebrew article is much more emphatic than the English article.

Before we close these thoughts concerning the Jewish Nation and people generally; and while we yet have our minds and our hearts directed to "the" Virgin, the editor is perhaps wondering how many of his readers are going to question-Why did not Rabbi Brickner draw the attention of the translators to that important definite article? It may be that the Rabbi will be excused:

Romans 11:25. "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

v. 26: And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall

come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

v. 27: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

v. 36: For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

The editor has worked hundreds of hours on the Hebrew Masoretic Text including the Virgin birth, nevertheless, thus far, I have not been left with any suspicion of wrong doing concerning the Text, by the Jews.

Dr. Robert Dick Wilson, was one of the world's famous scholars. Some years ago, when the question of the virgin birth of the Lord was particularly to the fore, because of the Fosdick controversy and the Auburn Affirmation, Dr. Robert Dick Wilson, then Professor of Semitic Philology in Princeton Theological Seminary, published an article in the *Princeton Theological Review*, entitled, "The meaning of Alma (A.V. "Virgin") in Isaiah 7:14. After a thorough discussion of the use of the word in the O. T. and in the versions, as well as in the cognate languages, Dr. Wilson stated his conclusions as follows: "Finally, two conclusions from the evidence seem clear; first, that *almah*, so far as known, never meant 'young married woman'; and secondly, since the presumption in common law and usage was and is, that every *alma* is virgin and virtuous, until she is proved not to be, we have a right to assume that Rebecca and the *alma* of Isa. 7:14 and all other *almas* were virgin, until and unless it shall be proven that they were not. If Isa. 7:14 is a prediction of the Conception and if the events recorded in Matthew 1:18-25 and Luke 1:26-38 are true and the Holy Spirit of God really overshadowed the virgin Mary, all difficulties are cleared away. The language is not the difficulty. The great and only difficulty lies in disbelief in predictive prophecy and in the almighty power of God; or in the desire to throw discredit

upon the divine Sonship of Jesus." This statement is very enlightening. The greatest enemies of our Lord Jesus Christ when upon His earthly mission were the leaders of the Jewish nation. Two thousand years have made some difference, the greatest enemies of Christ and Christianity today are not the leaders of the Jewish Nation. One only has to be a modest reader of past and contemporary history to see that. There should also be serious reflection in the statement " At least some elements of the Christian world." Denying Christ and through the widespread influence of the modern revised versions there are many more who are denying Him today or at the very least have doubts about Him.

The editor is a reader of the "Lamp and Light" Psalm 119 v.105. "To

### Luke 1:27 And the name of the Virgin was Mary



the Jew first" Romans 1 v.16. The Society for Distributing Hebrew Scriptures. The New Testament in Hebrew-English. And Hebrew and many other tongues. Thousands of New Testaments go out year by year, and are well received. I have found the local Rabbi very kindly and helpful. I think the case of Rabbi Brickner is quite unusual.

However, our God is a great and mighty God and prior to the statement which states so clearly and simply in Matthew 1:18 "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this

wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost." Prior to that statement we find the first 17 verses of Matthew, any educated rabbi can easily ascertain that these verses can be readily verified from the impeccable ancient records of his nation. This passage of scripture, Matthew 1:1-17 shows the awesome sovereignty of God in dealing with the human race. What power of man or indeed of all men could bring about the meeting together of men and women, their cohabitation with each other and the subsequent ensuing births over a period of virtually 2,000 years and divide these intimacies and births so that there were exactly fourteen generations from Abraham to David, fourteen generations from David to Babylon, and fourteen generations from Babylon to Christ, and that with obviously not one of the participants having any idea of the plan? Of a truth those who read the scriptures with any intelligence at all and do not see the central figure of Jesus Christ for what He is are either "willingly ignorant" or "blind".

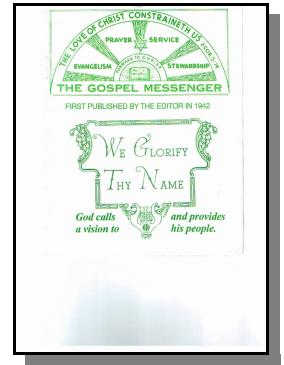
As it is written "there shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob." Therefore such statements as the one from temple Sinai should carry no weight with the Christians.

