

Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 144/No. 5/February 2, 1978

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

Committee begins task to find next TBC executive secretary

Guidelines for the election of a new executive secretary-treasurer for Tennessee Baptists were approved Jan. 24 by the TBC Executive Board's administrative committee at a meeting in Brentwood.

Woodmont church aids Guatemalan's hearing

NASHVILLE—Hearing is believing for Guatemala seminary president Enrique Diaz who flew to Nashville at the expense of the Woodmont Church to undergo tests and be fitted with a hearing device.

Diaz has been losing his hearing since the age of 10. As the president of the Guatemalan Baptist Seminary, he was less and less able to interact with students.

Southern Baptist missionary A. Clark Scanlon, former president of the seminary, had a hearing problem similar to Diaz. He got help at the Bill Wilkerson clinic in Nashville when he was missionary in residence at Woodmont during a furlough.

When the Woodmont missions committee—already familiar with Diaz and Guatemala from two groups of their laymen who went to help rebuild from the disastrous earthquake of 1976—was made aware of Diaz' need, they voted to bring him to Nashville and provide the hearing aid for him.

All the good intentions were almost to no avail when Diaz was in a serious automobile accident the day before he was to leave for the states. He was uninjured but his car was wrecked and he was so far south in Guatemala he had to be picked up and flown to Guatemala City in a private plane in order to make his northbound connection.

(Continued on page 5)

According to the board's bylaws, the administrative committee is to serve as a search committee to bring a nomination to the full Executive Board.

Ralph E. Norton, executive secretary-treasurer since Jan. 1, 1973, is scheduled to retire on Dec. 31 of this year.

George Capps, chairman of the administrative committee, said that the committee is inviting recommendations for this important position. The committee requests that all recommendations be in writing and sent to Capps at Southern Baptist Education Commission, 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN 37219.

Capps said that every recommendation will receive prayerful consideration.

The administrative committee also voted to authorize its chairman to appoint a committee to arrange for appropriate recognition of Norton on his retirement.

Capps reported that the administrative committee requests all Tennessee Baptists to pray for the committee and the Executive Board as they seek to find God's will in securing a new executive secretary.

The committee is scheduled to hold its next meeting on March 9.

Federal attorneys seek to dismiss O'Hair suit

WASHINGTON — The lawsuit filed by atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair against the national motto "In God We Trust" is now pending in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas (in Austin).

Here is the chain of events according to the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, which is monitoring the case: On Sept. 1, 1977, O'Hair filed suit to have the court declare unconstitutional the law that requires the national motto "In God We Trust" to be imprinted on the coins and paper currency of the United States.

On Nov. 11, 1977, the attorneys for the government filed a motion to dismiss the suit on the grounds that O'Hair does not have sufficient personal stake in the outcome to bring such a suit and that she did not state sufficient grounds for the suit.

O'Hair was then given until Jan. 5, 1978, to respond to the motion to dismiss her suit. In the meantime, she hired new lawyers, who filed an amended complaint at the same time they answered the government's arguments for dismissal of the case.

The attorneys for the government have filed a reply to the amended complaint and have renewed their motion that the case be dismissed. The court at the time of this writing (Jan. 27) has not announced its decision on the motion to dismiss the suit. (BP)

North Carolina General Board delays action on Wake Forest trustee stand

RALEIGH, N.C. — The General Board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina approved a recommendation designed to end the conflict between the convention and Wake Forest University over acceptance of federal funds.

Wake Forest University trustees precipitated the crisis Dec. 9, 1977, when they voted to accept funds despite a vote of the state convention to the contrary. In November, the convention had approved the university's acceptance of all but \$85,000 of a \$299,600 National Science Foundation research grant to the university's biology department. The convention ruled that the \$85,000 portion, granted for construction of a greenhouse on campus, violated convention policies that limit use of federal funds to "services rendered."

The recommendation basically delays "making a harsh, quick decision" and allows time for further study of the situation, according to Cecil A. Ray, the state convention's general secretary, who has opposed the Wake Forest action.

The recommendation instructs the Wake Forest-Convention Relationship Committee to proceed with six previously scheduled hearings over the state for formulation of a report to the May 30-31 General Board meeting, when a final action is expected.

Already state convention leaders have received some 80 resolutions, predominantly opposing the Wake Forest action, from churches, pastors' conferences and associations throughout North Carolina.

The General Board's executive committee
(Continued on page 5)

With this issue the **Baptist and Reflector** is being printed on a new Miller Perfection press which has been purchased by Curley Printing Co. By changing to the offset method, the clarity of photographs will be greatly increased.

New typesetting equipment is being installed and within the next few weeks will also add to the attractiveness of the **Baptist and Reflector**.

SBC president urges Baptists to overcome mission barriers

NASHVILLE—Southern Baptist Convention President Jimmy R. Allen challenged SBC leadership to redouble efforts in "storming the barricades" which would hinder efforts to reach the world with the message of Christ.

Allen, addressing a wide cross-section of leadership at the SBC Interagency Council Forum, identified the barricades as time, territoriality, tokenism, and timidity.

Elaborating, the pastor of San Antonio's First Church characterized territoriality as a tendency which could entrap the SBC. "It is absolutely essential and part of our genius that we are able to minimize duplication and maximize impact with procedures and program statements," he declared. "But we must avoid becoming so trapped in our program that we look at each new idea or emphasis to see how it can help our program, instead of asking what our resources can do to forward that concept."

"Tokenism," he continued, "is our curse. Southern Baptists are an energetic and able group, and we've done a little something about many things in seeking to change our world. Tragically, we have often substituted those token efforts for a continuing, concentrated drive which would produce the changes needed. A new slogan, a new emphasis, a new problem catches our attention, and we move on."

He enumerated a four-pronged approach to breach the barriers which could blunt the SBC's Bold Mission Thrust goal to reach the world for Christ by the year 2000 and hinder

efforts to heed "the desperate cries of humanity." It is: to escape emptiness and meaninglessness, gain freedom from tyranny, achieve order in a day of moral chaos, and solve widespread hunger and starvation.

"First," he declared, "we must pray for spiritual awakening. No programming will do it. Praying is the essential ingredient for this day. Our evangelism awaits it. Our nurture must be bathed in it. Our mission enterprise will be accelerated by it. We must pray . . . if we are to become part of God's plan instead of God's rejects."

Allen further urged emphasis on church growth which includes the spiritual growth of Christians as well as numerical growth of churches, renewed efforts to close the credibility gap for the gospel of Christ by the way we live, and insistence on "battling with the Bible instead of over the Bible."

"I'm weary of nitpickers and headline hunters predicting schism in the nation's largest evangelical group (the SBC) over authenticity, authority, accuracy, and inspiration of the Bible," Allen declared.

"If these folks would join us as a people of the Book, they are welcome. If they are going to spend all their time trying to find the mistakes of judgment which occasionally occur in a group as large and diverse as ours, and try to make a mountain out of every rhetorical mole hill, I say we have too much to do to greet these brethren in the way. The urgency of the command says move on, brother."

The SBC president also reminded denominational leaders to redouble emphasis on "the new force in the Southern Baptist picture—an unprecedented resource in lay persons ready for missions."

He lauded the Mission Service Corps, which would put 5,000 volunteer missionaries on home and foreign mission fields by 1982 to supplement career missions. He said he has a goal that 1,200 to 1,500 of that number will be appointed by the time of the 1979 SBC annual meeting in Houston.

Allen urged SBC leaders not to kill off dreamers who have a fresh approach to an old idea by saying that it's already been tried and that there's a program statement covering it and a staff member working on it.

And, he said, don't be embarrassed by goals which seem improbable.

"The idea of confronting every person with the claims of Christ by the year 2000 is hopelessly naive," he said. "But it's just like Jesus to do that. He took 12 men, then 120 people, and challenged them to change the nations—going, making disciples of all nations. Visions which result in accomplishment of great things are like that—unrealistic, improbable." (BP)

Nashville Acteen named to national committee

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Lisa Stockard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard G. Stockard of Nashville, has been selected as one of six members of Woman's Missionary Union's second Acteens National Advisory Panel. Lisa, age 16, is a member of First Church, Donelson.



Lisa Stockard

The panelists were announced by national Acteens consultant Beverly Sutton at the recent Executive Board meeting of WMU, SBC held here.

Lisa is a high school senior.

In Acteens Lisa has attained the level of Service Aide, the highest level in Studiact, the individual achievement plan for Acteens. Lisa says, "Through Acteens, I began to reach out to my world. It is important to me because it has given me the push I needed to become actively involved in mission work in my community."

Panel members were selected for their scholastic achievement, school as well as church involvement, and accomplishments in Studiact.

