

BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR

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News-Journal Of The Tennessee Baptist Convention



Photo By H. Armstrong Roberts

The True Seed Of Abraham

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ."—Galatians 3:16

In Galatians 3:6-14 Paul has shown that it is not necessary for Gentiles to be circumcised in order to be saved. Now he shows that living under the Mosaic law is unnecessary for salvation. He is still using the illustration of the promises made to Abraham. These promises involve salvation or being children of God.

In verse 15 the apostle points out that even human covenants or contracts are not changeable after being ratified. Then he moves to the covenant which God made with Abraham (see Gen. 12:1ff.). This was a covenant of grace, whereas the Mosaic covenant was one of law (see Ex. 19:1ff.). Reference to Abraham's seed refers back to Genesis 13:15; 17:7-8. The "seed" was a part of the Abrahamic covenant.

Now in verse 16 Paul points out that the word is "seed", not "seeds". It is one, not many. And he declares that this "seed . . . is Christ." Thus he shows that the promises were made to those who are in Christ by faith. It has no reference to the Mosaic law.

This Paul shows by pointing out that the

law of Moses was not given until over four centuries after God made His covenant with Abraham and his "seed" (v. 17). The law did not change the Abrahamic Covenant.

So the true seed of Abraham is Christ. And they are children of Abraham who have believed in Him. To be a child of Abraham was tantamount to being a child of God.

Thus the Judaizers were wrong in insisting that Gentile Christians should live by the law of Moses. This has to do with the ceremonial law, not the Ten Commandments. But in Matthew 5 Jesus showed that Christians, whether Jews or Gentiles, should go beyond the letter to the spirit of those Commandments.

So in Christ there is neither Jew nor Gentile. Both are one in Christ. And one is in Christ not by works of the law, but by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Letter

Let me join Tennessee Baptists as they pay tribute to Dr. Fred Kendall as he retires as the esteemed Executive Secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. He has given remarkable leadership to all the work and has been a real inspiration to us all. I am proud of the way Tennessee has continually advanced in baptisms and in mission giving as well as in every other area of the work. The magnificent State Convention Office Building built under Dr. Kendall's leadership will be a reminder to us all of his ministry and wisdom.

As a native of Tennessee (born in Middle Tennessee at Cornersville) I am very much interested in what goes on across the state. We in Alabama salute Dr. Kendall and you all for setting an example for us all to follow in so many ways.

Best of wishes to Dr. Kendall as he retires and gets out from under the pressures of that office to have time to do more of his first love—that of preaching!

George E. Bagley
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Alabama Baptist Convention



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W. FRED KENDALL, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR

Brings You News First

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Devotional

A NEW YEAR?

By Betty Jane Rodgers, Nashville

The New Year has dawned. You no doubt have extended and received the greeting, "Happy New Year." Will it really be NEW? Or will it merely be 365 days very similar to the year just concluded? It can be new if it has certain dimensions.

A New Appreciation for Newness is the newness of life which is yours in Christ Jesus. "When anyone is joined to Christ, he is a new being . . ." 2 Cor. 5:17. If this feeling of newness has become rather vague and unreal to you, re-thinking your experience and relationship with Him will give fresh purpose and meaning to your life in 1973.

A New Commitment to Witnessing. Paul says in Col. 4:5: "Make the most of your chances to tell the Good News." This scripture might well be your challenge for the new year. There has never been a greater needs for the sharing of Christ's love and His redeeming power. You may be surprised at the number of witnessing opportunities that will open to you if you are alert to the needs of people in your daily contacts.

A New Dedication to Your Place of Service. "Whatever you do . . . work with your whole heart . . . for Christ . . . you serve." Col. 3:23: God expects us to count for something where we are. Are you using to the fullest the talents and abilities that He has given to you? Your daily tasks will take on new perspective and effectiveness if you will use Paul's words to the Colossians as your guideline.

A New Sense of Mission. In a day when the concept of "a call" has sometimes been limited to vocational Christian service, the Christian needs to be reminded that God calls all Christians regardless of how they earn their living.

J. Winston Pearce underscores this fact: "All men are called to God's love, forgiveness, salvation, fellowship, resources, and service." Paul reminds us "to live a life that measures up to the standard God set when He called you." (Eph. 4:1) Such an effort will produce a new sense of mission and purpose in your life.

Will your New Year be NEW? It all depends on YOU!

Abortions Up In Canada

OTTAWA, Ont.—"Statistics Canada" reported here that the number of abortions in the first six months of 1972 increased by nearly 33 per cent over the same period in 1971.

The federal agency said hospitals reported 18,801 abortions during the period, an increase from the previous year's six-month total of 14,168. There were also 16 abortions performed on women having foreign residence.

Largest increase in actual numbers was in Ontario, where the six-month figure was 9844, compared to 7267 the previous year. This was an increase of 35 per cent. (RNS)

27th Annual Evangelistic Conference Scheduled In Nashville Jan. 22-23



Norton



Dukes



Sumners



Charton



Yarbrough



Gilleland



Dowell



Newport



Copen



Beasley-Murray



Hultgren



Bisagno



Guy



Campbell



Woods



Cates



Havlik

The 27th annual session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention State Evangelistic Conference will be held Jan. 22-23 at the Belmont Heights church in Nashville. The theme for the 1973 conference will be "Sharing Christ Through the Word."

Speakers representing Texas, Georgia, Oklahoma, Missouri, Tennessee, and London, England are slated personalities on the program. Convening at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, the program is expected to draw more than 2000 pastors, denominational workers, and laymen from across the state, said F. M. Dowell, state Evangelism secretary.

A Bible study will be led at four of the five sessions by Cal Guy, professor of missions at Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary. George R. Beasley-Murray, president of Spurgeon's college in London, England, will speak Monday afternoon and evening on "Preparing Biblical Sermons" and "Reclaiming Bible Teaching." Beasley-Murray will be visiting professor of evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological seminary in January, Dowell said.

Warren Hultgren, pastor, First church, Tulsa, Okla., will speak on "Communicating the Word in this Day," "All People

Need Christ," and "Christ In All My Worlds," at three of the sessions. A member of the Home Mission Board staff, John Havlik, will speak, also, at three of the sessions. An associate in the Division of Evangelism, Havlik will speak on "Reclaiming Bible Study," "The Affluent Society Needs Christ," and "Sharing Christ Through All Lay Church Members."

John Bisagno, who brought the closing message at the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Nashville last November, will deliver three addresses before the conference.

Special music will be provided at all the sessions by Russell Newport, a member of First Baptist church of Springfield, Mo. Additional music will be brought by the Volunteer State Chorale and the church choir of Belmont Heights.

Tennesseans featured on the program include: Ralph Norton, executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention; Glenn Yarbrough, secretary, Student Department, TBC; Denzel Dukes, pastor, First church, Milan; Mike Copen, a member of the Springfield church, Springfield; Tim Sumners, associate pastor, First church, Morristown; Robert Campbell, pastor, First

Pittman Named To Home Mission Board Post

Sam Pittman, Seneca, S.C., has been elected associate secretary in the Department of Promotion and Furlough Ministries, Foreign Mission Board. He has served as superintendent of missions for the Beavercreek Baptist Association in South Carolina since 1970, and is believed to be the first associational missions superintendent elected to the board's staff.

He will assist the department through promotional efforts and the ministries of furloughing missionaries, according to Samuel DeBord, secretary of the department. Based in Richmond he will have a specific relationship to associational superintendents of missions throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

Giffin Announces Retirement From Chilhowee Business Position

John L. Giffin, business administrator of Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy since May 15, 1969, retired from the position at the end of December.

Giffin had reached the mandatory retirement age on Nov. 30 but remained an extra month to allow time for naming his successor. His wife has been assisting him in the business office since February, when his former assistant left.

President Smothers said, "Mr. and Mrs. Giffin are choice servants of God and have given themselves in an unselfish way to their work and to the students. They are loved by students, staff, and constituency. They will be missed by all of us and we wish for them the very best."

A native of Knoxville, Giffin is a graduate of Young High School and attended Carson-Newman College for one year. He worked as a draftsman for three marble firms in Knoxville before moving to a marble contracting firm in Miami where he worked 11½ years. He was employed by a certified public accountant firm in Knoxville when he came to Chilhowee.

The Giffins reside at 2208 Island Home Boulevard in Knoxville.

church, Rockwood; Paul Cates, State Brotherhood president, Jefferson City; and Roy J. Gilleland, secretary, Brotherhood Department, TBC.

Dowell said that Layman's Night will be held Tuesday with the theme of the evening to be "Sharing Christ Through Living The Word."

A combination supper and planning meeting will be held in the dining room of Belmont Heights for associational chairmen of evangelism, superintendents of missions, moderators, and department heads, Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.

Times for each of the sessions will be: Monday, 2:00 p.m., and 6:50 p.m.; Tuesday, 9:00 a.m., 1:50 p.m., and 6:45 p.m.