The editor is of the opinion that it will not be long before the Deliverer shall come out of Sion and turn away ungodliness from Jacob....

Modern scholarship who deny the Divinity of Christ and the Virgin Birth make a big point of the definite article and try to prop up their argument by replacing it with the indefinite article "a". But what has been quoted above leaves no place for such a scheme.

The Virgin is the reading of all the best MSS.-editor.

# On the Nature of Christ



Reprinted from the Gospel Messenger  
by Rev Edward Francis Barrar  
31.1.1903-11.6.2004

Because some of my readers seem to be having some difficulty concerning the subject, we will consider the Trinity, somewhat briefly but to the point.

I cannot give you an opening text, because the Trinity is not a Bible subject. It is rather what we might term a traditional thing that has been brought into being by man.

The main debate started with Arius theologian, a scholar from the school of Lucian at Antioch. He was a presbyter. I believe that Arius was a good, honest Christian man and tried hard to get rid of the evil doctrine of the trinity, but unfortunately he introduced other errors, such as that Christ was a created being.

The above-mentioned debate commenced about 320AD and continued until 325AD when the first general church council was called by Constantine to convene at Nice. At this council the doctrine of Arius was discussed and settled, resulting in the banishment of the old man, with others of his following. However, by 328 AD they were home again, possibly as the result of the Emperor's sister, Constantina, who seemed to favour Arius and his doctrine. That is about as far as I can go on the life and work of Arius in this short article.

Coming down the stream of time we meet another man, Herbert Armstrong (who has now passed to his

rest). Like Arius, Mr Armstrong had the same good intention but unfortunately he also introduced some bad, if not worse, errors than Arius. Such as, 'Christ the begotten Son being with God the Father from the beginning'. Herbert Armstrong does not accept the fact that Jesus Christ was the Son of God and with the father in the beginning. The follow-

**St John connects the Gospel with the Book of Genesis and shows that the Author of the new creation is one with the Author of the old creation**

ing is what Mr Armstrong writes:

"So here we find revealed originally two personages. One is God. And with God in that prehistoric time was another Personage who was also God – one who later was begotten and born as Jesus Christ. But these two personages were spirit, which is invisible to human eyes unless supernaturally manifested. Yet at the time described in John 1 Jesus was not the Son of God and God was not His father."

We now turn first to the Holy Scriptures, together with comments from some of the wiser and more learned of the biblical commentators

Remembering, of course that we are in search of the truth: (a) at creation was the only begotten Son of God there? (b) Did the Son of God create all things? (c) Was it the Son of God who divested himself of his glory as a spirit being to be begotten as a human person?

Also keeping in mind the fact that all this connected with our final goal, is there in the Word of God such a thing as the "Trinity"

St John 1:1 In the beginning, St John connects the Gospel with the Book of Genesis and shows that the Author of the new creation is one with the Author of the old creation. St John's Gospel is the Genesis of the New Testament. The preceding evangelists, Matthew and Luke, had traced the genealogy of Christ to Abraham, and in Adam. St John declares Him from everlasting.

To be in the beginning signifies to exist before all things. "Who is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of every creature" (Col. 1:15). This does not mean, of course, that Christ was a creature, it simply tells us that Christ was born before any of the creatures, that the son did not begin to be, but was always existing with the Father. "Thus Abraham saw his day, and was glad" (John 8:56)

The editor is indebted to Dr Chr. Wordsworth for some of the thoughts on John 1:1-18/

(1) "All things were created by

him”. The repetition, and the carried statements here, are designed to express the truth with emphasis, so that there could not be the possibility of mistake of misapprehension. The importance of the doctrine, and the fact that it was probably denied by false teachers, or that they held philosophical opinions that tended to its practical denial, are the reasons why the Apostle dwells so particularly on this point.