Duties will include writing for *Accent* (the WMU monthly for girls in grades 7 through 12), and Lisa will make her *Accent* debut in the April issue. Panelists may also appear at state and associational WMU-related meetings. They will serve as pages at the WMU Annual Meeting, June 11-12, in Atlanta, Ga.

Lisa will serve until Dec. 1 when a new panel will be selected.

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Ralph E. Norton, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: George Capps Jr., chairman; C. Henry Preston, vice-chairman; Gayle Alexander, William E. Crook, John Daley, Jim Dusek, Charles D. Earl, Ray Fowler, Hayward Highfill, Howard Kolb, Pat Landrum, Mrs. R. Trevis Otey, J. Arnold Porter, Paul Shell, Bill Sherman, Gerald Stow, and Herschel Woodburn.



Members of North Red Bank Church, Hamilton County Association, held note burning services, according to pastor Herbert Myhan. Participating in the services were: (left to right) Gene Baker, Duane Highlander, Myhan, and Jack Hatfield. Hatfield is a former pastor who led the church to its present location in 1963.

Education Commission leader, Fisher, announces retirement

NASHVILLE—Ben C. Fisher, who spent 40 years in service to Southern Baptists including 30 years in Christian higher education,



Fisher

has announced early retirement, effective Sept. 30.

Fisher, executive director-treasurer of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention since 1970, will be 63 in May. Commission chairman George Bagley, executive secretary for the Alabama Baptist Convention,

will name a search committee to look for Fisher's successor.

A native of Webster, N. C., Fisher served as a pastor in North Carolina, 1938-47, before becoming chairman of the English department at Gardner-Webb College in 1947. He later served as executive assistant to the president and director of public relations at Gardner-Webb.

In 1952, he became associate secretary of the SBC Education Commission and associate editor of the commission publication, **The Southern Baptist Educator**, and served also as executive secretary of the Department of Christian Education of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky.

He joined Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., in 1954, as administrative assistant to the president, director of public relations and professor of Christian education.

Fisher became executive secretary of the Council on Christian Higher Education of the Baptist State Convention of North Caro-

lina in 1962, serving until 1970, when he rejoined the SBC Education Commission as chief executive.

During his tenure at the Education Commission, Fisher has emphasized continuing efforts to merge academic excellence, transmission of Christian values and concern for the local church and missions in the sphere of Baptist higher education.

He served as a member of the steering committee for the comprehensive Baptist Education Study Task conducted by the Education Commission, 1966-67, and led in sponsoring a National Colloquium on Christian Education in 1976. The colloquium resulted in a year-long study of Baptist colleges by Earl J. McGrath and associates through the Program in Liberal Studies of the University of Arizona, funded by a \$100,000 Lilly Endowment grant. The McGrath Study gave a high ranking to Baptist colleges in academics, enrollment and finances in comparison to other schools across the country, and includes an extensive follow-up phase. (BP)

Catholics give \$1,500 to a Baptist church

DONGOLA, Ill.—All the years R. T. Reeves was playing golf with H. G. Downey and, in his words "engaging in good-natured jostling about the differences in Baptists and Catholics, "little did he know this friendship would lead to a \$1,500 gift to the First Baptist Church here.

Reeves, director of the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative here and a member of First Baptist Church, said Downey was a key figure in recommending a \$1,500 gift to his church on behalf of the Knights of Columbus disaster fund.

Downey, who lives in Mt. Vernon, is the past state Grand Knight of the Catholic organization, which earmarked the \$1,500 for the building fund of the church, which was destroyed by fire on Oct. 15.

"I understand this is the first grant to any organization in southern Illinois by the Catholic disaster fund," Reeves said. "And it's an outright gift, not a loan." (BP)

Mother of SBC officer dies

NASHVILLE—Mrs. Gladys Cleo Bradley, recording secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention, died here Jan. 22 after a brief illness. She was 75.

A funeral service was held at First Church where she was a member. She is survived by five daughters, her son Martin, 13 grandchildren and four great grandchildren. (BP)

Golden Gate notes 90 percent growth

MILL VALLEY, Calif.—If the enrollment count at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary serves as any indicator, it appears that Southern Baptist Convention work is beginning to grow at a more rapid pace on the West Coast.

In the past 10 years, enrollment at the denomination's only seminary west of Texas has surged 90 percent from 256 students in fall 1967 to 484 last Fall. Since 1970 it has shown an 80 percent increase. And, last fall (1977) Golden Gate led all other Southern Baptist seminaries in enrollment increase, climbing 18 percent ahead of the fall 1976 figure.

New students make up 34 percent of the present student body at Golden Gate. The new student rate increase in 1977 was 69 percent more than the number of new students who enrolled in 1970.

In addition, all growth records at the seminary were broken last year. It was the first time in the history of the school that more than 500 students were served. A total of 517 non-duplicating credit students were enrolled.

William M. Pinson Jr., president of the seminary, believes the increased interest in Golden Gate and the West is due largely to Southern Baptists' emphasis on Bold Mission Thrust to proclaim the message to all the world by the end of the century.

"Golden Gate is a unique part of Bold Missions," Pinson said. "Students are evidently more and more service and mission oriented. Golden Gate provides the opportunity to obtain a quality seminary education in the midst of a mission laboratory, a place to learn by doing. Sitting in the midst of millions of persons who have made no commitment to Christ in an area in need of thousands of new churches, students with a heart for evangelism and missions are attracted to Golden Gate." (BP)



The congregation of Calvary Church, Savannah, gathered for ground breaking ceremonies to kick off the building of an auditorium which will seat 200. The church, which is nearly two years old, was a mission of Calvary Church, Waynesboro.

Three sons ordained as deacons by churches in Middle Tennessee

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Stephenson, Fayetteville First Church members, have had an unusual experience take place during the past six months.

The Stephensons have three sons, each of whom was scheduled to have been ordained as a deacon by a middle Tennessee church since October. Mike Stephenson was ordained by Judson Church in Nashville last October; Hoy Stephenson was ordained by Haywood Hills Church last month; and Richard Stephenson was scheduled to be ordained by Gallatin First Church this month.

The elder Stephenson has served Fayetteville First Church as a deacon for a number of years, according to his pastor, Reuben L. Trussell.

Instruction, aid offered VBS workers through nine regional conferences

Vacation Bible School regional conferences will be held throughout Tennessee beginning Monday, Feb. 20, and continuing through Friday, Mar. 3, according to Wendell Price, state Sunday School director.

The nine regional conferences are intended to update and assist associational VBS teams in planning their own clinics.

All conferences will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 2:15 p.m. Price urged those who plan to eat lunch to make reservations through the associational office.

Locations and dates are: Feb. 20, Chattanooga, Spring Creek Road Church; Feb. 21, Knoxville, Concord First Church; Feb. 22, Johnson City Central Church; Feb. 23, Cookeville First Church; Feb. 27, Shelbyville First Church; Feb. 28, Nashville, Judson Church; Mar. 1, Brownsville, Brownsville Church; Mar. 2, Paris First Church; and Mar. 3, Lawrenceburg First Church.

Sammie Meek, former Sunday School department staffer, will lead workers with the mentally retarded. Meek resides in Nashville.

Preschool workers will be directed by Ann Hart, Nashville, and Shirley Jackson, Memphis.

Mary Buckner, Memphis; Ray Evette, Sunday School department, TBC; and Rubynelle Dixon, Nashville, will conduct training for the workers with children.

Lyn Brasfield, Sunday School department, TBC, will lead youth workers; and Frances Price, Nashville, will lead the adult work.

Maurice Graham, director of church and community missions, Second Church, Memphis, will explain methods for backyard Bible clubs. Price will work with general officers.

Congress approves bill on child pornography

WASHINGTON—The U. S. House of Representatives has given final approval to a bill to protect children from sexual exploitation. The measure now goes to President Carter for his signature.

The bill finally passed was introduced into the U. S. Senate on May 23, 1977, by U. S. Senators John C. Culver and Charles McC. Mathias. Several other bills dealing with child prostitution and child pornography were introduced in Congress last year.

Culver noted that the new law, if signed by the President, will make three changes in the United States code. It will make it a federal crime to use any child under 16 in the production of pornographic material; ban the sale and distribution of obscene material that depicts any child in sexually explicit conduct; and prohibit the interstate transportation of any child for the purpose of prostitution or other commercial exploitation.

The measure provides penalties of up to 10 years in prison with a \$10,000 fine for first offenders, and up to 15 years in prison with a \$15,000 fine for second offenders.