EDITORIALS

WELCOME DR. RALPH NORTON

On behalf of Tennessee Baptists, we extend to Dr. Ralph E. Norton a most sincere welcome as he assumes the tremendous responsibilities of the office of Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Norton also serves as treasurer of the Convention proper.

Norton comes to a position which, as we have indicated before upon several occasions, is a most difficult one to fill. To do that which is required of him will require the direct leadership of the Holy Spirit in his life. Necessary also will be the prayers of Tennessee Baptists, together with support and loyalty.

Dr. Norton comes to this position eminently qualified to exercise his responsibilities in a capable manner. The very nature of Baptist polity, however, requires, even demands, the loyal support of autonomous bodies and individuals.

As he assumes this position, we pledge to him our prayers, support and cooperation. We trust that this will be the posture of all Tennessee Baptists as we unite behind him and the leadership which already he has begun to exercise.

THE CHALLENGE OF 1973

This is the first issue of **Baptist And Reflector** for 1973. The cover picture, depicting a series of clocks, should serve to remind us that time does not stand still. This indeed is a year of opportunity for Tennessee Baptists in evangelistic, missionary and stewardship outreach.

The economy of the nation favors us this year in terms of stewardship. The tragic condition of the world in which we live makes mandatory the type of evangelistic emphasis and missionary outreach which will bring about a revival among our people.

We are moving near the annual conference on evangelism. This should serve to start us off in a proper spiritual attitude. Later, the associational evangelism conferences should help prepare the associations and local churches for a year of strong activity in this area. Mission-wise, the "field is white unto harvest" still. The mission needs of our own state are just as great as those of any other place in the world. And, unless we establish a strong base within our own churches, we shall never reach and evangelize properly—or adequately, territories outside our state.

The world mission outreach of the Cooperative Program must not be forgotten. For it is through this channel ministry that we serve a comprehensive program of fulfilling the Great Commission in every area.

The year 1972 was one of the "best" years we have experienced. This year could, and should, exceed the previous year simply because it is a life principle that no per-

son or thing stands still. We either move backward or forward. There is no middle ground. Especially is this true in seeking to serve Our Lord. There is indeed no middle ground. We are either for Him or against Him. Our actions bespeak the answer.

A FORMER PRESIDENT IS DEAD

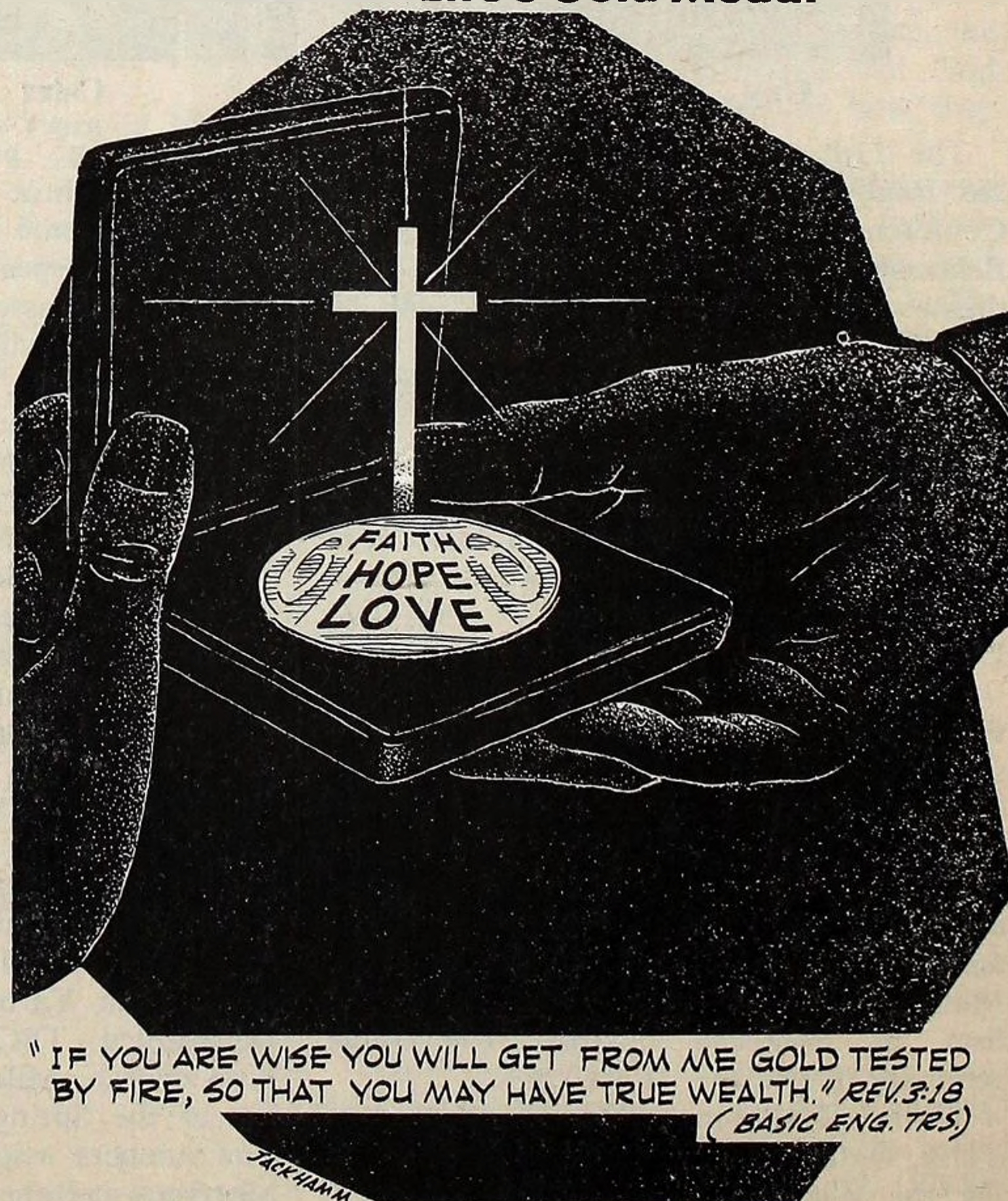
The death last week of former President Harry S. Truman at the age of 88 marked the passing of one of the most unique and forceful American leaders of this century.

President Truman led this nation during the difficult final days of World War II, and the difficult days of readjustment to "peacetime" during his years in office.

A strong personality, Truman was liked by many, and disliked by others. However, this nation owed to him a debt of gratitude. Some decisions which he made were ones which would be difficult for any man to live with. Yet he made, and stuck by his decisions as president.

We join with many, many throughout the nation in expressing sorrow at his death, and in extending to his family our sympathies. He was a national leader, one of stature, and history likely will record him as one of the strongest leaders of the 20th century. (JAL)

Game of Life's Gold Medal



"IF YOU ARE WISE YOU WILL GET FROM ME GOLD TESTED BY FIRE, SO THAT YOU MAY HAVE TRUE WEALTH." REV. 3:18
(BASIC ENG. TRS.)

Church Bus Collides With Truck, 19 Die

FORT SUMNER, N.M.—Nineteen persons en route to a Baptist retreat were killed near here when a school bus collided with a loaded cattle truck. Fourteen other bus passengers were injured.

The collision occurred in clear, but cold weather on U.S. Highway 60 about nine miles east of Fort Sumner. It was dark at the time of the accident, about 6:45 p.m.

Chartered by Woodlawn Baptist church of Austin, Tex., and driven by an adult sponsor, identified as Jerry Estes, the school bus was taking a youth group to Vadito, N.M., a ski center near Santa Fe.

Fifteen youth and four adults were killed. Dead included the bus driver and his wife and the wife and daughter of Ron Hicks, Minister of Education for the Austin church. The truck driver received minor injuries.

It appeared the eastbound truck jackknifed in front of the westbound bus. The wreck occurred at a small bridge which local residents consider "very narrow and dangerous."

The highway there is only two lane.

Cause of the accident was not immediately determined. A state highway policeman reached the scene within 20 minutes after the collision. It took about two hours to pry the dead and injured from the wreckage and longer to clear the roadway.

An ambulance driver who helped carry the injured to hospitals said the bus' "front end was pushed about halfway through the bus like an accordion. It was all torn to pieces."

Despite the impact, the bus remained upright. Gas spilled over the highway but there was no fire.

Ron Killough, Minister of Youth for the 1500-member church, was riding in a bus ahead carrying 31 more persons to the retreat. The two buses were about half a mile apart.

Killough said the first school bus belongs to the church. The wrecked bus was rented from a transport leasing firm but driven by an unpaid church sponsor.

Fort Sumner is a small, county seat town in a sparsely settled area of eastern New Mexico. Some of the injured were taken to hospitals in Clovis, N.M., a city 63 miles away.

John Roberts, driver of the first bus, saw the collision in his rear view mirror, wire service reports indicated. He had crossed the bridge and passed the cattle truck seconds earlier. He realized the truck and following bus might reach the narrow bridge at the same time.