And for him. For his Glory... Particularly the earth was made by the Son of God to be the place where he would be become incarnate, and exhibit the wonders of redeeming love. There could not be a more positive declaration than this, that the universe was created by Christ, and if so He is divine. The work of creation is the exertion of the highest power of which we can form a conception, and is often appealed to in the Scriptures by God to prove that He is divine, in contradistinction from idols. If, therefore, this passage be understood literally, it settles the question about the divinity of Christ.”

For by Him were all things created. This is one of the reasons why he is called “the image of God” and the “firstborn”. He makes God known to us by his creative power, and by the same power in creation shows that he is exalted over all things, the Son of God. The phrase which is here used by the Apostle universal. He does not declare that he created all things in the spiritual kingdom of God, or that he arranged the events of the Gospel dispensation (as some have supposed). The above note is from Dr Albert Barnes’ work on Colossians P.311.

In Colossians 1:15, St Paul now proceeds to vindicate the Divine Majesty of Christ against the false teachings and teachers of Colossae,

who disparaged Him as man, and as inferior in dignity and posterior in time....Theophyl.

The assertion that the “creative” power of Christ was exerted on “all things”. It is not in reference to angels only, or to men, or to Jews, or to Gentiles. It is in relation to “everything in heaven and in earth”, that is, to the whole universe. Why should so universal a declaration be supposed to denote merely the intelligent creation?

With what propriety, or in what tolerable sense, can the expression “things in heaven and earth” be applied to the Jews and Gentiles? In what sense can it be said that they are “visible and invisible”? And if the language could be thus used,

**Colossians 1:15**  
**“He is the image of**  
**the invisible God**  
**the firstborn over all**  
**creation.”**

how can the fact that Christ is the means of reconciling them be a reason why He should be called “the image of the invisible God”

We have seen, without any shadow of doubt, that Christ is divine, this being so we can see in the great work of creation why he is called “the image of the invisible God” and why he is at the head of the universe, the firstborn of creation: and because being the great agent in that work, there is a propriety that He should occupy this position at the head of all things.

He is before all things. As He must be if He created all things. And by Him all things consist. Or are sustained. See also Heb. 1:3 existing from everlasting, a declaration of the eternity of Christ.

Let the editor give an answer to several important questions.

(1) The creed says God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. You inquire how can there be three Gods. The answer is, not really, for three Gods are in one body. How did that stupid notion come into being?

(2) This notion came about as a result of those who did not accept the divinity of Christ, and therefore that He was the creator.

(3) But the New Testament has a number of passages, such as John 1 :3, Eph 3:19, Col 1:16, Heb 1:2. These and other texts cause grave difficulties for those persons who do not accept the divinity of Christ.

(4) And so other things must be put forward.

a) If Christ was creator, He must have been all power, omnipotent.

b) And when the thought is raised that God created all things by Him, as His agent, then the argument of omnipotence is put forward and contended that it is impossible to delegate omnipotence. It is impossible, because if omnipotence be delegated, He to whom it is delegated had it not before, and He who delegates it ceases to have it, and therefore ceases to be God. And the other to whom it was delegated becomes God.

c) Therefore, those who believe that way cannot accept Christ as the agent of God in creation, and to get over their difficulty they say Christ is God. That is how we get the theory, as in the creed God the Father, God the son and God the Holy Ghost. Three Gods in one body.

What then is the answer to all this? As far as I am concerned, the answer is as follows:

d) I go along, in the main, with that I have quoted under (b). And further, and more important, I believe, as all the best and most ancient

manuscripts and versions testify, that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God and was with the Father from the beginning.

And so, if Christ is the begotten Son of God, He must be, and it, of the substance of God His Father, this being the fact Christ must inherit the attributes of His Father. God did not delegate omnipotence to His son, for Christ had the attribute by inheritance. See note on Page 9

The substance of the whole question is in that one compound Greek work (monogenes), only – begotten. , *“And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever.”* See also John 14:26

And what is the Comforter? Note John 15:26. *“But*

*when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the father, even the spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me.”*

Which proceedeth from the Father? We have already considered that point.