U. S. Rep. John Conyers Jr., who managed the bill in the House voting, noted the difficulties in writing a bill that would stand up to challenges in court. "I feel both houses of Congress acted carefully to avoid unnecessary infringement on First Amendment rights," Conyers said. "None of us wished to present to the country a law which we knew was in danger of being declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court."

The House accepted Senate language which inserted the word "obscene" in the portion of the bill prohibiting sale and distribution of pornographic material. This is to meet the Supreme Court test which protects the freedom of speech and the press.

Conyers asserted that the measure was "a necessary and responsible piece of legislation that represents a suitable compromise between the bills passed by the Senate and the House. In addition, it is the bill that will give the Department of Justice a constitutional tool to employ against the evils of child pornography and child prostitution." (BP)

Truckers present grant, scholarships to Belmont

Belmont College has received a significant campaign contribution from Nashville-based Truckstops of America, Inc. The grant is for \$15,000, plus two full four-year scholarships.

"Belmont College is known for its emphasis on free enterprise," President Herbert C. Gabhart stated. "It is, therefore, gratifying when significant representatives of free enterprise, such as Truckstops of America, Inc., respond in such a generous and meaningful way. We feel challenged to continue living up to the faith expressed in us by this fine company."

The grant in aid will be spread over a three-year period, and the Truckstops scholarship funding will be an ongoing commitment beyond the initial four-year grants.

"This commitment is made in recognition of Belmont College's superb academic program and Truckstops of America's support for Belmont's position as an institution independent of government support and devoted to the principles of free enterprise and high morality," said Bill Sheriff, president of Truckstops of America.

The two scholarships will be awarded to a dependent of a Truckstops truck driver customer and to a dependent of a Truckstops employee. "This is another way in which Truckstops of America will continue its commitment to the American trucker," Sheriff said.

Carson-Newman student goes to Washington as intern

JEFFERSON, CITY, Tenn.—Mike Prescott, a student at Carson-Newman College, is currently participating in the Washington Intern Program—a program in which deserving students can work in the Washington, D.C. office of one of Tennessee's elected government officials.

Mike, a senior from St. Eaton Park, Fla., will be working on the staff of Senator Jim Sasser. Prescott was chosen on the basis of his academic achievements and his interests in the field of history and political science.

Prescott is a religion and pre-law major at C-N.

The Washington Intern Program is offered each semester, and students selected spend 12 weeks in Washington, D.C., becoming involved with Congressional office work. Opportunities to attend Congressional hearings, committee hearings, and House and Senate sessions are provided for the student. In general, the program provides an opportunity for students to see first hand how our government functions.



SCISSOR WIELDING—Members of the 10-11-year-old girls' class of Friendsville First Church were given the honor of cutting the necktie from pastor Fred H. Garner following a recent high attendance contest. The children's department had the highest percentage present with over 80 percent.

Opinions clash at hearing on tax credit for tuition

By W. Barry Garrett

WASHINGTON—The Carter administration has teamed up with religious liberty organizations to oppose proposals for income tax credits for tuition paid for private school tuition on all levels during three days of hearings on bills now pending in Congress.

Although the Senate has in previous years passed bills providing for some form of tax credits for tuition paid to private schools, these are the first hearings on the subject ever held by the Senate Finance Committee.

The earlier Senate-passed tax credit bills never have been enacted into law. They either died before passage by the House of Representatives or were eliminated by conference committees between the House and Senate. Predictions by political observers in Washington about the prospects for the enactment into law of the current proposals are rather uncertain.

Since such proposals have passed the Senate six times before, and since half of the Senate members are listed as co-sponsors of the Packwood-Moynihan Bill (S.2142), it may pass the Senate, although this is by no means certain. Observers point out that it will have much more difficulty in the House. Also, since the administration is in opposition, it is possible that the bill would face a presidential veto.

The Packwood-Moynihan Bill proposes a tax credit of one-half of the tuition paid by parents to parochial and other private schools up to a maximum of \$500 per student. This bill includes both elementary-secondary and post-secondary tuition.

Another bill (S.311), proposed by Sen. William Roth, includes tuition only for higher education. It begins with a \$250 tax credit the first year and on a graduated scale increases to a maximum of \$500 the fourth year after enactment.

At the hearings, in addition to the Carter

administration, those opposing the tax credit proposals included the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, constitutional lawyer Leo Pfeffer, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, the National Coalition for Public Education and Religious Liberty (PEARL), the National Parent-Teachers Association, the National School Boards Association and the American Federation of Teachers (AFL-CIO). The National Education Association did not appear at the hearings, but it is lobbying heavily against tax credits.

Those in favor of the proposals included the Federation of Catholic Teachers; Antonio Scalia, professor of constitutional law at the University of Chicago, the Council for American Private Education, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, National Association of Independent Schools, Congress of Racial Equality, Citizens for Educational Freedom, and professors from two universities in Canada.

The obviously biased attitude of the Senate sponsors of the bill turned the hearings almost into a mockery of those who appeared in opposition. For instance, Sen. Daniel Moynihan accused those who objected to his proposal on constitutional grounds, including the United States Supreme Court, of being ignorant of the history and meaning of the First Amendment. He charged those who objected on grounds of religious liberty and separation of church and state with being handovers from 19th Century know-nothingism and anti-Catholic bigotry, and of holding Ku Klux Klan viewpoints.

As for the Carter administration, Moynihan in a lengthy and highly charged emotional outburst, accused President Carter of violating his campaign pledge of seeking constitutional aid to private education. Moynihan said he was tired of the government lying to the American people and accused the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare of being dedicated to the destruction of the Catholic parochial school system. The New York Democrat was so incensed over the Carter opposition that he threatened to stump his state in the next election and urge the people to vote Republican.

Those who argued against the tax credit proposals in general claimed that the plan is unconstitutional, that it would be harmful to the public education system of the nation, that it would aid those people who need help the least, and that a program of tax credits for school tuition is not the proper way to provide for the educational needs of the nation. (BP)

North Carolina Board

(Continued from page 1)

will meet March 9 on the Wake Forest campus for a dialogue with such groups as the Wake Forest trustees, biology department faculty, student body leaders, and members of the convention's Services Rendered Committee and Wake Forest-Convention Relationships Committee.

Ray noted that a spirit of unity and patience, underlined by "determination for clear answers" prevailed in the General Board's meeting. Before the session closed, 450 persons prayed silently, many on their knees, as Forrest Feezor of Shelby, N. C., 85-year-old retired executive secretary of Texas Baptists and former North Carolina pastor, prayed for God "to heal the fracture" between the university and the convention.

Other parts of the recommendation urge renewed efforts to seek a solution to the dilemma, study of reported "inconsistencies" in convention policy on use of federal funds by the hospital and Bowman-Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest, consultation by the General Board's executive committee with the convention's nominating committee for preparation of materials on the role of Baptist trustees and their relationship to the convention and institutions, a study of how all North Carolina Baptist schools conform to state convention provisions, and development of an educational program on how Baptists own and operate institutions. (BP)

Woodmont Church aids

(Continued from page 1)

Then, when he arrived in Nashville, the Bill Wilkerson clinic was closed and not scheduled to reopen until after the weekend, too late for Diaz. But the director of the clinic came and tested Diaz, making the trip fruitful and bringing foreign missions home to Woodmont Church. (BP)

SBC president, Jewish leader to appear on ABC-TV program

FORT WORTH—Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum of the American Jewish Committee, will participate in a nationally televised conversation program on ABC-TV, Feb. 12.

Appearing on the network's "Directions" program, sponsored by the SBC Radio and Television Commission in cooperation with ABC, Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, and Tanenbaum will discuss human values and some of the understandings which developed from a dialogue seminar between Baptists and Jews in December in Dallas. (BP)

Single Adult Retreat set for March cancelled

The Single Adult Retreat originally scheduled for March 24-26, at Smoky Shadows Conference Center, Pigeon Forge, has been cancelled according to Don Mauldin, director of adult work, church training dept., Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Another one is scheduled for Oct. 13-15 at the Montgomery Bell State Park, Burns.

For further information contact the church training dept., Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027.

Our People and Our Churches . . .

PEOPLE . . .

Geraldine Ziegler celebrated her 25th anniversary as church secretary at Central Church, Chattanooga, recently. She served under three pastors: **Ansell T. Baker**, **Bill Hartley**, and the present pastor, **Jerry A. Songer**.

Members of Cedar Grove Church, Johnson City, honored their pastor, **Earl Campbell Jr.**, on his ninth anniversary with the church. A special surprise program featured testimonies, a reception, and the presentation of a scrapbook of appreciation.