Roberts saw the lights of the second bus flash and go out. He stopped his bus at once. Killough went back to see what happened, Roberts reported.

Roberts was quoted as telling those riding his bus, "You're going to see something you've never probably seen before in your

life. If you can't stand to see your brothers and sisters mangled and possibly killed, don't get off the bus. Just pray."

One account surmised the truck hit the bridge railing and its trailer then swung over the center line into the path of the bus.

Investigators returned to the accident scene the following morning for further study before filing a formal accident report.

The wreck was called one of the worst in New Mexico history.

First Baptist church of Fort Sumner responded to the emergency immediately. It provided food and overnight lodging for many passengers on the first bus. Some were accommodated by Baptists in Clovis.

Relatives of the dead and injured started for the scene as soon as word of the tragedy reached Austin. Passengers on the first bus returned to Austin as soon as possible.

It was first supposed the two busloads of young people from Woodlawn church were en route to the 4-day winter conference for high schoolers at the Southern Baptist Conference Center at Glorieta, N.M., also near Santa Fe.

Killough reported, however, the young people had not been able to get accommodations at Glorieta. Instead, they arranged for a 4-day private retreat at Vadito through an organization, youth-style ministries, based in Abilene, Tex. (BP)

Church Gives Christmas Pageant Via Television

FORT WORTH—When a church here found the local convention center, through a mix-up, would not be available for its annual Christmas pageant, the church purchased time on television station WBAP to present it to the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area.

More than 300 members of Sagamore Hills Baptist church were cast in the hour-long production, "Make Mine Peace on Earth." Church members wrote, produced,

Church Literature Refund Scheduled

NASHVILLE—The Southern Baptist Sunday School Board is making a refund of \$415,000 to church literature customers.

The voluntary refund, most of which will go to Southern Baptist churches, represents earnings for the 1971-72 fiscal year above the amount allowed by Economic Stabilization Program guidelines.

Credit vouchers for the refund are scheduled for mailing to churches on January 31. Vouchers will be redeemable for a check; for credit against any account owed to the Sunday School Board; for purchasing church literature; or for purchasing merchandise from Baptist Book Stores.

James L. Sullivan, executive secretary-treasurer of the board, stated that the year's earnings were affected favorably by economy efforts throughout the year at the board.

"The increase in price in church literature items during the year was justified on the basis on increased product costs," said Sullivan. "The new prices were within pricing guidelines. However, we discovered that operating efficiencies during the year had caused larger earnings than we had anticipated or were allowed by federal regulations."

Earnings of the Sunday School Board are used for support of education and service programs benefiting Southern Baptist churches, plus fixed asset and reserve requirements of the board. (BP)

and directed it, and filmed it in 15 different locations.

The hour-long, commercial free program was televised on Christmas afternoon.

"Any church that can do it financially ought to be involved in some kind of creative ministry," said Cecil Roenfeldt, minister of education. "Television has splendid potential for reaching people for Christ." (BP)



Dilday Norris Mitchell Abernathy Harrison Buie Klee

Seven Tennessee students were among the more than 120 graduates who received degrees during Dec. 16, 1971, commencement at the Southern Baptist Theological seminary, Louisville, Ky. John H. McClanahan, pastor of First Baptist church in Pine Bluff, Ark., delivered the commencement address and Duke K. McCall, president of the seminary, presented the degrees.

Tennessee graduates and their degrees are Master of Divinity: Glen Davison Buie of Waverly, Donald Lynn Dilday of Dresden, Robert R. Harrison of Memphis, George Martin Klee of Memphis, George Richard Mitchell, II of Chattanooga, Michael Lovell Norris of Memphis; Master of Church Music: Nancy Jo Abernathy of Knoxville.

Young Men In Missions Plan Outlined By Hough

MEMPHIS—A two-year plan culminating in a program designed to acquaint Baptist young men 18-30 with Christian missions and involve them in service to others was unveiled at the Brotherhood Commission here.

John Anthony Hough, a 22-year-old US-2 missionary assigned to the Brotherhood Commission September 1, to conduct research about the characteristics and interests of Baptist young men, disclosed his schedule for developing the program for this age group.

A former member of the Baptist Student Union at Bell State university, Muncie, Indiana, where he was graduated three months ago with a bachelor of arts degree in English, Hough brought some impressions about Brotherhood with him when he became a missionary.

Southern Baptist young men need a way to fit into the church in a personal as well as an organized way, Hough said.

"Brotherhood (as it is today) doesn't appeal to me as a young man and doesn't appeal to others my age. There's a need to provide a new outlook in Brotherhood."



Robertson Baptist Association was recognized recently by the Baptist Sunday School Board as the first association in Tennessee to report all churches with a Church Training program. Pictured above with Don Whitehouse (right), Church Training Department, BSSB, is Don Dorris, left, associational director, and Lacy Freeman, center, superintendent of missions.

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Hough, a bachelor, sees part of his job as finding the needs of young men, their interests, their hang-ups, and identifying ways to satisfy those needs.

Self-Discovery

Self-discovery is a term Hough uses a lot to describe the needs of young men. He explains it this way:

"By self-discovery, I mean discovering my talents, giving them to God, letting him show me how to use them, then accepting myself for my shortcomings, and accepting other people for what they are."

One of Hough's first steps has been to enlist a committee with a broad representation which he hopes will "give me the handles as to the needs of young people and some possible approaches to use."

The committee, composed of seminary professors, local church representatives, state Brotherhood leaders, SBC agency representatives, young people, a representative of the professions, and a psychologist, held its first meeting November 19-20 at Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary at Fort Worth.

"I plan to work through the information the committee developed and to feed it into projects I plan to use in a pilot program with several groups of Baptist young men," Hough said.

12 Groups In Memphis

"By February 1, 1973 I hope to have 12 young men's groups in the Memphis area testing a variety of approaches, particularly short term projects.

"Evaluation of the testing program will begin in July, 1973 followed by more exhaustive testing and evaluation in the summer of 1974.

"At the end of two years I hope to offer to all interested churches a tried and proven set of concepts for working with young men in the area of missions."

Hough, who acknowledges he likes to work with young men and women of college age, became interested in missions in college.

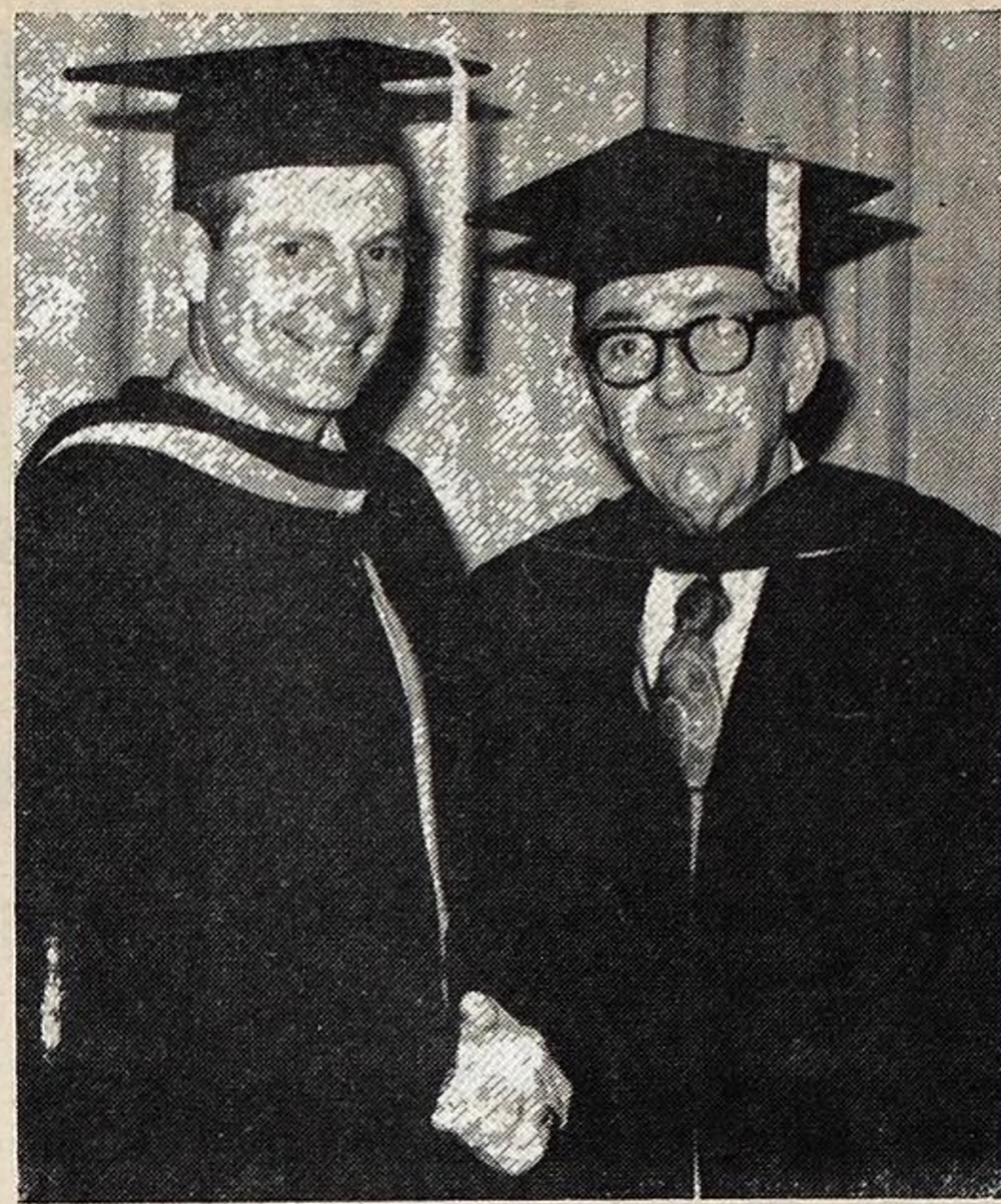
After a term in Hawaii in 1970 as a student summer missionary, Hough said he was influenced by other US-2 missionaries to consider the home missions program.