The Scriptures are completely silent as to the Holy Spirit being God and holding a higher position in the Godhead than that of God the Father. All these things belong to tradition and find no place in the Bible.

Let us close by asking the question, why is it such an offence to blaspheme against the Holy Spirit? Simply because the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God the Father. (John 15:26)

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### Notes:

See also Hilary ( de Trin. Viii, 49) who says that Christ is an image of God by His creative power.

So also Theophylact here, who says *“Christ is the Image of God inasmuch as Christ is God, and the Son of God, and therefore He is superior to angels and to all created Beings.”*

Since Christ is the Image of him, that is invisible, He is an Image of the substance of God.

St Matthew 1:18 “Now the birth of Jesus Chris was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.”

Let every one that does not believe that Christ was born human and Divine pay attention, and take heed, remembering that the inspired Word of God was written by the Holy Ghost, or Holy Spirit. Verse 19 “ Then Joseph her husband being a just man and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.” The point to notice in this verse is that Joseph was a just man alright keep that in mind verse 20 “But while he thought on these things, Behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.” Now how did this conception take place some say by Joseph, but NO that cannot be for the angel of God said it was a Holy Ghost, and the angel further said that Joseph was just a man.

Now who is going to be bold enough to risk committing the un-pardonable sin, by saying that the Holy Ghost did not place the seed of conception in the womb of Mary?

We will now have a few more thoughts from St Matthew let us turn to chapter 1:23

“Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel which being interpreted is, God with us.” So here the inspired Bible assures us that he is “God” with us.

Have you checked out the  
Australasian Conference of Seventh Day Baptists website?  
<http://www.seventh-day-baptist.org.au>

# NO-HOPER BECAME RESPECTED SCHOLAR

As published in the Christchurch Press

Edward Francis Barrar, clergyman and scholar. B Kerrytown, January 31, 1903; m 1923 Ivy Burson (div); d Christchurch, June 11, 2004.

A month before he died, the Rev Edward Barrar walked the steep two kilometre track from his hill-top eyrie above Gebbies Pass, in Christchurch's Port Hills, to visit his son. He was 101.

Small but powerful and of formidable intellect, Mr Barrar maintained a spartan and active lifestyle as a near-hermit for the past 20 years.

The boy who was born in a sod hut at Kerrytown, north of Timaru, and brought up at Studholme Junction, south of Timaru, was told on leaving school at 12 that he was good for nothing.

He went on to master several languages, gain university degrees and have his lifetime studies on the Bible published in a book.

The young Edward Barrar served a motor-engineer apprenticeship at Waimata. He supplemented his income with farm work, rabbiting, and running a taxi and mail services. At 16, he started his own business as a motor-engineer, expanding into bicycle manufacture.

He was one of the few people in Waimata who could drive a car. During the 1918 influenza epidemic, he chauffeured the local doctor 24 hours a day. Edward would nap while the doctor was inside each house, than the doctor slept while Edward conveyed him between houses.

Though he was the youngest member of the Waimata Volunteer Fire

Brigade, the young Barrar drove the fire engine.

Keen to build himself up physically, he took up boxing, cycling and athletics. He was runner-up in the New Zealand featherweight boxing championship.

A seafaring grandfather had enthralled him with tales of the sea, so Mr Barrar joined the navy at 19. He served as a winch driver on HMS Iris, laying cable between New Zealand and Australia.



He next signed up with the merchant schooner Lotty Bennett, which traded around the Pacific. Mr Barrar used to tell hair-raising tales of a deranged Captain meeting out excessive punishments to crewmembers. He also told of having to abandon ship, after it struck a reef, during a storm in the Fiji Islands.

Mr Barrar married Ivy Burson in Wanganui in 1923. They had three children but later divorced.

He sailed on HMS Iris again but illness forced him to leave the ship and he returned to cycle manufac-

turing. He ran what was thought to be New Zealand's first wholesale-retail cycle business in Wanganui.

