

BULLETIN

SEMINARY EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

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Dr. Head Resigns Southwestern

It was with regret that we heard of the resignation of Dr. E. D. Head from the post as president of Southwestern. He is one of the most beloved men in Baptist life. Dr. Head can leave the seminary with the confidence that his administration has been most successful. Enrollment has increased from 636 in 1942, when he succeeded the late Dr. L. R. Scarborough, to 2,160 for the current academic year. Two modern buildings have been added to the campus and the teaching staff has been greatly enlarged.

Southwestern will miss him. All of us extend to him our best wishes. The load of administrative work in all our seminaries is tremendous. Dr. Head's load has been heavy. We pray for his health and continued usefulness.

What about Typology?

Some courses in how to study the Bible emphasize the phenomena of types. This sort of study seeks to go through the Old Testament to discover situations and persons which correspond to events and personalities of the New Testament. Classic types are Joseph, Moses, and Solomon each of whom have certain characteristics which can be spiritualized so as to correspond with the life of Christ.

Joseph's descent into Egypt as a slave is a type of Christ who descended into the world as a servant. His impeccable character is a type of Christ's sinlessness. His rise to a place of honor from a prison is a type of the resurrection and ascension. On and on one might go stretching a point here, misunderstanding a point there, and creating new situations by ingenious methods.

There are books on this method, but is it a legitimate approach? It has one thing in its favor, by following this method Christ can be preached in the Old Testament. The preacher begins by saying, "This character is a type of Christ." But it has many objectional features. The main objection is that scripture was not intended for such manipulation. You can preach Christ against the background of the Old Testament by relating the scripture in mind to Christ.

Typology violates the historical value of the Old Testament by making it a stage of nondescript characters whose main duty is to portray in miniature the main character. Abraham left Ur because God called him out and not as a type of Jesus leaving heaven. Abraham lived because he lived and fulfilled God's purpose not in order to portray Jesus. Joseph went to Egypt not as a type but as

a younger brother who was the victim of jealousy.

It is not fair to the characters to imagine their purpose to have been that of reflecting and not living their own lives. In addition to this we have heard preachers preach things about Christ which were deduced from the type and not found in the life of Christ, because it was felt that if elements were found in the type, the preacher was justified in reading them into the main character.

A better use can be made of the Old Testament. It is legitimate for the preacher to speak of incidents as being similar. Paul's conversion experience might lead one to point out how God has spoken to men in the past--Isaiah, Moses, Amos, Ezekial, and Samuel. The preacher could extend his message into the present. This differs greatly from the approach of TYPOLOGY to whom events and characters are chains of events and personalities explaining and expounding the life of Jesus.

Last month we discussed "Allegorical interpretation". These two are among the more serious mistakes in interpretation. Any interpretation must begin with the meaning of the passage itself. Next month we will discuss "Literalizing and spiritualizing".

Enrollment

Our enrollment has grown steadily during the twenty-one months the Seminary Extension Department has been in operation. We have had a total of 811 to enroll for correspondence work in 1074 courses. Only 28 have completed courses and have not re-enrolled in other courses. Our enrollment by states is as follows:

Ala. 19, Ark. 15, Ariz. 2, Cal. 24, Fla. 54, Ga. 31, Ill. 29, Ind. 5, Iowa 1, Kan. 9, Ky. 38, La. 43, Mich. 5, Md. 3, S. D. 1,

Miss. 56, Mo. 45, N. C. 55, N. J. 1, N. Mex. 7, N. Y. 10, Nev. 1, Ohio 5, Okla. 27, Penn. 5, S. C. 50, Tenn. 45, Texas 122, Va. 16, Wash. 1, Wash. D. C. 3, W. Va. 7, R. I. 1.

We have a number of students in foreign countries and several missionaries are using the courses in their work on the fields. Old Testament leads in number enrolled with 346, Sermon Preparation is second with 190, and New Testament is a close third with 174. Extension Centers now total 16 with an enrollment of approximately 300.

CONVENTION BOOTH

Look for the director at the SEMINARY EXTENSION DEPARTMENT booth. We will be "in the corner" near the other seminaries. We will be happy to discuss the work with any individual or group. Just come by and say "Howdy".

The committee on housing placed us in the Shamrock Hotel. If you can't read our sign, look for a man with a tin cup saying "Help the poor."

Mrs. Lee Gallman, (madam secretary) and Rev. Harold Anderson will assist us during the convention. The director will meet with several committees during the convention, but will leave the return-hour at the booth.

Send us any comments, complaints, suggestions, or testimonials. Tell what this work has done to help you in your work. Help us reach the next man by your testimonial.

Pick up your lessons where you are and complete them. We're waiting!