"I was particularly impressed by a US-2 missionary in Muncie who was reaching people on a one-to-one basis in an inner city project."

"My Christian life began to blossom by sophomore year in college. I have only begun to try to follow God's will since that time."

Hough's plans after the two-year US-2 stint are indefinite. They may include student work or foreign mission service, both requiring seminary training, he said.

Meanwhile, he is questioning any Baptist young person he can corner about his interests in missions and the types of mission action projects which appeal to him. (BP)



William L. Howse, III, (left) is congratulated by Seminary President Robert E. Naylor upon receiving the Doctor of Education degree at Southwestern seminary. Howse is director of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse section of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health.

SBC Foundation Marks Its 25th Year Of Service

The Southern Baptist Foundation of the Southern Baptist Convention is marking its 25th year as an agency of the Convention. It has experienced a record breaking addition to the corpus structures of the various funds it administers, surpassing \$14 million in market value for the first time in history, according to Kendall Berry, executive secretary-treasurer.

The Foundation was organized for missionary, educational, and benevolent purposes, and not for profit. Therefore, no capital stock was required or issued; and no dividends or profits divided among the members of the Corporation. During its first two years, the Southern Baptist Foundation was operated under the auspices of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The agency reached \$14 million market-wise at the end of the 1972 fiscal year, Sept. 30. According to Berry, "The coming year should be an outstanding one for Southern Baptist Foundation as people regain their confidence in the system and the economy. Living in the greatest era of prosperity the world has ever known, Americans have even greater challenge to look forward to as they lose their skepticism and return to the basic principles of Christianity and trust in their fellowman."

NEW YORK—Luther L. Terry, a former U.S. surgeon general who released the first reports linking cigarette smoking and cancer, said he favors a ban on all cigarette promotion.

Supreme Court Declines Compulsory Chapel Case

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Supreme Court has denied a request from the government to hear its complaints against a district court of appeals rule which declared that compulsory chapel at the nation's three military academies is unconstitutional.

The request for review from the Departments of Defense and Justice was turned down by the high court without comment. No justice was on record in favor of hearing the case.

Thus, the opinion of the lower court will now be enforced. That opinion, issued in July of 1972, held that mandatory chapel and church attendance at military academies violates both the establishment and free exercise clauses of the First Amendment.

The three-judge panel at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia declared in a split decision that "individual freedom may not be sacrificed to military interests to the point that constitutional rights are abolished."

Military regulations requiring attendance at worship services at the Army, Air Force and Naval academies "violate the core value of the establishment clause and completely abolish its protection," the majority held.

In its petition to the Supreme Court, the Justice and Defense Departments maintained that the military should have the right to restrict the religion clauses of the First Amendment "to the extent necessary" to ensure effective military training.

The Pentagon maintained that mandatory chapel and church attendance was primarily for educational purposes and was essential for instilling an "awareness of our moral and religious heritage" in future military leaders.

In the government's petition to the Supreme Court Solicitor General Erwin N. Griswold denied that forced chapel attendance was an unconstitutional "establishment of religion."

"No cadet or midshipman is required to believe what he hears," Griswold said. "No one is subjected to a catechism by governmental authority."

Griswold said, as the Pentagon claimed in lower court hearings, that the military was trying to develop in its future officers "a respect for, and understanding of, and a sensitivity to religion and the religious feelings of others."

The Justice Department lawyer said further in his unsuccessful petition to the high court that it should be left to military leaders to decide whether religious sensitivity should be taught in a chapel setting in preference to comparative religion courses.

When the case of Anderson v. Laird was in the Court of Appeals the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs was one of several groups filing friend-of-the-court briefs against the government's position. If

Religion Around The World

British Baptists visited Baptists in Alabama recently on an exchange trip of a visit to England by 164 members of the First Baptist church of Decatur two years ago. Under the leadership of David Beer, pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist church in Gravesend, Kent, the 162 Baptists toured New York City and Washington, D.C. before spending two weeks in the homes of Decatur church members. In a report in the "Baptist Times," weekly newspaper published in London, Beer noted the "impressive" progress made in Alabama during the past decade.

LOUISVILLE—H. Kenneth Herren, director of housing at Southern Baptist Theological seminary, has been named director of the physical plant in addition to his present job.

SAMFORD, CONN.—Jackie Robinson, Hall of Fame baseball star who died recently in Samford, was more than a baseball player. Since his retirement from the game, Robinson had devoted much of his time to his church, the United Church of Christ. He was active in church work and in combating social problems. He served as president of the National Council of Churches' agency, United Church Men, and was national chairman of the National Conference of Christians and Jews Brotherhood Week program. In his later years he was cited for his work against drug addiction.

WOKING, ENGLAND—The Rt. Rev. Thomas Sherwood Jones, 100, the oldest bishop in the Church of England, died at his home here recently. He was ordained in 1897.

the Supreme Court had agreed to review the decision, the Baptist agency again planned to file a brief agreeing with the court of appeals rule.

In addition to saying that required church attendance is unconstitutional under First Amendment protections, the Baptist Joint Committee protested the right of the military to "use" religion to accomplish a secular purpose.

James E. Wood, Jr., Executive Director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, said the refusal of the court to review the case was "most gratifying and reassuring." The court's action should be viewed as a significant one in protecting not only the free exercise of religion, Wood continued, but because of "the prohibition of the government's use of religion to serve secular ends.

"Compulsory chapel attendance at institutions supported by public funds is incompatible with the First Amendment" Wood said. He added that such a regulation must also be viewed as a violation of Article VI of the Constitution prohibiting any religious test for government employment. (BP)

Bible Nuggets

SIN AND SUFFERING

By T. B. Maston

Professor of Christian Ethics, Retired Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

"And his disciples asked him, saying, Master (Rabbi, RSV), who did sin, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" (John 9:2, KJV).

The relation of sin and suffering has been a perplexing problem for many Christians through the centuries. The generally accepted or orthodox position in the days of Jesus was that the two were directly related. This evidently was the perspective of the disciples. The man was born blind; they assumed that his blindness was punishment for sin.

This interpretation regarding the relation of sin and suffering is still prevalent even among Christians. Suffering is thought to be punishment for sin. This position may be defensible if sin is made broad enough to include sin in general, sin by society and the institutions and agencies of society as well as sin by individuals.

But it is wrong to attribute all suffering to the sin of the sufferer and his family. The answer of Jesus to the disciples, which should be an answer to many of our questions regarding the source of suffering, was: "His blindness has nothing to do with his sins or his parents' sins. He is blind so that God's power might be seen at work in him" (TEV).

Really, the major question when suffering comes to us, a loved one, a friend, or a neighbor should not be, "Who sinned?" or "Why?" but rather "What?" or "How?" What does God want to do in and through the suffering? How will his power be seen at work in the one or in those who suffer? What God is able to achieve through suffering will be determined by the reaction of those who suffer. May our prayer be that when suffering comes to us "that God's power might be seen at work" in us!



C. BUENO

"Don't expect too much from one visit."

Tennessee News Briefs

Ray Stover and **Noel Arant** were ordained as deacons at the Maranatha church in Martin recently. **Ed Dawson**, senior minister, and **R. L. Newman**, associational missionary, led the service.

David Wayne Johns was ordained to the gospel ministry by the First Baptist church of Dandridge. He is serving as pastor of the Cross Anchor Mission of First church, Greeneville. **Robert D. McCray** is pastor of the Dandridge church.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Jerry Lee Drace is the new minister of youth and outreach at Southside church in Jacksonville, Fla. He comes to the position having served as evangelist in youth revivals in Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky. He is a graduate of Union university and Southern Baptist Theological seminary.

First church, Oakland, Fayette Association, has called **Ralph Williams** as pastor. He comes to the position from the Mineral Wells church in Mineral Wells, Miss.

Doyle Chatham has accepted the call of the Inglewood church in Nashville to serve as minister of education. He served formerly as associate pastor at the Alice Bell church in Knoxville.