However, illness again intervened, and he returned to Timaru in 1928. There, his interest in religion blossomed. He had been a practising Anglican, thanks to his mother's teaching. His reading led him to the Seventh Day Baptists and he launched into Bible study courses by correspondence with the Melbourne College of Divinity. Private tutors advanced his command of English and taught him Greek and Hebrew. He was accredited with Master of Arts and Bachelor of Divinity degrees from Alfred University in New York.

Moving to Christchurch, Mr Barrar was a lay-preacher with the Church of Christ in 1940-43, before establishing the Seventh Day Baptist Church in the city. It is still there today.

Meanwhile, Mr Barrar set up a cycle business, including building racing bikes. He also worked for Bader cycles. The Depression hit business hard and he had to supplement his income with relief work building a road. The family was then living on a Mount Pleasant farmlet, from which they sold milk, vegetables and flowers.

Mr Barrar was for many years a strict vegetarian and devotee of organically grown food. His strong resistance to the pasteurisation of milk led him, in 1961, to establish Pleasant View Dairy Farm in Cashmere. He studied the chemistry of milk and set up his own testing laboratory.

His testing work expanded to assessing minerals in grasses and cancer in animals.

e toured the Middle East and parts of Europe in 1970. His interest and expertise in ancient church history and the scriptures made him a welcome figure from Rome to Dublin.

He bought land on the Port Hills in 1971 and worked as builder's labourer on his house, high on a secluded hilltop. A windmill provided electricity for lighting and radio while a wood fire heated the house and water. His moved in there in 1984, aged 81.

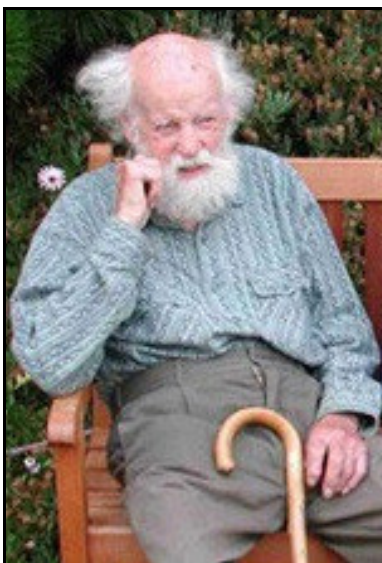
Mr Barrar maintained fitness by grubbing gorse till his mid 90s. He continued taking daily walks of one to two kilometres on the hill after he reached 101.

Most of his time he devoted to research and writing his book, *A Critical Examination of the Modern Versions of the Bible*. Research for this scholarly defence of the King James Version included reading Biblical manuscripts in Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic, Latin and some Middle East dialects.

It was published in 1999.

Mr Barrar never smoked or drank alcohol, tea or coffee. Apart from a bout of pneumonia in the early 1960s, he had seldom been sick. He missed church once, when heavy snowfall blocked his track.

He is survived by two sons and a daughter. - *The Press*



### *My Father's Eyes*

*The story in my father's eyes,  
 Can't be told without some tries,  
 A life that's been so very long,  
 And of course some right some wrong,  
 I now look back along the tale,  
 Some of which would turn you pale,  
 He worked so hard to change the land,  
 Doing so with God in hand,  
 At any age where many stopped,  
 He worked on and never dropped,  
 Stubborn yes but with hearts pride,  
 A will so strong I could have tried,  
 Stop now dad you've out done me,  
 Stop now dad its finished see,  
 And finally now I take your hand,  
 Lead you out away from land,  
 Lay you down with heavens chord,  
 Say last words you've met the Lord.*

Author: Marcus Clark 14/06/04



# The Life and Times of Rev. Edward Francis Barrar

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## **1903-1910**

**1903** – On 31.1.03 Edward Francis Barrar was born.  
- Edward VIII King

**1903-** The Wright Brothers fly a powered, heavier than air plane for the first time.

**1906** – Kellogg's start selling corn flakes, San Francisco earthquake and 3 day fire

**1907** – First Electric Washing Machine

**1908** – Ford Introduces the Model – T

**1909** – Plastic is invented, Robert Peary Becomes First to reach North Pole - Edward at school

## **1910 -1920**

**1910** – Edward buys his first rifle, a Winchester, by selling bird's eggs.

**1912** – SOS accepted as universal distress signal, the titanic sinks

**1913** – Henry Ford creates assembly line

**1914** – World War One Begins  
- Charlie Chaplin 1<sup>st</sup> appeared as the little tramp  
- Huntly Coalmine Disaster – 43 people die