W. C. Peeler, a deacon at Centerville First Church for about 50 years, died recently at the age of 93. He was the first treasurer for Alpha Association, serving in that post until about six years ago. Services were held from First Church with **Kenneth Sparkman**, **Harry Winters**, and **J. Arnold Porter** officiating.

Walter Anderson, **Raymond Lovelady**, and **Joe Shackelford** were scheduled to be ordained as deacons by Bolivar First Church, Jan. 29. **George Johnson** is pastor.

Dan D. Haskins Jr., Baptist Student Union director at Tennessee Tech University, is the author of an article "Glossalalia on Campus," in the current issue of **Collage**.

New Concord Church, Kenton, ordained **Billy Smith** as a deacon on Jan. 22. **Thurman Penick** is pastor.

Pleasant Hill Church #1, Martin, ordained **John Blackwell** to the gospel ministry. He is the pastor of a church in Kentucky. **Wayne Perkins** leads the Martin church.

Tom Mason, **Keith Allen**, **David Walker**, **Jerry Kesterson** were ordained as deacons at East Park Church in Memphis. Pastor **W. Wayne Allen** delivered the ordination sermon and the charges to the church and candidates.

Baxter First Church ordained **Bobby Wilson** as a deacon.

Former Tennessee pastor and evangelist, **Jack Custer**, resigned as pastor of Second Church, Augusta, Ga., to re-enter the field of evangelism. While in Tennessee he served in Lebanon. **Custer** plans to continue living in Augusta.

Cottontown Church, Cottontown, is scheduled to ordain **Charles Barham** as a deacon in the near future. The church ordained **Ronald Gann** previously, according to pastor **Don Burnett**.

LEADERSHIP . . .

Westwood Church, Nashville, called **Harvell H. Campbell Jr.** as minister of music on a part-time basis. **Campbell** is a graduate of Belmont College and has done additional work at the University of Tennessee. He is scheduled to begin his duties at Westwood on Feb. 12. **James M. Gregg** is pastor.

John Keller, pastor, Calvary Church, Bristol, resigned to accept the Delaney Street Church in Orlando, Fla. He has already moved to the new field of service.

Stephen Williams, pastor, Stanton Church, Haywood Association, resigned in order to enter Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo.

Tim Christian resigned as pastor of Hatchie Church, Hardeman County Association, to accept the pastorate of Number Nine Church near Blytheville, Ark.

Joe Morrell is the new minister of music and the associate pastor at Woodmont Church, Nashville. **Bill Sherman** is pastor.

Gaylon Shockley has been called as minister of music at Ivy Memorial Church, Nashville. He has served as minister of music at Liberty Grove Church, Jackson, and is presently a junior at Belmont College. **Verlon Moore** is pastor at Ivy Memorial.

Ridgedale Church, Chattanooga, called **Sam Marshall Jr.** as music, youth, and activities director full time. **Kenneth Hubbard** is pastor at Ridgedale.

Cleveland First Church called **James E. Gibson II** as minister of youth and activities. He is the son of **Mr. and Mrs. James E. Gibson**. A graduate of Cleveland State Community College and Belmont College, he is presently working on his master of religious education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is scheduled to join the Cleveland staff in May following his graduation. **Marvin Gibson** is pastor at Cleveland.

Speedway Church, Memphis, called **James E. Powell** as interim pastor. **Powell** is instructor of archeology and research librarian at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. He holds the bachelor of arts degree from Mississippi College and the master of divinity degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Before coming to Tennessee, he was a pastor in Mississippi.

Roy Graves resigned as pastor of Double Springs Church, Stone Association. He plans to attend Belmont College in Nashville.

James E. Dunning resigned as pastor of Phillippy Church, Beulah Association.

Tom Henry has resigned as pastor of Lebanon First Church. He has accepted the position of executive director of the Tennessee Commission on Aging. His last Sunday with the Lebanon church was Jan. 29.

Zion Church, Clinton Association, called **David Hyde** as youth director. **Hyde** is a student at Cumberland College and the son of **Jack Hyde**, pastor of Poplar Creek Church in the same association. **Glenn Gamble** is pastor.

Brainerd Church, Chattanooga, called **Glenn Stophel** as interim minister of music. He is a member of the Brainerd church and served previously for three years as interim minister of music. A graduate of Bob Jones University, he also holds a degree in law from the University of Tennessee. **Gaye McGlothlen** is interim pastor at Brainerd.

Bill Sharp resigned as pastor of New Grove Church, William Carey Association.

Glenwood Church, Clinton Association, called **Tom Fritts** as minister of music. **Tom Clay** is pastor.

Tony Long, associate pastor at Clinton Second Church, resigned and is working with McCalla Avenue Church in Knoxville as educational director. **George Williams** is pastor.

Carthage First Church called **Mike Aiken** as minister of music and youth. A graduate of Belmont College, he comes from Gallatin. **Jere Plunk** is pastor at Carthage.

Rhesa Davis is serving as educational director at White Station Church, Shelby County Association. He is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and was educational director at Mountain Terrace Church, Memphis.

CHURCHES . . .

New Home Church, Boma, Baxter, celebrated the completion of a new pastorium by giving the pastor, **Robert S. Markham**, a surprise house warming and birthday celebration. **Markham** also observed his tenth anniversary as pastor.

New Providence Church, Loudon, observed a note burning service last month. The service was highlighted with the showing of a color film on the history of the church during the past four years. **Obie Campbell** is pastor.

Erwin church sends three journeymen

The congregation of Erwin First Church saw its involvement in missions culminated last fall with the appointment of three of its young people as missionary journeymen.

The church has the distinction, according to the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, of being the only church in the SBC to send out three journeymen at the same time. Stan Nelson, director of the journeyman program, FMB, told **Baptist and Reflector** that, after extensive research, he could find no other Southern Baptist church which had sent out three young people together.

Tommy Jackson, the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Jackson, Erwin, is serving in Kumasi, Ghana. Becky Faulkner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Faulkner, (pastor at Erwin First), is in Ajloun, Jordan; and Glen Byrd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Byrd, Lenoir City, works in Nairobi, Kenya.

The missionary journeyman program of the Foreign Mission Board enlists Baptist young adults under 26 years of age to serve in critical needs abroad. Journeymen serve for two years, working with career missionaries in specific job assignments. These may include church development, educational ministries, medicine, agriculture, social work, etc.

Qualifications include a baccalaureate degree, good physical health, spiritual maturity, Christian dedication, and a desire to serve people.

Erwin First Church has always been strongly mission minded, Faulkner explained. Missions is exemplified through the church's programs, preaching, and action. Last year, the congregation gave nearly 30 percent of its monies to Southern Baptist mission causes. They also support a mission church in Brookings, S.D.

Jackson, 22, was raised as a Methodist and was always a very active member of his church in Erwin. His mother explained to **Baptist and Reflector** that while attending Emory and Henry College in Emory, Va., Jackson felt God's call into the ministry and into the Baptist faith.

"He felt it was something that he had to do, and we supported him in his decision." After graduation from high school, he attended the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and East Tennessee State University, before deciding to major in religion and transfer to Emory.

While serving in Kumasi, Jackson is teaching religion in several of the surrounding villages. He recently accepted a post at the Kumasi Academy high school, where he will teach personal development and religion.

Mrs. Jackson is convinced that her son's commitment to missions developed from his



MISSION VOLUNTEERS — Tommy Jackson, Becky Faulkner, and Glen Byrd, appointed as missionary journeymen from Erwin First Church last fall, are the only three young people ever appointed from the same church at the same time.

ever zealous interest in people and from parental teachings on giving of himself to other persons. He has been vitally interested in people ever since he was little, she recalled. "He is very happy in what he is doing now, and feels that the Lord has led him where he is."

She believes that when he returns from the mission field, he may enter the ministry full time.

Faulkner, who now teaches English and art and works as librarian in the compound high school in Ajloun, developed her interest in missions at an early age. "Since she was very small, she has displayed an interest in people," her pastor/father said.

An honor student at the University of Virginia, she graduated as the valedictorian of her class and was the recipient of the dean's award for academic excellence. She was offered scholarships for graduate work at several institutions, but turned all of them down to serve as a missionary journeyman.

With the Muslim religion very strong in Jordan, Faulkner is not allowed to witness door to door. Her rapport with the young people of the school, however, is so strong that they follow her nearly everywhere she goes. In this way, she can talk to them about God's love through Jesus Christ.

Plans following her return to the United States are not definite, but her parents feel that she will consider missions and probably attend seminary.

Byrd served for one year as youth director at Erwin First after graduating from Carson-Newman College. It was in college that he decided to do mission work.

A product of east Tennessee, Byrd was a member of Concord First Church.

