

BULLETIN

SEMINARY EXTENSION

DEPARTMENT

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NEW TESTAMENT QUOTATIONS

The greatest sources for our knowledge of the use of the Old Testament in the first century is found in quotations of the Old Testament by New Testament writers. The Talmud Quotations, as well as the Jewish Midrashim must be regarded with much suspicion in view of the fact that they have suffered much revision and change. But the New Testament is steeped in the Old Testament. Quotations have been checked with various texts. The Greek Old Testament (called Septuagint and usually written LXX) is behind our New Testament for the most part but other indications point to a knowledge of the Hebrew text, while others indicate a possible connection with paraphrase in Aramaic (known as Targums). At other times the writers appear to quote from memory and still again they seem to rearrange the scriptures.

The use which New Testament writers made of the Old Testament scriptures indicate a reverent faith in them. But they did not hesitate to make changes in support of their Christian faith. Although they believed the scripture to be authoritative, yet they were not slavish in their devotion. It is not

irreverent for one to note these facts. They did not follow sound exegetical principles, always, for many quotations clearly mean something other than what is claimed for them.

COMMENDS SEMINARY EXTENSION CENTER

A student, a pastor, and a church have commended the work of the Forest Seminary Extension Center (Mississippi). The student Mrs. Jim Shanahan, who is also a teacher in the Hickory Ridge Baptist Sunday School in Rankin County states, "I found the course in New Testament helped me a great deal. The text book helped explain and give a great deal of background material that helped you understand the scriptures better."

The Hickory Ridge Baptist Church stated that they paid the tuition of those teachers who would attend the center; all except one responded. Two others responded and both are now leading in the church. They stated further, "Having seen the results of this course in the improved work our teachers are doing, and the increase in our Sunday School attendance since our teachers

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started taking this course, plus the renewed interest in the work of the church, ..our church is desirous of seeing a school started in Jackson (nearer Hickory Ridge) in order for our folk to continue a supervised study of the Bible so they will be able to better rightly divide the Word of Truth,

Signed: Jim Shanahan, Pastor
Albert Hemphill, Clerk.

The pastor stated "I feel that the money our church spent for this purpose will prove to be the wisest investment our church has made. Since our teachers began this course, our Sunday School enrollment has increased about 50%. It is my opinion that all of our churches would be wise to take advantage of this opportunity to train their teachers." Response of this type comes to the Seminary Extension Department regularly from all over the country. One missionary stated that the Extension Center had become his major emphasis because it helped to bring him in closer contact with his leadership.

The Seminary Extension Department has seen the results of its services enough to offer the claim that a well planned, centrally located school will break down barriers, produce effective leadership, promote fellowship; stimulate the proper kind of study and help a pastor in every phase of his work.

BOOK REVIEW

William Peter King, Adventism;
The Second Coming of Christ.
Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, 1941.

I should like to commend this book to all pastors, not because it has any startling revelations in it, but because it seeks to ask questions that need to be asked and because of it's suggestions on our problems in current interpretations on the second coming of Christ. It doesn't matter how you stand on the issue of Parousia, or the second coming of Christ, you need to read this book. Nothing is more destructive to progress than an interpretation of eschatology that is not sound. You may not agree with all that Brother King says, but certainly you will be benefitted by your contacts with this book.

SEMINARY EXTENSION GRADUATE

Many of you have seen the picture of our first "graduate" in your state Baptist paper. Rev. Frank Robinson, pastor of the Galatia Baptist Church in West Chowan Baptist Association, North Carolina, was presented with the Department's first certificate in Pastoral Training. He has done a fine work in his church while completing his course of study. He has led his church in a building program, enlarging not only the physical plant but enlarging his corps of workers. The organizations have shown considerable increase in enrollment and attendance.

Brother Robinson writes, "While I do not count myself a powerful preacher, I know my preaching ability has improved and that my leadership has become more effective through my studies with the Seminary Extension Department."

Statistical report - July 27, 1954.
Correspondence - 1183.