In the Shelby Association, **Edsel Bone** has been called as minister of music and youth at the Northview church. He is a senior music major at Memphis State university. In the same association, **David L. Ripley** is the new assistant pastor in charge of youth at the Charjean church. He comes to the position from the East Park church. **Don Goodwin** has accepted the call of the Southern Avenue church to serve as minister of education. He has served in a similar position at the Trinity church since 1966.

First church, Maryville, has called **John Carpenter** as associate pastor. **J. William Harbin** is pastor.

Enon church, Dyer County association, has called **Thurman Shutt** as pastor.

C. E. Hall has been called as pastor of Hickman church in New Salem association. He served formerly as pastor of Providence church, Central association.

Ernest D. Johnson is the new pastor of Fountain Head church, Bledsoe association.

Morning and evening services of the First Baptist church of Humboldt will now be broadcast over WIRJ FM, according to pastor **Raymond Boston**.

Clark Street church, Johnson City, established a mission Sunday School at the Tyler Apartments in that city, and has a new adult class organized to study contemporary issues and answers. **James Dampier** is the pastor.

First church, Portland, has announced plans to renovate facilities damaged recently by fire. A second floor will be added and will include dining area, kitchen, 14 classrooms, library, and youth recreation area. Fire damage was estimated at \$68,500. **Richard D. Patton** is pastor.

Members of the Acteen group at the Oak Grove church in Covington won second prize for their float entry in this year's annual Covington Christmas Parade. The float was made by 11 of the Acteens and their counselors, **Mrs. Jerry Johnson** and **Mrs. Chesley Kinney**. A cash prize of \$50 will be used to send an under-privileged young person to summer camp, the girls said.

Charles Dennis has been called as pastor of First church, Waynesboro and began his work Jan. 1. On Dec. 15 he was graduated with a Master's degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. **Charles** is the son of **Mr. and Mrs. Joe Dennis** and is married to the former **Cathy Couser**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Bill Couser**. Both parents are members of First church, Tullahoma, **Tom Madden**, pastor.

Union Academy, Carroll-Benton Association, has called **Jim Parker** as pastor. He is a student at Union University, Jackson.

Carter Morell has resigned as pastor of Oak Grove church in Holston Valley Association to become pastor of Kensington church, Kensington, Maryland. He served the Oak Grove church eight years.

B. Ralph Palmer is the new pastor of Ivy Memorial Baptist church, Nashville. He returns to Tennessee from Spokane, Wash., after serving pastorates in the Northeast for seven years.

Religion Around The World

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Mrs. Wilma Hollis Johnston, Washington, D.C., has presented a gift of \$200,000 to the Wesley Theological seminary here for its Centennial Decade Advance.

J. G. Miller, Memphis Pastor Dies Of Heart Attack

Rev. John Grayson Miller, pastor of Broadway Baptist church, Memphis, was stricken last Sunday morning after the close of the morning worship service. He was pronounced dead at 1:10 p.m. at Baptist Memorial hospital. He was 55.

Miller was a member of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and its State Missions Committee. He had served as president of the Shelby County Baptist Pastors' Conference and as chairman of Evangelism for the Shelby County Baptist Association.

A graduate of Mississippi college, Clinton, and Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, he had been pastor at Broadway church 20 years.

Services were held at Broadway church, on Tuesday with Dr. R. Paul Caudill, pastor of First Church, Memphis, assisted by Dr. Lowell Adams, pastor of Graceland Baptist church, Memphis, and Rev. E. Gordon Crocker, superintendent of missions, Shelby County Baptist Association. Burial was in Memorial Park.

His wife, Josephine Dunnaway, was hospitalized at the time of his death. She had undergone surgery Dec. 22. Her doctor permitted her to attend the funeral and burial and return to the hospital. She was released Dec. 27. Her husband died on their 30th wedding anniversary.

In addition to his widow, he is survived by a daughter, Mrs. John C. Norton, a son, John David, all of Memphis; his mother, Mrs. Emma Miller of Columbia, Miss.; three brothers and three sisters.



A memorial scholarship has been established at Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, in honor of the late George W. Stuart, former BSSB superintendent of extension work, by Mrs. Stuart and son Mike, shown here conferring with Joe Davis Heacock, dean, School of Religious Education. The new fund is designed to aid religious education students over age 30. Stuart himself, who received the ARE degree in 1951, was 36 years old when he surrendered to the call of the ministry and entered Southwestern seminary.

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THE NEW COVENANT

By Wade E. Darby, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Jefferson City

Background Passages: Jeremiah 31; 32:36-41

Focal Passages: Jeremiah 31:31-34; 32:36-41

How many opportunities does a child have to receive and respond to a father's love? They cannot be numbered. The love of a father is a constant expression. Father love is always reaching out to the child. It is like that with divine love. The love of the heavenly Father is constant. His love is a constant expression. His love may be expressed in different ways at different times. Sometimes his love may find expression in terms of discipline. Many times the children fail to recognize and respond to such love. This was the occasion of the new covenant with the house of Israel.

A covenant is an agreement between two. Israel had an agreement with Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The story of that agreement was a part of her national heritage. It was the key to her understanding of herself and her role in history.

The law was given at Sinai. Moses projected Yahweh's proposal. Deuteronomy, chapters six through eleven, records the transaction. "These are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord your God commanded to teach you * * *." (Deut. 6:1) "Wherefore * * * if ye harken to these judgments, and keep and do them, that the Lord thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he swore unto thy fathers." (Deut. 7:12) "Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes * * *." (Deut. 8:11) "And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the Lord thy God, and walk after other gods * * * I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish." (Deut. 8:19).

Israel did forget. She did go after other gods. Paganism sapped her of her moral strength. Discipline was the only answer real love could give. Thus captivity at the hand of the Chaldeans was imminent. This was the situation at the time Jeremiah talked of a new covenant. Israel had broken her agreement. The covenant had been broken. God, however, had not broken His agreement. He had been faithful. His love was constant. Israel's failure had not killed His love. Love was still reaching out for Israel. Therefore, there could be another agreement. There could be a new covenant. If Israel would respond to the divine love, there could be another opportunity for her. Jeremiah saw at least three factors in this new covenant.

A REUNITED PEOPLE

The year was 588 B.C. The place was Jerusalem. Jeremiah was under arrest, probably confined to the court of the guard. This was an open court in the palace complex which was used for prisoners who did not require strict confinement. Israel had fallen to the Assyrians 134 years earlier in 722 B.C. Within a few weeks Jerusalem, which was now under siege by the Chaldeans, would fall and the Babylonian captivity would begin. The ten tribes of Israel were already scattered. Judah, with her two tribes, was about to be taken captive. This was a bad time for Israel. But Jeremiah saw hope. He saw that hope in the constancy of God's love. God was still loving Israel. Even when chastising, He loved. Thus a new agreement, a new covenant was possible. Jeremiah held out that hope, even as Jerusalem was in the process of falling. This new covenant could mean the regathering of God's scattered people. Jeremiah dared hope, not for a continuation of a divided people, but for a reunited and restored nation. People from Israel and Judah would one day respond to God's love and there would be a new covenant.

A RETURN TO THE LAND

Jeremiah could not think of Israel responding to God's love without a return to the land God had given them. He was so confident that God's people would return to the land that he purchased a lot from his

cousin at the going rate for land in normal times, and was careful to have the deed witnessed and recorded. (Jer. 32:1-15) Jeremiah was willing to invest his money in his hope!

A FRESH START

God had not changed. Only Israel had been unfaithful. If Israel would return to God, there could be a fresh start. This was Jeremiah's hope. This was also Jeremiah's faith. He was confident that a remnant would return to God, to the land, and to the original relationship with God. Some did return. Jeremiah's hope was not in vain.

We can identify with the idea of a new covenant, a new agreement, and a fresh start. Not only Israel, but most of God's people have proven untrue to divine relationships on more than one occasion. However, because of the constant and unfailing love of God, "fresh starts" are possible!

A HOPE THAT IT WILL BE DIFFERENT THIS TIME

Jeremiah drew upon the circumstances of God's original relationship with Israel to illustrate his hope that the new covenant would not be broken. Ancient Israel saw her laws as given to Moses by God on Sinai. They were written on tables of stone. Jeremiah dared hope that in the new agreement God's laws would be written upon the hearts of the people. He longed for an obedience that was a response, not to outer enforcement of laws written on stone, but an inner response to laws written upon the conscience. In this new agreement God's people would have greater knowledge of God. This greater knowledge would result in greater inner motivation. In this kind of agreement, people would respond to God's love with loving service and obedience, not because of force or fear, but because of willing desire.

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Mills Will Tie Tax Credits To Federal Tax Reforms

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Rep. Wilbur D. Mills (D.-Ark.), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee will attach the controversial tuition credit to a general tax reform bill to be introduced in the 93rd Congress.

"Washington Memo", a monthly newsletter published here, noted in reporting this that Mr. Mills' action "would make it difficult to separate out the tax credits from other goodies in the bill."