At the age of 15, he suffered from a heart condition which required hospitalization. "That was the turning point in his life," his mother recalled. "While he was in the hospital, the people from Concord First Church were always there, helping and ministering to him." Following his recovery, he made a public profession of faith during a Billy Graham Crusade and became very active in the program of the Concord church.

Joe Stacker, pastor of that church, said that during Byrd's high school years he participated in a summer mission tour on two or three occasions with the church's youth group. One summer, 10 of the young people worked in a Royal Ambassador and Girls in Action camp in South Dakota. "Our entire youth program is geared to missions, and we incorporate missions into all of our emphases," the east Tennessee pastor explained. "While Glen was here and even now, we challenge our young people to consider full-time Christian service as a viable direction in their lives."

Byrd is encouraged with his work in Nairobi, Kenya where he teaches English and sets up English language courses at the University of Nairobi. Stacker feels that the young journeyman is planning a life as a career missionary following his return to the United States in two years.

HMB offering reaches 95 percent of goal

ATLANTA—The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions received \$10,745,967 during 1977, or 95.5 percent of its goal of \$11,250,000.

William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, announced final receipts of the offering taken each year by the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union for the support of home missions work in the United States and its territories.

"We could probably say this is the largest offering ever given for home missions anywhere in the world," Tanner said in his report. "This is very encouraging to me. I never cease to be amazed at the way Southern Baptists give."

The 1977 offering is \$1,114,911 more than the amount received in 1976, Tanner said. (BP)

Tennessee and legalized gambling

A bill which would legalize gambling in Tennessee (Senate Bill 250) is ready to come before the General Assembly. That bill would legalize pari-mutuel betting on horse races.

Last May SB 250 received committee approval and came to the floor of the Senate—only to be delayed several times and finally postponed to the 1978 session. The bill is now in the hands of the Senate's Calendar Committee who could bring it to the floor at any time.

It is **imperative** that concerned citizens contact their state senators and representatives immediately.

We do not need legalized gambling in Tennessee. WHY? Here are six reasons from an editorial in **Nashville** magazine written by C. Turney Stevens Jr., editor.

1. Crime. Gambling is the primary source of revenue for organized crime, feeding over \$30-billion per year into the syndicate. When a state legalizes gambling, three things happen: (1) the government becomes a partner and promoter of a big gambling enterprise; (2) more persons are lured into the practice of gambling by the intense promotion and appeal of "quick" riches; (3) the gambling operation of organized crime thrives alongside and generally infiltrates the government's operations, becomes more free of prosecution, and reaps benefits from greater multitudes who are enticed into gambling.

2. Corruption. Organized crime, certainly one of the prime movers behind the push to legalize gambling in other parts of the country is already one of the most corrupting influences on state officials, courts, and police. More that \$2-billion per year is estimated to be spent for this purpose. If you don't think organized crime likes

legalized gambling, ask yourself why the Mafia is strongest in the states that have had legalized gambling the longest.

3. Poor Source of Revenue. In states that have legalized gambling, income from this source represents an insignificant percentage of the total budget—usually less than one percent. Tennessee's Department of Revenue is currently predicting a budget surplus of better than \$20-million this fiscal year so we don't need the money that badly. And we certainly don't need any amount of money badly enough to have to endure the consequences of this type of taxation.

4. Detriment to Legitimate Business. Claims of increased business and industrial activity as a result of legal gambling are false and deceptive. Legitimate business actually suffers as a result of legal gambling because precious discretionary dollars are drained into non-productive activities.

5. Gambling Hurts People. More than five-million persons are now gambling addicts, according to the National Gambling Commission. Many of these people can ill afford to spend precious dollars on these types of recreational activities. Certainly this problem increases the already heavy pressures pushing against family stability. Many argue that these dollars will be spent anyway, whether legally or otherwise. Perhaps so. But does the government have any business actually encouraging the growth of this type of wastage?

6. Gambling Is Wrong. Here's where we enter the area of one's personal convictions. I personally feel that gambling has the potential to become an immoral addiction. It is interesting to note a couple of powerful facts here: (1) Over half of the parables in the New Testament deal specifically with stewardship and Christ's teaching on the rewards of good stewardship. Gambling does not lend itself very readily to good stewardship. (2) Almost every religious code in the world—including of course Judaism and Christianity—teach love and self-sacrifice. Gambling payoffs, which depend on the number and size of the losers' contributions to the pot, hardly encourage this sort of selfless concern.

They Number in the Millions



"HOW MISERABLE FOR YOU WHO HAVE ALL YOU WANT, FOR YOU ARE GOING TO BE HUNGRY!" —LUKE 6:25 (PHIL. TRS.)

Snow's parable

As the snow fell—silently spreading its blanket of pure whiteness—the world took on the beauty of cleanliness. Even the junk yard, the garbage dump, and slum housing reflected the aura of peaceful beauty.

The whole world seemed spotless, as if nature had devised a way to transform the ugliness that man had created.

But as the days came, so did the dirt and the soot to pollute even the whiteness of snow.

Now, the sun has melted the snow. The hideous spots of the world remain—except that they are even uglier because of the layer of grime and filth left by the melting snow.

Perhaps there is a parable here for those of us who attempt to cover the ugliness and sin of our lives with a "snow-white" blanket of good deeds. On the surface all seems peaceful, pure, and beautiful.

But in the sunlight of God's revealing righteousness, our self-righteousness melts away, leaving the same ugliness of our sinfulness—plus the additional sin of self-sufficiency.

All the beauty of a snowfall cannot long hide the depravity of this world.

All the good deeds of self-righteousness cannot long hide the depravity of a human soul.

Cicero's comment



By the editor

Cicero had been hearing a lot lately about **"bi-vocational" pastors**—these are men who pastor small churches and help support themselves financially by also working in another position.

While inquiring about some of these, I met **Farren Height**, pastor of **Thermometer Baptist Church**, who is employed as a weather forecaster.

"Isn't this a rather unusual combination of vocations?," Cicero wondered.

"Not really," observed Height. "Both a pastor and a weatherman are supposed to be able to read the signs and make pronouncements—based on these signs. You might say both are **prophets** in a sense."

Cicero asked if Farren found any confusion between his two jobs.

"My problems come in the **similarities**—not the differences. I have to remember where I am. At the weather bureau and at the church you treat **'hot air masses'** and **'big winds'** quite differently. At both places I am often called to deal with **'unsettled conditions.'** In weather we are concerned about **'degrees'**—and so are a lot of ministers!"

Cicero asked if this similar language had ever caused embarrassment.

"Only once," Height recalled. "That Sunday I was getting ready to read the Scripture at the start of my sermon, and I referred to this as the **'frontal passage'**."

Farren Height also noted that temperatures and church attendance have something in common—**both decline at night!**

He also believes that being a pastor is good preparation for a weatherman, since most Baptists are as changeable as the weather. And, he added, churches and the weather surely experience a lot of **highs and lows.**

Farren said that the reason he has been fairly successful as a pastor and weather forecaster is because of the basic concept which most people have about **both religion and the weather—"Everybody talks about them, but nobody does anything about them!"**

Letters to the Editor...

Letters on any religion-related subject are welcomed. Letters of over 300 words will not be used. Other letters may be shortened at the discretion of the editor. No unsigned letters will be printed, but writer's name will be withheld for sufficient reason. Letters must contain complete address.

Christians must vote

Dear editor:

Historians differ as to the number of civilizations that have fallen in the past 6,000 years. But we do know that when a high percentage of spiritually minded people become disillusioned and disgusted with their government, that government is in danger of being overthrown.

All surveys reveal that a high percentage of people today neglect to vote; and unfortunately polls show that Christians are frequently the ones who are indifferent and disappointed with our government. This inertial attitude is exceedingly dangerous in a free-voting society. There are many authorities who assess the lack of confidence in governmental officials as the number one problem facing the United States.

A noted member of Congress made a survey months ago and came up with a 27% participation voting record for Christians during the 1974 elections.

If there is a bad official in office, Christians must take their share of responsibility for that bad official. Few Christians are willing to actively engage in politics. Too many of us have the wrong attitude toward those who are elected and the importance of serving as an official.

Service as a governmental official, whether local, state, or national, is highly important in this day of so many controversial issues. The news media has a way of investigating and emphasizing any error that a candidate or official may have made.

The one thing I am trying to say is that this is a day when no Christian can fail to vote at every election. You can be assured that a high percentage of undesirable citizens will vote.

We need today many small Christian groups in every community who get together in seminars and study the character and qualifications of each candidate.

Christians must get informed!

Christians must work to learn more about our political candidates.

Christians must vote for this is a crisis day!