**1915** – NZ forces take part in Gallipoli Campaign  
- Edward leaves school being told he was a no-hoper

- Takes up an apprenticeship

**1917** – Mata Hari executed for being a spy - US enters World War 1

**1918-**New Zealand Division in Battle of Somme. Influenza epidemic where an estimated 8500 die in New Zealand

**1918-**Flue Epidemic and Edward places apprenticeship on hold while he helps local Doctor by driving him to patients

**1919** – Treaty of Versailles ends World War 1

## **1920 – 1930**

**1921-** New Zealand Division of Royal Navy established.

**1920** – Anzac day first established, first aeroplane flight across cook strait

**1922** – King TUT'S tomb found, readers digest published

**1923-** Edward marries Ivy Burson in Wanganui. This was also the place he started possibly the first bicycle factory in New Zealand.

**1924** - 1<sup>st</sup> Olympic winter games

**1925-** His first son Ronald born

**1926** – Returned to Timaru where his interest in religion began to grow..

**1927** - The 1<sup>st</sup> talking movie “the Jazz Singer”

**1928-** Kingsford-Smith completes first flight across Tasman Sea

- Penicillin Invented

- First Mickey Mouse Cartoon

**1930** – Sliced Bread available

- Pluto discovered (not the Walt Disney Pluto)

## **1930-1940**

**1930-** His family is growing and Edward continues to work hard and study for his Theological training

**1931** -- Hawkes Bay earthquake, 256 die.

**1932-** Amelia Earhard and first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic

**1934** – Cheese burger created

- Bonnie and Clyde killed by police

- Parker Bros sells game “monopoly”

**1936** – King Edward VIII Abdicates, Jack Lovelock wins NZ's 1<sup>st</sup> gold medal

- Working weeks reduced from 44 hours to 40 hours.

**1937** – Amelia Earhardt vanishes, The Hindenberg disaster

**1938** – Broadcast “The war of the worlds” causes panic

**1939** – WORLD WAR II BEGINS

## **1940 – 1950**

**1940** – Battle of Britain

- Conscription for military service in NZ

-Nylons on the market

**1941** – Japanese Attack Pear Harbour

- Young family Ronald, Dorothy and Daniel move to Christchurch where Edward becomes a lay preacher for “The Church of Christ.”

**1942** – Starts to publish “The Gospel Messenger”  
Food rationing introduced

**1943** – Edward started work at Canon St, in an upper room as a Seventh Day Baptist church.

**1944** – D-Day, ball point pens go on sale

**1945** – First computer built, microwave oven invented

- Germans surrender

- US Drops Atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki

- During this period of time Ronald Barrar was converted and felt God was calling him to go to Malawi. The property at Livingstone St was purchased about this time also

**1946** – NZ family benefit of 1 pound per week becomes universal

- Bikinis introduced

**1947** – Fire in Ballantynes Department store, Christchurch, 41 people died

- When Ronald took up the call Edward began growing flowers for the Mission.

**1948** – May 14<sup>th</sup> Israel was declared a State. Something Edward had preached about for many years.

- Polio epidemic in NZ closes schools
- Ruapehi and Ngauruhoe erupt
- Meat rationing ends

