

CASA BAUTISTA DE PUBLICACIONES

EL ATALAYA
El Expositor Bíblico
Revista Juvenil
Nuestros Niños

519-521 N. CAMPBELL ST.
P. O. Box 667

Revista para las U. B. de J.
La Revista Homilética
Tarjetas y Rollos Ilustrativos
de la Escuela Dominical
Libros y folletos.

EL PASO, TEXAS, E. U. A.

Nov. 5th, 1923

Dear Brother Ray:

Your letter of the 18th of last month came to me at Cameron. Was glad to get it though of course not delighted to hear how far behind you were. I trust that this will be set right in the near future, but with the religious indifference I found in Mo. if that prevails all over, I fear that the situation is next to hopeless. Of course, I was not around much over there. It may be better in other places.

We almost had a disastrous fire here the other night. Some one set us on fire, but we saved the old shack the second--this is the second time--time. We take every precaution but one of these days down she will go, and we have not a penny insurance. But we are hoping to get by till such time as we can have a safe place to house our plant and publications.

The City here jumped on to us and wanted to tax us about \$650 for next year. We held them down. We will have to pay about \$100. State and County have not taxed us yet, but they will one of these days. I have been thinking that when we build we should build outside city limits. This is a matter that will come up later on.

Did I tell you that Gracia is our version of Grace Truman? I perhaps did not tell you, but if you took the pains you might have discovered that. We are right proud of this book. We ran it as a serial in El Atalaya thus reducing the cost to the minimum, using the same composition for both the paper and the book.

I am sending you a copy of Winning to Christ. You will see that a new man has been rung in on this translation.

I am doing my level best on those unpaid accounts. I think maybe we will succeed in upsetting things a little any way. Have made the Cuban folks to see that we can not go on this way. Quarles has not even answered me about it yet. I think he probably is very slow with most of his creditors. But am going to rub it in hard as we have got to have the money to keep up all these publications.

Yes, I know you are with us. Were it not for that I sure would step down and out. This honor does not always set lightly on my shoulders. See? But with the help of the Lord on we go for the present at least.

I am also sending you a copy of Bro. Cheavens' poems and a little booklet we have recently published on Catholic Intolerance. These are our only books in English. Read them and help us get them into circulation wherever you can.

May the Lord bless you rightly. Fraternally yours, J. E. Davis

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EL PASO, TEXAS, E. U. A.

Nov. 12th, 1923

Dear Brother Ray:

I am ~~sorry~~ sorry--more than sorry--to have to report as feel compelled to do in this letter. But hear me.

During the summer I seem to be able to get along here right well, but this time on my return a week ago last Sunday, I had an attack with my heart. Got over it and worked along with some inconvenience through the week, till Saturday, when I had one of the worst I have even had. This morning I am feeling some better, but can not say that I am really able to work.

Now it is being forced home to me more and more that I am not going to be able to stick to this work very much longer. And whether I like it or not, or whether you like it or not, something has to be done. We can not afford to drop this work suddenly and not have some one ready to take it up, but one of these days that is just what is going to happen.

Now, Bro. Boone has been writing that he is willing to come back any time we need him. I think he has gotten some good experience. I think perhaps it would be well for him to begin to get ready to come so that he can take oversight of the work and let me get away at least for the winter. That is unless you have some one else to send who would perhaps be able to direct matters better. Boone is a good man but he has always been a poor business man. Still I might be able to keep my hand on the throttle and live a part of the time somewhere else. I might also be able to partly make my way and thus cut down the expense, writing the lesson expositions and doing editorial work from a distance.

To me this is serious. I was so in hopes that I would get over this heart trouble, but I can not do it here, I am convinced. And at best, I may be able to drag along through another year, but it seems to me that such a martyrdom is not required. If it were I would be ready to undergo it, but is it?

May the Lord lead and help us. These are trying times.

Fraternally yours,

J. E. Davis

November 13, 1923

Rev. J. E. Davis,
Box 666,
El Paso, Texas

Dear Davis:-

Thank you for yours of November 5th. I write a brief reply to you. I am leaving for the Alabama and Texas Conventions.

The books have come in. I appreciate very greatly the fact that you have sent these to me. I understood that "Gracia" was the translation of Grace Truman. That is mighty good work in the publishing of books. I thank God for what you are able to do. I am hoping and praying that we are going to find an understudy for you before it is too late. You may be certain that our eyes and ears are open.

I thank you for the copy of Cheaven's poems. Some of them have genuine merit, and of course they mean more to me than they would to some, because of my personal affection for him.

Yours very cordially,

R/F

November 23, 1923

Rev. J. E. Davis,
Box 666
El Paso, Texas

Dear Davis:-

I thank you for your letter of November 12th.

I am certainly very sorry to hear about the reverse you have had in your health. I hope that the trouble you have experienced is only of a temporary nature, and when you get your liver straightened out again your heart will get back to normal operations.

I agree with you that this may be a serious matter, and I feel that we ought to deal with it in the most serious fashion, and we want to do just the thing we ought to do. I am wondering if the suggestion you make about Brother Boone is not the lead we ought to follow. If Brother Boone could come back and relieve you of duties which would enable you to get away to the lower altitudes more frequently, that perhaps would be the most hopeful solution we could find for the situation at present. I haven't in mind now a man who could get on the job and do the things that Boone could do. I mean we haven't a new man who could do this. We are suffering from our poverty of the last ten years, I mean the poverty we have experienced in sending new missionaries into Mexico. We haven't the resources we ought to have in Mexico from which we could draw for such an emergency as this. It has been a great calamity that our Board has been unable to reinforce the Mexican mission body during the last eight or ten years. However all that may be, we have our eyes set to the future and better days are ahead of us for the work in Mexico. It is probable that Boone is the man for immediate help, and in due time we will find another man who will come and labor along with you.

I suggest that you take it up with Boone still further and see if you two together cannot find a way for bringing immediate relief.

I am sorry to have to write you that Mrs. Ray is very critically ill. I am extremely anxious about her. The doctors

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have not yet found out her trouble. This makes the situation even more serious.

God bless you.

Cordially yours,

R/F