J. Pope Dyer
1418 First Tenn. Bank Bldg.
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Professors' beliefs

Dear editor:

This letter concerns the remarks made by the Baptist professor in Virginia (Jan. 5, page 13). His statement in defense of his

position in regards to Jesus and His relationship to God was a quote from his book, "Jesus was man as man was intended to be, man in complete and total communion with God."

His statement is ambiguous in context, and Jesus was NOT just a man. He was the God-man (God and man, John 1:1, 14). Jesus was human in that He was tempted and suffered pain as we do. He practiced what He preached and became the perfect example for us. When He hung on the cross as the song reminds us, "He could have called 10,000 angels to destroy the world and set Him free."

The article ended by stating that "as a tenured professor, action against him would have legal implications." I have been told that professors in our Baptist schools have a right to their own beliefs and opinions. As American citizens they do have that right. However, they do not have a right to stand in a classroom and teach contrary to the basic beliefs and principles of the people who pay their salaries.

I believe each professor who is hired by our Baptist schools should be required to sign a statement of faith. If at any time they teach against these beliefs, they would be subject to dismissal. For example, if a Bible professor teaches against the virgin birth, he would be replaced.

I can hear the cries of the liberal bunch now. They will say we won't be able to hire qualified professors with such a policy. Bologna, you mean to tell me that the God who created the world in six days, led the children of Israel across the Red Sea, and is able to save the souls of the entire human race, is not able to call born-again, qualified professors to teach in our schools? (Luke 1:37).

Jimmy H. Davis
P.O. Box 237
Savannah, TN 38372

I am told by administrators of our four Tennessee Baptist schools that applications, interviews, and contracts are used to assure that professors understand and agree with the basic purpose and philosophy of the schools and Tennessee Baptists. (editor)

Many important issues

Dear editor:

I read your editorial (Jan. 19) "Legislators to face critical issues." I recognize that this editorial concerned only serious moral and ethical consequences and that
(Continued on page 13)

Three priceless pearls

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."—John 14:6

These wonderful words were spoken by our Lord in response to a statement by Thomas. Jesus was going away, but He said that His apostles knew both where He was going and the way to it. This was a mystery to this inquisitive man. Not knowing **where** Jesus was going, how could they know the **way**? An analysis of Jesus' reply reveals three priceless pearls of truth. Priceless means they are not for sale. But they may be ours free for the receiving of them through faith in Jesus.

To begin with, "I" is emphatic. It is written out as well as being in the verb form. We would read it, "I alone" or "I and no one else." "Am" is of tremendous significance. This is one of Jesus' great "I am" sayings. Jehovah is the great "I AM" (Ex. 3:14). So Jesus claims a oneness with Him (John 10:30). He is Jehovah in flesh for our salvation.

In the Greek text there is an additional "and" before "the truth." So "the way, and the truth, and the life." These three ideas

comprise a whole, held together by the two golden links represented by the two "ands." When thinking of Jesus Christ they should never be separated.

As in English, so in Greek each noun is preceded by the definite article "the." Thus Jesus spoke specifically. He is "the way" or the only way—not one way among others. He is "the truth," the embodiment of truth—not some truth among other truths. And He is "the life," the only life in God—not one form of life among others. "Life" (*zoe*) means spiritual or salvation life, not animal life (*bios*).

Literally, "No one comes to the Father except [if not] through Me." Thus "I and no one else am the only way, and the only [mebodiment of] truth, and the only salvation life: no one comes to the Father except through Me."

Either Jesus spoke as the divine Son of God or as the supreme egotist of the ages. History and the personal experience of believers attest that the former is true.

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HISTORICALLY FROM THE FILES

50 YEARS AGO

J. E. Bruce was the new pastor of Pleasant Hill Church, Robertson County. He came from Bowling Green, Ky.

Floyd Huckaba of Jackson was called as pastor of Quito Church on a half-time basis. The son of O. F. Huckaba, it was his first pastorate.

25 YEARS AGO

Robert G. Lee turned the first spade of dirt for the new building of Charjean Chapel, Memphis. He was assisted by Calvin Garner, mission pastor, and Ralph R. Moore, city missionary. The first unit, an educational building, was to be a temporary auditorium.

Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, received full approval for its new school of medical technology. Frank S. Groner was administrator.

10 YEARS AGO

Ridgecrest Church, Hamilton Association, dedicated their new educational building and held open house. S. J. DePaul was pastor.

Carlton Vance was the new pastor of Glen Park Church, Memphis.

Hang in there

By Cynthia Lanier

Drab, dingy brown lies my outdoor carpeting. Here on our west Tennessee farm the fallen leaves blend blandly with raw umber trees and leaden grey skies. An occasional glimpse of a bluejay or a momentary flash of cardinal wings brings a fleeting bright spot to the dreary hues of winter.

To think we should have to live in such desolate surroundings forever would make life itself seem ugly and useless.

And, do we not often feel that our circumstances; our inward frustrations and agonies have brought our life to a perpetual state of gloom?

It seems that the sun will never shine, and the skies will never again be blue. We wonder if ever the trees will bud, and branch, and bloom anew. The darkness where our feet must step, will it never brighter grow, never lead to yellow green and spring within the soul?

So cries the heart in the midst of it's winter season.

But take courage, dear believer, just as spring will surely come; (we haven't missed one yet!) so, too, the dormant winter blues will slowly take their flight.

The birds will sing, the flowers bloom, the heavens turn brilliant blue. The Son-kist blaze of God's own light will drive away your gloom. Not always will your lonely desolation live with you.

The Lord Jesus allows the winter times, but only that the spring can come with brand-new strengths and joys. He pours out fresh, clear insights that the evidence of His handiwork within our lives can readily be seen.

He knows if there were no shadows we would soon forget to thank Him for the sunshine. But more than even this; we can learn, "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I Thess. 5:18

Mrs. Lanier is a member of Germantown Church, Germantown.

South Clinton calls Hensley

South Clinton Church, Clinton called James E. Hensley Jr. as pastor. He came to the field on Jan. 15.

Hensley comes from Midway Church in Midway, Ky., where he was pastor for over five years. He is a graduate of Georgetown (Ky.) College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.



Hensley

Pulpit To Pew

By Jim Griffith

The cold wintry blasts, made even more serious by the threat of an energy shortage, could result in the publishing of an urgent announcement in a church newsletter which might read something like this:

"In response to the nation's critical energy shortage, we will be turning our thermostats down to 65 degrees.

"Follow these suggested ways to keep warm in church. First, enjoy the warmth of surprising the pastor by rushing to the front. Avoid the draft in the back of the church.

"Be friendly. Don't give anyone the cold shoulder.

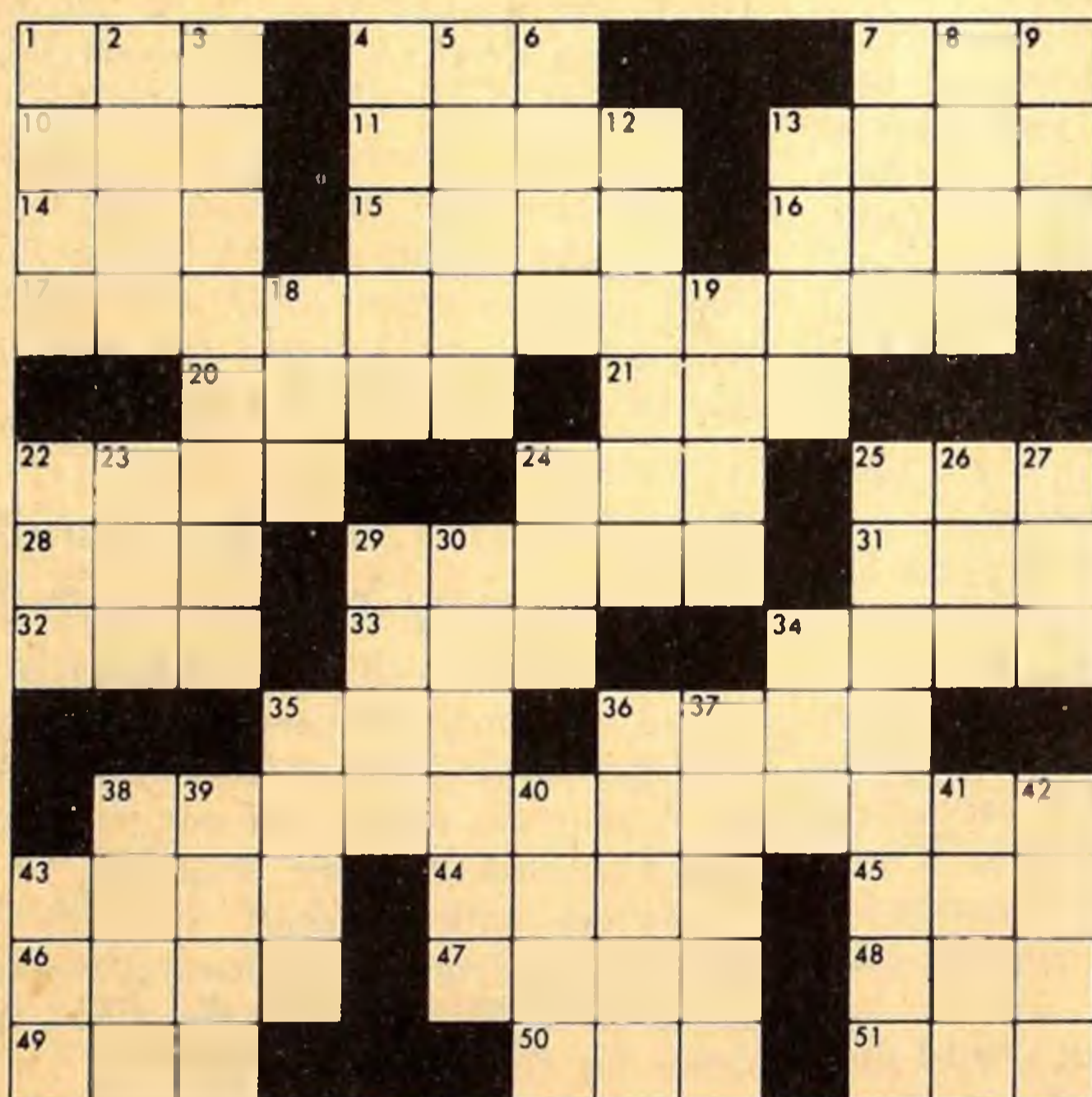
"In addition to your pocketbook, bring a sweater to church. When the collection plate is passed, remove all the cold cash from your wallet.