### **1950-1960**

**1950** – First organ transplant

**1951** – Colour T.V introduced

- Edward established a dairy farm on Cashmere Hill

**1952** – NZ population reaches over 2 million Polio vaccine created

- Princess Elizabeth become Queen at age of 25 years

**1953** – Hillary and Norgay Climb Mt Everest

- Railway disaster Tangiwai, 151 people die

**1955** – Disneyland opens

- James Dean dies in car accident

**1956** – Elvis gyrates on Ed Sullivan's show, Grace Kelly marries Prince Rainer III of Monaco

**1958** – PAYE Tax introduced

**1959**- Auckland Harbour Bridge opens

### **1960 - 1970**

**1960** – Regular TV programmes begin in Auckland

**1961** – Berlin Wall Built

**1962** – Marilyn Munroe found dead

**1963** – JFK Assassinated

**1964** – Edward is working hard in both his farming and his church work

- Beatles become popular
- Muhammad Ali becomes the Heavyweight

Boxing Champion of the World

**1965**- Vietnam War begins

**1967** – Decimal Currency introduced

**1968** – Inter-Island ferry “Wahine” sinks in severe storm Wellington Harbour – 51 die

**1969** – Neil Armstrong becomes 1<sup>st</sup> man to walk on the moon.

### **1970 – 1980**

**1970** – Computer floppy disks are introduced

- Beatles break up
- Edward tours Middle East and Europe

**1971** – Edward buys property in Port Hills he was a labourer helping build this house high on top of a hill.

**1972** – Mash TV show premiers, pocket calculators introduced

- Watergate scandal begins

**1973** – NZ population reaches 3 million

**1975** – Second TV channel starts broadcasting

**1976** - Introduction of metric system

**1977** – Elvis found dead

- Star wars movie released

**1979** – Air NZ plane crashes Mount Erebus, Antarctica – 257 people die.

- Careless days introduced to reduce petrol con-

sumption

### **1980-1990**

**1980** – Iran – Iraq war begins

- Fire destroys wooden church and the present one is built from concrete blocks with Edward the driving force behind the project

**1981** – Millions watch Royal wedding on TV

**1982** – ET movie released

**1984** \_Edward moves into his house on the hill at 81 years of age.

**1985** – Green peace vessel “Rainbow Warrior” bombed and sunk by French agents in Auckland Harbour

- Wreck of the Titanic found

**1986** – Challenger space shuttle explodes

**1987** – First Lotto Draw

**1988** – Cyclone Bola strikes Northern North Island

**1989** – Berlin wall falls Sunday trading begins

- Edward blesses the Ingoe family on their way to Malawi

### **1990 – 2000**

**1990** – Commonwealth games held in Auckland

- 1 and 2 cent coins no longer legal tender

**1993** – World Federation of Seventh Day Baptists in Auckland

**1995** – Team NZ wins Americas Cup, Renewal of French Nuclear tests results in NZ protest Flotilla and Navy Ship “Tui” sailing for Moruroa Atoll

- Auckland Sky tower opens

- Princess Dianna killed in a car crash

- NZ first woman prime minister, Jenny Shiply

**1996** - Conference in Wellington –Pr Edward preaches and gives his support and advice to young Pastors. The first time our Conference session had over 100 people.

**1997** – World Federation of Seventh Day Baptists in Jamaica.

**1999** – His book ,A Critical Examination of the Modern Versions of the Bible” was published.

- Edward donates funds to purchase the Sabatarian Baptist Bible College property in Lunzu, Malawi

### **2000 – 2004**

**2000** – A new Millennium is celebrated

**2000** - 12<sup>th</sup> Session of Australasian Conference of Seventh Day Baptists. Pr Edward preaches well in his 97<sup>th</sup> year.

**2003** –Celebrates his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**2004** –Dies peacefully with his daughter, Daniel and his granddaughter by his side

Pr Edward Barrar lived during a changing century where people were unable to fly to a time where mankind had conquered space and were transporting 400 people in one plane from New Zealand to America as an everyday occurrence. He had seen moral values decline and technology jump forward. Through it all it seems this man kept his feet firmly on this earth but ever looking to the heavens for the standard he should uphold.

# Mission Report

MALAWI

Since starting the Bible College at Lunzu, it is quite amazing how the work has progressed. As many will know the Bible College was set up in order to teach those who wanted education in the scriptures and not be controlled by the Board of Trustees of CAC. This was done in a similar way to Alfred University in America, which has now closed, in order to be able to teach without political interference. Unfortunately the leadership of CAC did not see the vision behind this and chose to have nothing to do with the College and so the College had to stand on its own.