"Mills has tremendous power," it went on, "and in the past has obtained a no-amendments rule on tax legislation once it hits the House floor."

The proposed tax credit bill, which would aid parents of private and parochial school children, is sponsored by Rep. Mills and Rep. Hugh Carey (D.-N.Y.). It was approved in September by the House Ways and Means Committee.

As it stands now, the proposed legislation provides for a tax credit of up to \$200 per child which can be subtracted from the family's final federal income tax bill. The amount of credit would be based on the family's adjusted gross annual income and the number of eligible children.

Groups concerned about passage of such legislation were invited to a meeting to discuss the matter called by the Joint Washington Office for Social Concern recently. Included were the National Council of Churches, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, American Jewish Congress, and others.

The Joint Washington Office, which publishes "Washington Memo", represents the Unitarian Universalist Association, American Ethical Union and American Humanist Association on Capitol Hill. (RNS)

Sevier Heights Church Given 'Top 25 Award'

The Sevier Heights Baptist church in Knoxville was one of 25 churches in the Southern Baptist Convention and the only church in Tennessee to receive a "Top 25 Award" recently from the Sunday School Department of the Sunday School Board. The churches were recognized as being the 25 most outstanding in Sunday School training for the 1971-72 year.

The top four churches to win awards were in Texas, followed by Louisiana, Florida, Kentucky, Georgia, and Mississippi. The Knoxville church placed 22 in the listing. Other states to place included Michigan, Illinois, and Alabama.

The award is part of the New Church Study Course and is designed to recognize churches receiving the highest number of awards for training Sunday School leaders. Subject area 63, Bible Teaching Program, is the specific area for the award.

American Baptists To Mark Church's 275th Anniversary

PHILADELPHIA—The First Baptist church of Philadelphia, which in 1844 was host to the last meeting in which Southern and Northern Baptists were united, will mark its 275th anniversary in 1973.

A special celebration has been set for Jan. 7. Key participants will include Dr. Gene E. Bartlett of Newton Center, Mass., president of the American Baptist Churches (formerly Northern Baptist) and Dr. Robert C. Campbell, general secretary of the Valley Forge-based denomination.

First Baptist was founded on Dec. 11, 1698. In 1707, the Philadelphia Baptist Association, the oldest Baptist administrative unit in the nation, was organized in the church.

In 1814, the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society was launched at First Baptist.

The Baptist General Missionary Convention of 1844 saw considerable differences of opinion develop between delegates from the North and South on slavery and other regional issues. In 1845, the Southern Baptist Convention was formed as a separate organization.

Dr. Robert G. Torbet, former president of the American Baptist Churches and a Baptist historian, is chairman of the anniversary committee. He is a member of First church. The Rev. Howard G. Hartzell is pastor. (RNS)

Ingram New President Of Baptist Memorial Hospital Medical Staff

Alvin J. Ingram, Memphis, has been elected president of the Baptist Memorial Hospital medical staff, effective this month. He succeeds Russell Patterson in the position.

The new executive officer is an orthopedic surgeon at the hospital, serves as chief of staff at Campbell clinic, and is chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Mid-South Medical Center Planning Council.

In his new position, Ingram will be responsible for the appointment and coordination of all medical staff committees and will serve as chairman of the Executive Committee of the medical staff.

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Baptist Seminary, College, School Day Scheduled For Feb. 18 In SBC

"Baptist Seminary, College, and School Day" will be observed in Southern Baptist churches in Tennessee and throughout the Southern Baptist Convention on Sunday, Feb. 18, according to Ben C. Fisher, executive secretary-treasurer of the Education Commission of the SBC.

Theme for the year will be "Say A Good Word For Baptist Seminaries, Colleges, and Schools."

According to latest available data, Southern Baptists in 16 states have 43 senior colleges and universities, 10 junior colleges, seven seminaries, eight academies, and four Bible schools, for a total of 72 institutions of Christian education. Five thousand faculty and staff members are employed presently by these schools, and a total of 110,000 students are now enrolled.

Packets of materials for observance of the education day will be sent to pastors and denominational leaders throughout the state, Fisher said.

Trustees To Hear Changes In Retirement Programs

DALLAS—Significant changes taking place in retirement and pension programs in America will be described to trustees of the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board during their annual meeting here Feb. 6-7.

Board president Darold H. Morgan said new Social Security legislation and closer government attention to private pension plans are among these changes.

The Board will also hear reports on improvements in its basic retirement plan for ministers.

The Annuity Board, working with Baptist state conventions and denominational agencies, offers retirement plans and insurance protection to ministers, church employes and workers with denominational agencies.

Two from Tennessee serve as trustees of the Annuity Board. They are Carl B. Allen, First Baptist church, Hohenwald, and David Q. Byrd, West Jackson Baptist church, Jackson.

Ordination Charge

The following is a copy of a "charge to the candidate" delivered at the ordination of James Hall Youree at First church, Murfreesboro. The charge was prepared and delivered by John H. Tullock, chairman, Department of Religion and Philosophy, Belmont college.

You are called MINISTER—called of God to serve Him.

You will be called by men; to serve them, to inform them, to inspire them, to rebuke them, to lead them.

As a minister of God, you will be called upon to play many roles—to do many jobs.

You will be called PASTOR—shepherd of souls, comforter of the distressed and dying, lifter-up of the fallen, rescuer of the backslidden, friend of the young, the middleaged and the old.

But if you have not love, you are nothing

You will be called EVANGELIST—seeker of the lost, caller of sinners to repentance, inspirer of the uncommitted to the commitment of life in service to the Christ.

But if you have not love, you are nothing

You will be called TEACHER—dispenser of knowledge, exciter of learning, herald of truth, builder-up of the faithful, equipper of the saints.

But if you have not love, you are nothing

You will be called ADMINISTRATOR—leader of men and women, balancer of the church budget, builder of buildings, delegator of responsibility, inspirer of people to give their best in service.

But if you have not love, you are nothing

You will be called PREACHER—proclaimer of the Good News of God, prophet of the Lord, confronter of men with eternal choices, giver of the Word for the work-a-day world.



AN OPEN LETTER FROM PRESIDENT E. BRUCE HEILMAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND

If you are the parent or friend of a person nearing college age, you certainly wish for him a maximum return on his investment in an education. We believe that two elements determine the success of that investment. The first element is the student's desire to learn and the second is the quality of the institution.

As one of the top 50 most heavily endowed universities in the country, the University of Richmond has a financial stability that assures progress. It offers high quality liberal arts programs, a tradition that dates to the founding of the university 142 years ago by Virginia Baptists. Its seven divisions also include graduate and law schools, but the emphasis remains on excellence in undergraduate studies. The quality of student life is enhanced by a balanced student-faculty ratio, good housing and food, and innovative programs of activities and athletics on a beautiful 350-acre campus.

You and the young persons you influence will want to know as much as possible about the institution in which you invest your options for your education. I urge you to include the University of Richmond in your research. I believe that maximum returns—both while learning and later while implementing that education—are a way of life for our students and alumni.

Dr. E. Bruce Heilman

**TO: Dr. E. Bruce Heilman, President
University of Richmond, Va. 23173**

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Belmont College's Blanton Hall Destroyed By Fire December, 30

Replacement Cost Is Set At Two Million

By David Keel

"I consider it a challenge to turn a stumbling block into a stepping stone," so stated Herbert C. Gabhart, president, Belmont college, Nashville, as he reflected on the Saturday, Dec. 30 fire which destroyed 50-year-old Blanton Hall, "the heart of campus activity," according to Gabhart. "It will take some third mile efforts and sacrifices, but with God all things are possible," the college president continued. He indicated also that a main problem now facing the school is regaining the crucial space by the fall semester which must be done "to do the job Tennessee Baptists expect of us and that we want to do—to keep the academic standing we cherish and desire to contribute to the community." Gabhart continued, "We are looking and praying for a good challenge gift."

At the time of the fire students were away from the campus for Christmas holidays.

Insurance coverage on the structure amounts to approximately \$900,000, but, according to school officials, it will cost between \$1,500,000-\$2,000,000 to replace the lost facility. Plans are already in the making for a new building to be completed by Sept. 1. A building site has not yet been determined.

The building housed classrooms, 23 faculty offices, science laboratories, and eight of the school's 14 departments.

When Belmont students return for Spring quarter classes, other college facilities will be used, i.e., the new business college, the old gymnasium, and parts of the administration building.

The fire began apparently in the basement of the building. Joseph Lambert, night watchman, had just left the building when

he heard an explosion at approximately 2:15 p.m. The blaze raged into the night as firemen, hampered by low cloud covering and rain, were unable to control it due to extremely poor visibility. At one point late in the afternoon, it appeared that the fire was under control but the flames were fanned again, this time causing the fire to become uncontrollable (unlimited alarm, according to firemen). An one time in the desperate attempt to save the structure, there were 12 units from Nashville fire departments on the scene.