"Pack a pew: Sit 12 persons to the pew. Right after the benediction, start a heated discussion."

The final advice hurts a bit: "Seat yourself near the pulpit. Much hot air is emitted from that area."

Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 14



ACROSS

- 1 Hypocrite's countenance (Matt. 6:16)
- 4 Time in summer: abbr.
- 7 Wax: comb. form
- 10 Bronze Age trumpet
- 11 Above
- 13 "—, eat" (1 Cor. 11)
- 14 It is as nothing (Psa. 39:5)
- 15 Departing traveler
- 16 Some bills
- 17 They perished (2 Sam. 1:27; 3 words)
- 20 Sand ridge
- 21 Cooling device
- 22 Goats' position (Matt. 25:41)

- 24 Rest
- 25 Light (1 John 1:5)
- 28 Man (1 Chron. 4:15)
- 29 Vapid
- 31 Chemical suffix
- 32 State: abbr.
- 33 Chicken
- 34 Job, of a sort
- 35 Prescription abbr.
- 36 "Jesus —" (John 11)
- 38 "Unto —" (Acts 19)
- 43 Body of knowledge
- 44 Diminish
- 45 Famous general
- 46 Capable
- 47 Word before cede or date
- 48 Finish

- 49 Direction: abbr.
- 50 Letters
- 51 Ann or Cecilia: abbr.

DOWN

- 1 Menu item
- 2 Elliptical aggregate
- 3 Kind of day (Mal. 4:5)
- 4 Philistine god (Judg. 16:23)
- 5 Rock
- 6 Pedal digits
- 7 Nathanael's home (John 21:2)
- 8 Man (1 Chron. 2:27)
- 9 Point: law
- 12 Net
- 13 Bethlehem (John 7:42)
- 18 A helper (Nah. 3:9)
- 19 Doom
- 22 Cover
- 23 Before
- 24 Fools mock at it (Prov. 14:9)
- 25 They have not the law (Rom. 2:14)
- 26 Built by Shamed (1 Chron. 8:12)
- 27 Moisture
- 29 Tenuous
- 30 "He rebuked the —" (Psa. 106)
- 34 Seaport: abbr.
- 35 Biblical pronoun
- 36 Refuse
- 37 Fencing swords
- 38 "— three friends" (Job 2)
- 39 Heraldic border
- 40 Orchestra
- 41 Dispatched
- 42 Darius (Dan. 11:1)
- 43 New Guinea port

CRYPTOVERSE

HB ODGKA FV VPMMFKFATR MYD RQAA

Today's Cryptoverse clue: R equals T

Relief funds approved for Nicaragua, others

RICHMOND—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has approved the release of \$59,000 from general relief funds and \$14,000 from hunger relief funds for work in four countries.

At its January meeting the board appropriated the \$14,000 for work in Nicaragua, where drought and poor crops have accentuated a continuing hunger crisis. Food will be purchased to feed 281 families for about four months with half of the appropriation. The other \$7,000 will be used for the purchase of seed and agriculture-related materials for the planting of a new crop.

W. Eugene Grubbs, the board's hunger relief and disaster response consultant, said, "Although not the largest in dollars, this appropriation has been important in terms of the number of people helped."

In Guatemala, 60 percent of the houses destroyed by the earthquake two years ago have not been rebuilt. As a part of Southern Baptists' continuing rebuilding efforts, \$50,000 was appropriated for rebuilding at least 50 homes. Many of the victims are still living in tar paper shacks and makeshift huts. Baptists will be working in coordination and overall planning with other relief agencies.

Also appropriated from general relief funds were \$5,000 to replenish a standing benevolent ministries fund in Korea and \$4,000 to help train young women in the Bahamas so they can get better jobs. (BP)

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Presbyterian writer views Baptists as leaders in United States' revival

ALEXANDRIA, La.—Southern Baptist strength is one of the reasons North America stands at "the threshold of a 21st Century revival," David Poling told Louisiana Baptist student leaders here.

"Southern Baptists are beginning their Bold Mission Thrust (to proclaim the gospel of Christ to all the world in this century), and I never underestimate what Baptists are going to do when they set their minds to it," said the famed Presbyterian minister and writer.

Poling said the South and West, areas of Baptist strength, are the "staging areas" for his predicted nationwide revival.

Speaking at a banquet honoring Louisiana Baptist Convention student directors, Poling said signs of revival include conversions of notorious celebrities such as Charles Colson, Eldridge Cleaver, and Larry Flynt.

He described such conversions as hard to accept both by the secular culture and by the church. "As Christians, we have to take a leap of faith and affirm the newly converted person," he said.

"I have no background on the conversion of Larry Flynt," said Poling, who is editing Cleaver's new book, *Soul on Fire*. But, he declared, "We should trust that conversion unless we find out differently."

Poling described Cleaver as "one of the emerging Christian leaders in North America." He said the former Black Panther leader has the mind to become a leading theologian should he choose to do so.

While Poling sees a North American revival, he did recognize problems facing many churches, such as Episcopalians facing upheaval over their prayer book, Catholics facing those who want to turn back to Latin, and Presbyterians struggling over ordination of homosexuals (which Poling doesn't see as a viable option).

"But the question before the U.S. Christian community is whether we can accept and enjoy our diversity," he said. "Can we thank God for it?" (BP)

'Religious' station loses court appeal

WASHINGTON—The U. S. Supreme Court will not review a challenge by a religious broadcasting company against the Federal Communications Commission for refusing to renew its license.

United Broadcasting Co., which operated radio station WOOK in Washington, D. C., had its application for license renewal denied two years ago for advertising that items such as roots, incense, and spiritual baths provided spiritual and financial benefits. The FCC also ruled that some WOOK preachers ran a "numbers" game in violation of federal anti-gambling laws by announcing three-digit "Scripture citations" on the air. By sending in donations, listeners would receive from the ministers "tips" in the form of "Scriptural citations."

WOOK, which has not operated since the FCC action, argued in a written brief submitted to the high court that the FCC violated the First Amendment's ban on an establishment of religion by judging its religious programming. The broadcasting company cited previous Supreme Court decisions holding that the popularity of religious beliefs is not a constitutional issue.

The FCC, on the other hand, argued that while it agreed "that the truth of a sincerely held religious belief may not be questioned," limits may be set on "activities which may be carried on in the name of religion" and that "conduct which is in violation of social duties or law may be prohibited."

In denying the renewal application, the FCC had also cited numerous ongoing "technical violations" by WOOK. Despite repeated warnings and the imposition of lesser penalties, these were not corrected, the FCC said (BP)

'Baptist Hour' records series in Bible Lands

FORT WORTH—"The Baptist Hour," a syndicated religious radio show, is to begin broadcasting in stereo and originate from the Bible lands in February as part of an effort to assume real responsibilities in the Southern Baptist Convention's Bold Mission Thrust to present the gospel to everyone in the world by the year 2000.

