

Publishers of Religious Literature in the Spanish Language

BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE

Periodicals, Books, Tracts, Bibles

Hymn Books and Supplies

J. E. Davis, Mgr.

P. O. Box 211

El Paso, Texas

July 2nd, 1937

Dr. Charles E. Maddry,
Richmond, Va.

My Dear Brother:

Your informative letter of the 25th of June came through in good time. I had not been able to answer it on account of having so much to do just at this time. I have at last found a moment in which can give it attention, so I am going to answer now.

Here we just consider such matters as the red tape of immigration and many other matters of less importance, yet that require time, as a part of the day's work. After all, it was a real joy to be of service in this matter. I think the girl is OK and am of the opinion you will never regret having invested in her education and preparation for mission work among her people later on. We all fell in love with her here.

After all, it is not what we lay up in the bank that counts so much as what we invest in character building. Nothing else is going to count after a little while. If I had selfishly stored up what I have invested in helping people, I might have had quite a nice little bank account, but frankly I prefer having it laid up where Roosevelt and his gang can't get at it. Oh, I see I misquoted the Sermon on the Mount. Oh, well, you know what it says any way, so why should I worry about that?

I am glad you wrote the people I suggested you write to. In fact, in all my dealings with people in a matter of this kind I have never before met with nicer folks, and never was treated as splendidly. Sometimes they are just simply unbearable, but not so this time. The hand of the Lord was in it.

I was thinking of Finley only the day before your letter came, and decided that something had gone wrong, since he told me in a letter that he was going to Richmond soon, and would let me know if things came out favorably. Since I had heard nothing further, I decided that he was not the man. There is some one and by patience and prayer, that some one will be found, and in God's time he will come along to take a hand in this great work we are trying to do.

I get some splendid letters from many lands. Here is one received this morning in which I am told that the Venezuelan Government has recognized "the importance and value of evangelical teaching in the Republic and has named teachers for it." This man who writes me lives far out in the interior and became a Baptist through us, along with quite a group of others there. He heard of us and wrote us. We sent him literature and wrote him letters, and cleared up difficulties, until at last he declared himself a Baptist. Now that was some three or four years ago. He has not yet been baptized, since there is not a Baptist church within several hundred miles of where he lives. My! how I would like to go down there and organize a Baptist church out there in the wilds!

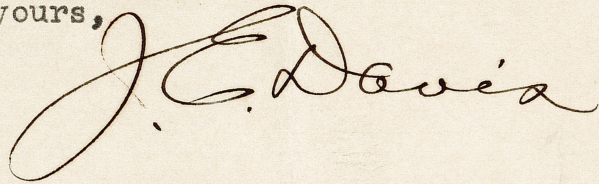
He is a dentist and makes his living that way. Then he gives of his money and time to leading this little band of believers who desire to be baptized the Jesus way. It is wonderful what the Gospel can do with open-minded people.

I am still thinking that in some way the Lord is going to let me go on that trip through Latin-america along about 1940 when they have that Congress down there. I have prayed the Lord to open the way if He wants me to go. I am known all over the Spanish speaking world (Baptist specially). It would surely be a great opportunity to preach the Gospel, since I speak their language about as well as my native tongue.

Well, here comes some work, so I shall have to stop. After all, you too are a busy man.

We are carrying on. The Lord is blessing us. I feel that He is going to give us a better chance with our literature as we get equipped to put out more of it. My! how the S.S. Board could help us, if they so desired--and maybe they will yet.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. E. Davis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "J. E. Davis".

July 6, 1937.

Rev. J. E. Davis,
Box 211,
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Mr. Davis:

In the absence of Dr. Maddry from the office, I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 2nd. Dr. Maddry is now attending one of the summer conferences in Texas and will not be back in the office until sometime next week.

He deeply appreciated what you and the others did in helping Tanya with the renewal of her passport. I met her summer before last at Ridgecrest, and was very much impressed with her. I think she is going to make a fine young woman and I hope will render a great service to the Kingdom.

I know that that letter which you received from the brother Veneauela certainly brought great joy to your heart. At the same time I am sure that it also brought sadness to think that we do not have a Baptist worker near enough to baptize that little group of believers. It makes one long to duplicate his life many times and go out to meet these unmet needs on every hand.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to take that trip to the Latin American Congress in 1940. I know it would be a great trip for you and a great joy to see many of these people with whom you have been in touch by correspondence.

Trusting that you will have a blessed summer, and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

JRF:C