According to school officials, no other

buildings on campus were damaged.

Belmont Heights church, Nashville, has offered the college unlimited use of their facilities, according to Philip Pitt, assistant to the president.

Pitt also stated that Trevecca, Aquinas, University of Tennessee (Nashville branch), Vanderbilt university, and John Gupton college have offered the use of their facilities to Belmont.

College officials indicate that registration for the Spring quarter will be held at the Center for Business Administration on Jan. 4 and classes will begin on Jan. 8, both as previously scheduled.

A full meeting of the school's Board of Trustees is planned for Friday, Jan. 5 to lay immediate and long range plans for the replacement of the lost facility.

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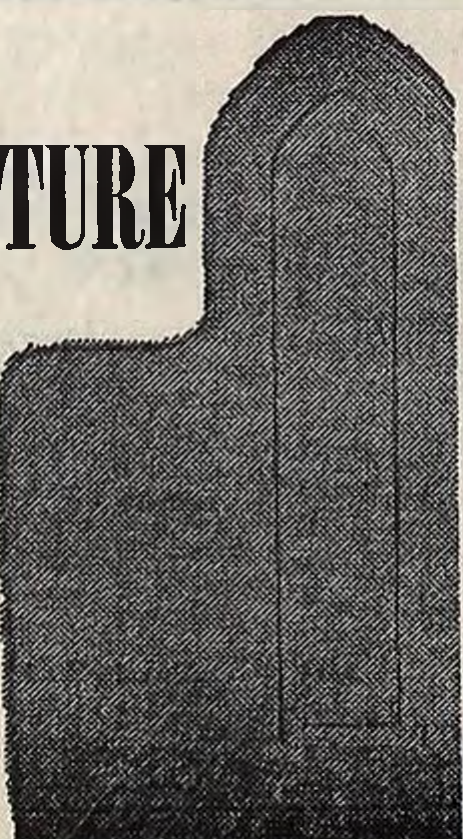
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Pulpit To Pew

By Jim Griffith

I want to wish you a Happy New Year.

A year in which we wear our Christianity every day, remembering that Christian faith is not a cloak to be wrapped around us on Sunday morning and then tossed aside into the six-day closet of unconcern.

A year in which we cease to worry about material things. If one truly believes that God is his Father, he can feel like a million dollars.

A year in which the disgruntled will stop grumbling long enough to remember the true purpose of the church: evangelism. You cannot fish and fight at the same time. If you take up your "net", you will have to put down your "gun".

And A Happy New Year in which all preachers (including myself) realize that we are in "sales"—not management. The Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit are saying: "Be faithful to the Word and work and leave the driving to us!"

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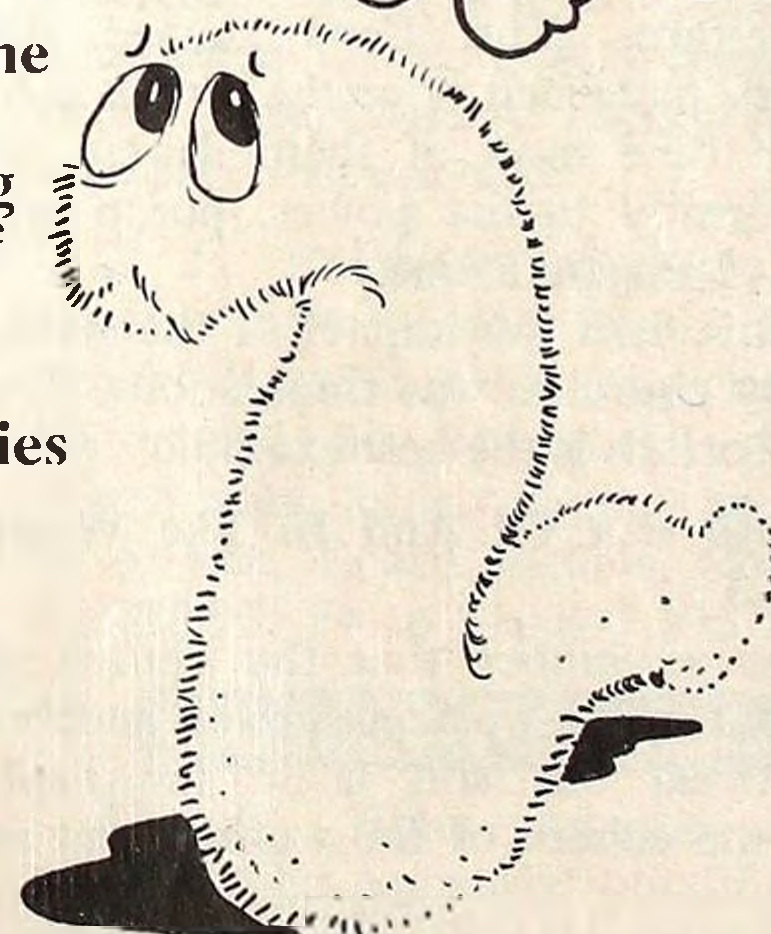
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The World In The Church

By W. R. White
Baylor University, Waco, Texas

Basic Passage: 1 Corinthians 1:1-17

Focal Passage: 1 Corinthians 1:4-17

The world penetrates the church in two ways: the unregenerated on the rolls and the carnal Christians in its fellowship give it congenial soil, just as the "mixed multitude" in the congregation of Israel plagued God's people, so the world vexes the church today.



White

The lusts of the flesh and the pride of life are continually inviting the world into the life of our churches.

Pagan Rome had a structural system much like the Empire. They had a very colorful ritualism also. There were the small Greek states as autonomous entities with simple democratic directness. There was a voluntary league of the small communities for the common good and general welfare. The Lord started the churches off, patterned after the Greek concept but in time most of them drifted toward conformity to the power, pomp and pageantry of Pagan Rome.

Before this drift the impact of the world on the early churches was tremendous. The church at Corinth is the best example.

Church Both Out Of And In The World
1 Cor. 1:1-3

We must remember that the church is called an out-of-the-world-assembly and becomes spiritual but still is in the flesh. Therefore the echoes of the world occur in them.

Besides all this, the church is still in the world. It is supposed to resist the impact of the evil in the world. However, the incessant, powerful pressures of the world break through the resistance of the church frequently. Sometimes it is very alarming to observe the infiltration of the world.

The Church Has Resources To Resist
1 Cor. 1:49

No church will have a perfect record of resisting the impact of the world but it is possible not to conform but to be transformed so as to have a most effective witness.

Paul observes that in Christ they have been enriched in the ability to express themselves and in spiritual knowledge. He notes also that they are not lacking in any spiritual gift.

In view of the many faults which he will

point out and rebuke severely as he continues his epistle, we are amazed at what he says following the above observations. He assures them that they will be guiltless at the appearing of Jesus Christ. He goes further and encourages them to believe that their faithful Lord will sustain and confirm them to the end.

Divisiveness Is Worldliness
1 Cor. 10:9-17

Paul urges them that they be in agreement and unity. He wants them to have the same mind. He is not talking about unthinking sameness but unity in spirit, basic convictions and motivations.

They are sharply divided over spiritual leaders. All of this is very carnal and worldly. Besides it is wholly unnecessary. Whatever is helpful in any leader belongs to all.

Paul is very happy that he had baptized very few of them lest they be too attached to him and turn against Apollos or Cephas and more especially over against Christ.

Paul makes a very strange statement here. He asserts that Christ sent him, not to baptize but to preach the gospel. He meant that his primary and irrevocable duty was to preach the gospel. He is not minimizing baptism but magnifying the indispensable factor in salvation—the gospel. Since baptism pictures or portrays the gospel but is not a part of the good news itself, he could make such a statement.

He would magnify Christ who is the heart of the gospel in order to unify them.

Foundation

Plan For It Now

By Jonas L. Stewart
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

January is "Make Your Will Month" on our denominational calendar. Now is the time to plan a special emphasis. Our office has movie films, tracts, bulletin inserts and speakers available on a "first asked" basis. There are no charges for any material or service. We welcome your request.

This special emphasis is growing in popularity. The attention given to it last year produced a considerable response for our office. Watch the BAPTIST PROGRAM for a feature article on this subject.

Total stewardship includes estate planning. Our people are not properly informed until they know the blessing of the Lord upon a witness that lasts beyond the grave. For information on preparing a Christian will to make such a witness possible write Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Dr. Jonas L. Stewart, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, P. O. Box 647, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027.



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From the Executive Secretary

By Ralph E. Norton

The year of 1972 is now history and 1973 is just beginning. We take a backward look and thank God for the goals that have been reached and again express appreciation to Dr. W. Fred Kendall for his leadership among Tennessee Baptists. But we need to look to the new year also, and as we do, we see a challenge as great as ever before for the work in this great state of ours.



Norton

I sincerely covet your prayers as my work begins. The first week of

January will be filled with staff meetings. We are proud of those who serve so faithfully with us, and as we spend time together at the beginning of the new year we trust that plans will be made and programs planned that will broaden and enrich our ministry with you.