Since then the College has produced some excellent leaders who have graduated and gone to take up ministries in the cities and villages. This year the College has nine students who are all working hard. They did have ten but one student had to return to his village because his mother was very sick. Pr Ronald Barrar who was first in Malawi working for the Lord in 1947, has been the principal for the first few years and was the teacher who gave the present principal Pr MPhandi his education.

The College was the focus of the Association of Original Seventh Day Baptists and now have 120 churches across Malawi and 4 of these in Mozambique. The Zambian Seventh day Baptists have also requested to be able to fellowship with the Association.

There are several branch churches and there is one only 12 kms from the Bible College at Lunzu which recently had ten baptisms with people making the first step on their journey with Christ. Pr Barrar also said that the church had a large number of children which any church is always glad to have. The Association is at present

preparing, mechanics in order to make a living when in the field. Pr MPhandi has done this on many occasions in order to feed his family when serving as a Pastor. Remember these men and their families in your prayers because many are in need of help to further the work in Malawi.

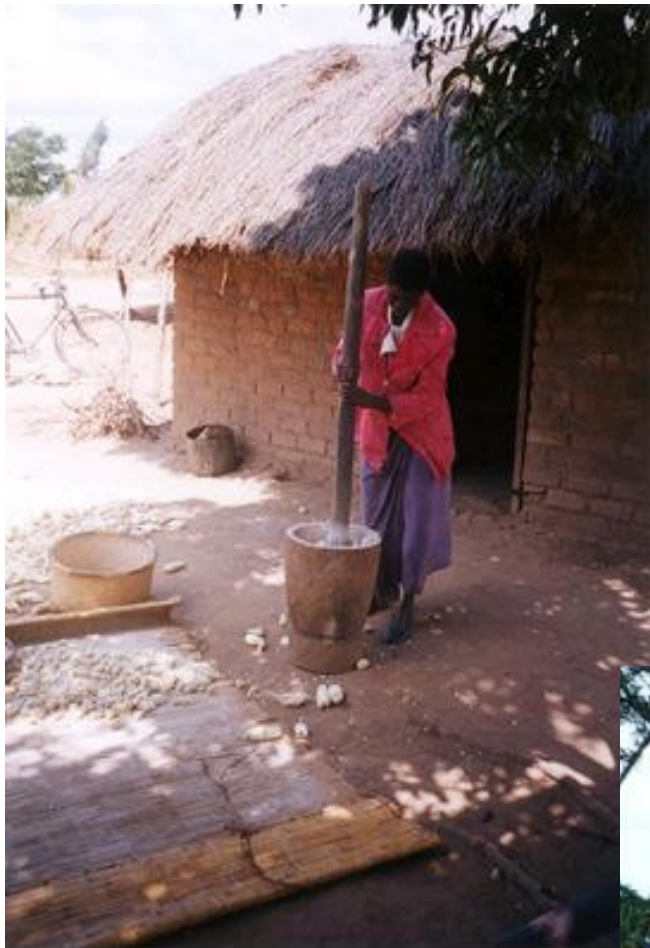
The future looks good for the



in negotiations with other Seventh Day Baptists and are hoping to move forward together which would probably make the Association the largest in number in the world all thanks to God's blessing this work.

In the College grounds the church which has been constructed with the help of the students as part of their practical teaching holds up to 100 people. It was reported that the church is doing well in attendance. As stated before part of the students training is to be practical men by learning car-

College and the Association with the Pastors Retreat on the October 10th-7th, followed by Conference for a week. I'm sure there will be much discussion for the future and I'm also sure there will be some tears shed as Pr Barrar who is now almost 80 has decided he needs to return to New Zealand because of health. The people of Malawi will miss him and his wife Maria. God gave him a job to do and he stuck with it and after nearly 60 years fruit is beginning to grow.



Donations to assist  
the work in Malawi  
may be sent to:

Pastor Ian Ingoe  
5/10 Rathgar Road  
HENDERSON New Zealand

Auckland Seventh Day Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 16029  
Sandringham  
AUCKLAND  
New Zealand

For more photos visit:  
<http://www.seventh-day-baptist.org.au/>



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