I look forward with great anticipation to serving you and hope that you shall feel free to call me at any time that I can be of service to you.

White Clergy Must Ask Rhodesia's Permission To Live In Black Areas

SALISBURY—Under new discriminatory legislation enacted or introduced into the white-controlled Rhodesian Parliament here, white missionaries and clergy will have to apply for government permission to live in so-called "tribal areas" where non-whites are required to live.

White church workers will also be forced to seek permission to enter the areas "for any reason whatsoever."

When the legislation was first being drafted, representatives of the country's various Christian Churches voiced their anxieties, pointing out, among other things, that the measures would make missionary and pastoral work among non-whites "much more difficult." (RNS)

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By Dr. B. David Edens,
Director, Marriage and
Family Program
Stephens College
Columbia, Missouri 65201



New Data On Bad Effects Of Smoking During Pregnancy

The newest report on the effects of cigarette smoking during pregnancy just issued by U. S. Surgeon General Jesse L. Steinfeld again highlighted the association between mother's smoking and infant survival.

The report included the results of one Swedish study of 6363 pregnant women, which estimated that smoking mothers face a 60% higher risk of bearing a stillborn infant or one who dies at or soon after birth.

A second Swedish study of 4312 pregnancies found abortion rates highest among smokers (14.5%) and lowest (7.8%) among women who did not smoke.

For the first time smoking during the first 3 months of pregnancy has been linked with a higher incidence of inborn heart disease among the babies of the smokers, according to findings of the big British Perinatal Mortality Study. Infants whose mothers smoked had a 7.3 incidence of heart abnormalities per 1000 compared to a 4.7 rate per 1000 among babies of non-smokers.

M. K. Cobble To Retire

M. K. Cobble, pastor of the First Baptist church of Andersonville, resigned from his position and announced his retirement from the active pastorate, effective Jan. 28. He has served the church for the past seven years.

He served as a missionary under the Home Mission Board from 1934 to 1940 and was pastor of First church, Lake City, for two years. Prior to coming to Andersonville, he served the Gillespie Avenue church in Knoxville. He was secretary also of the Tennessee State Pastors' Conference, treasurer of the Knox County Baptist Association, assistant moderator of the Clinton Association for two years, and moderator for one year.

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Historically:

From the files

> 50 YEARS AGO <

J. L. Campbell, dean of the Bible Department at Carson-Newman college, speaking before the Baptist Ministers' Conference of Tennessee, said that the Church should be placed "back into the position of honor assigned it in the Word of God." He then challenged Christians to give it "their hearts' best love, brains' best thought, lips' best praise, hands' best toil, and lives' best sacrifice and service."

The goal for 1923 was the establishment of a total of 1000 BYPU's in the State of Tennessee. Churches were encouraged to organize unions in needy churches, divide unions which were too large, and expand their own facilities.

> 20 YEARS AGO <

W. C. Creasman was re-elected general superintendent and treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Orphans' Home at its annual meeting of the Board of Managers. John Hill, W. C. Summar, and James Gregg were elected president, vice-president, and recording secretary respectively.

T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist Sunday School Board for the past 18 years, announced his retirement, effective that coming June. During his tenure of service, Board income rose from \$1,728,931.84 to \$10,693,333.19.

> 10 YEARS AGO <

The St. Elmo Avenue church, Chattanooga, approved building plans for the construction of a new sanctuary and educational unit at a cost of nearly \$200,000. McKnight Fite was the pastor.

Announcement came that the first nationwide Girls' Auxiliary Convention would be held in Memphis the following summer. A special feature was to be the presentation of a pageant in which over 300 Memphis GA's would participate.

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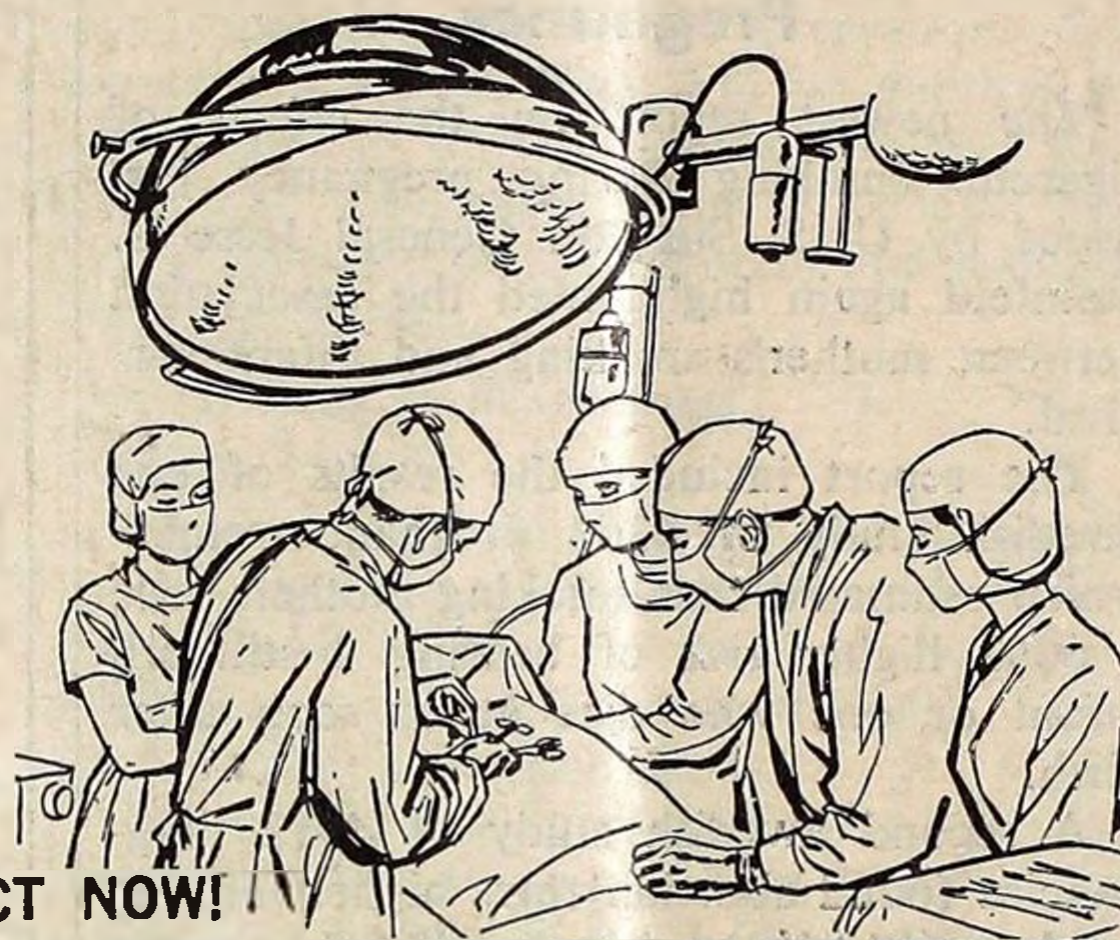
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Disciples Report 2% Loss In Membership

INDIANAPOLIS—A decline in membership and congregations and an increase in total giving has been reported by the Christian church (Disciples of Christ) for 1972.

In its 1973 Year Book and Directory, the denomination lists 1,356,914 members in the United States and Canada, a 2 per cent drop from 1971's figures of 1,391,210.

The membership loss is attributed largely to the removal of some 250 defunct or unrelated congregations, along with 45 congregations that formally withdrew from the church. For 1972, the yearbook shows 4609 congregations, 300 fewer than the 1971 figure.

Total giving by church members rose from \$112 million to \$118 million in the past year, including a 1.7 per cent increase in funds for world causes, to \$16,200,471.

Although over-all world causes giving increases, however, the percentage of congregational receipts turned over to such causes dropped from 14.1 to 13.7 per cent.

A geographical profile shows Texas to be the state with the highest number of Disciples—128,757. It is followed by Missouri, with 127,088, and Indiana, with 116,513.

Disciples in West Virginia gave the highest percentage to world causes—18.9—although this represents a slight decrease for the state from 1971. World giving by Indiana Disciples increased by 2 per cent to 17.5 per cent, with a total of \$1.6 million.

The over-all membership decline reported in the yearbook is the eighth in a row since the 1964 peak figure for 1,929,000.

Many of the congregational withdrawals have resulted from a 1968 restructuring of the denomination.

Printed affidavits describing "doctrinal, practical and legal challenges to Christian freedom being proposed in connection with 'restructure' and moves toward denominational mergers" were submitted by most of the formally withdrawing congregations. (RNS)

EBPS Goes To Paris

The European Baptist Press Service, which has had offices in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, since its inception in July, 1961, will move to Massy, France, in early January. The address is 17 Voie de Wissous, 91300 Massy. Massy is a suburb of Paris.

John M. Wilkes, new director of the Press Service, says addresses on mail intended for EBPS should be changed immediately.

The Press Service phone in Massy is 920-83-39. (EBPS)

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