"Baptist Hour" speaker Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., spent two weeks in the Bible lands in December with Claude C. Cox, producer, and Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission engineers.

The commission syndicates the show on 359 radio stations.

They taped 45 shows at sites which included the Sea of Galilee, Jericho, Jacob's Well, Caesarea, David's Tomb, Lazarus' Tomb, the Wailing Wall of Jerusalem, and the Jordan River. A pre-Easter sermon was recorded at the traditional site of the upper room where Jesus shared His last meal with His disciples. The Palm Sunday sermon was taped in the Garden of Gethsemane. Potter's Field and the chapel built where Jesus is believed to have ascended into heaven are sites of the post-Easter sermons. (BP)

Graham said most influential in religion by magazine poll

CHICAGO — Billy Graham has been named the most influential person in the field of religion in the U.S. today in a poll of 35 religion writers and editors taken by *The Christian Century* magazine.

The ecumenical weekly said "the clear winner, receiving almost unanimous support, is evangelist Billy Graham, described by one writer as 'the one and only.'"

Martin E. Marty, an associate editor of *The Christian Century*, was second in the poll.

President Jimmy Carter, a Southern Baptist layman, ranked third. The *Century* quoted one writer as saying he "demonstrates that evangelical religion and politics mix," and another as having written that he "sets the style for the born-again movement—has popularized it so that even hardened newspaper editors are sure there is a revival going on." A third writer said, "He has made civil religion respectable again without losing us in piety." (BP)

Thompson takes Bristol post

Ruble Thompson, pastor of Shady Grove Church in Knoxville, resigned to accept the call of River Bend Church, Bristol. He came to the new post last month.

Thompson is a student at Carson-Newman College.

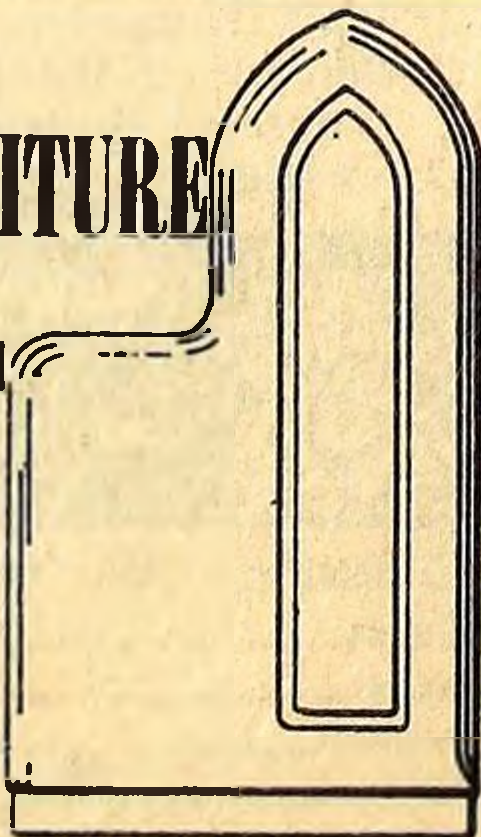
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Missionary discovers called meetings brings special testimony, not trouble

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — When the church leader announced a special meeting, Southern Baptist missionary J. Larry Cox thought, "Oh, no, another problem!"

More letters

(Continued from page 9)

these demand that concerned citizens express opinions to counterbalance the powerful special interest lobbyists. You then list pari-mutuel gambling, pinball machine gambling, liquor law study, and anti-obscenity law study. I certainly agree with you that these are issues that ought to be addressed by Baptists.

As a Baptist Sunday School teacher and a legislator, I also think Baptists ought to be concerned about all other aspects of state government.

Should we allow teachers to organize and bargain with local school boards?

Should we reform our criminal sentencing laws?

Should we try to curtail unsound banking practices?

Should we tighten correction system procedures?

Should we have a "right to die" law?

Should we reform the bail bond system?

Should we change the inheritance tax laws?

Should we enact a new product liability law?

Should we use tax dollars to support private education and religious institutions?

Should state government supplement the pay of local policemen and firemen?

Should Tennessee remove the sales tax from food? If so, should we replace this with an income tax?

Should tax dollars be used to pay for abortions?

I congratulate you on your editorial concerning gambling and liquor. But these are not the only problems we Baptists face. It is my feeling that we should take a stand on all of the issues facing society, and our press should thoroughly discuss these issues either in news stories or in editorials in accordance with Baptists' beliefs.

It might not be a bad idea for the Baptists to have a lobbyist on Capitol Hill to offset the lobbyists of those who oppose our Baptists' views.

In the present General Assembly there are seven members of the Senate and 34 members of the House who list their religious denomination as Baptist. I believe that all our members could have some effect on the passage of legislation.

John T. Bragg

House of Representatives

33 Legislative Plaza

Nashville, TN 37219

After the worship service he gathered with the church's leaders under some palm trees. Cox noticed a young man with a curious looking bag. He had introduced himself to the missionary earlier that morning as Benjamin, a new Christian.

Without wasting any time Benjamin started removing pagan idols from his bag. Then the missionary understood. Benjamin was going to burn his idols as a testimony to his new faith in the Lord.

Cox quickly told the leaders that this was something the whole church should witness. Everyone gathered around.

Benjamin began. He showed each of the fetishes and explained what he had believed to be its magical power. The church watched him set fire to a small wooden statue covered with a dirty white cloth, two raw eggs, a white chalky rock, a clay pot filled with bark and two metal blood-stained bowls that had been used for animal sacrifices.

The young man described how he had searched for peace and happiness as he practiced his daily rituals, but said that he was never able to find real peace until he gave his heart to Jesus.

As the pagan idols burned, the people sang. And Cox was glad he had come to the meeting. For the trouble he had expected had turned into testimony.

Midwestern names director of denominational services

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Paul M. Lambert, general superintendent of the Kansas City Baptist Association for the past 18 years, has been named director of denominational services at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the first person to hold such a position in the seminary's 20-year history.

He will work in the area of ministries resource services, which includes counseling and assisting students who wish to serve in church staff positions, according to Milton Ferguson, Midwestern president.

Lambert graduated from William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., and Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Kan. Prior to his tenure with the Kansas City Baptist Association, Lambert, a Wichita, Kan., native, served as pastor of two Kansas City churches. (BP)

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Extension classes slated for Union

The Union University Seminary Extension Center, now in its fourth semester of operation, will hold registration at 7 p.m. on Feb. 20 for its Spring Semester classes.

The three-year diploma program is being offered in evenings in cooperation with the college's night classes at a cost of \$35 per course per semester. Regular college entrance requirements are being waived, said Bob Agee, dean of religious affairs.

On Monday nights Agee will teach a "New Testament Survey" course which will survey the book of Acts, the letters of Paul, the general epistles, and the book of Revelation.

David Irby, associate professor of religion, will serve as instructor for the Tuesday night class in "New Testament Theology." The course will include an in-depth study of what the New Testament teaches about man, sin, Christ, the church, baptism, the Lord's Supper, the Holy Spirit, and the second coming.

The Thursday night class, "Public Worship," will be taught by Robert Orr, pastor emeritus of Dyersburg First Church. The course will explore the meaning and theology of worship and will explore various ways to make worship more meaningful.

Registration for the three courses will be held in G. M. Savage Memorial Chapel and the classes will meet from 7-9 p.m. on their respective nights.

Ravenhill speaks in Cleveland

Leonard Ravenhill, nationally known evangelist and author, will speak at the Bradley County Association's Evangelism Conference Feb. 13-14.

The sessions will be at Westwood Church in Cleveland.

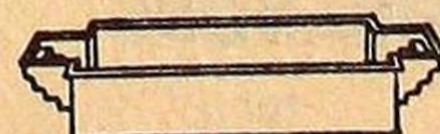
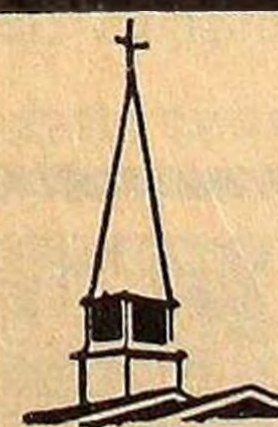
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The revelation of God in history

By Thomas G. Smothers
Professor of Religion and Philosophy
Union University, Jackson, TN 38301

Background Scripture: Psalms 78, 105, 136
Focal Passage: Psalm 105

In the preceding lesson from Psalm 19 the revelation of God in nature and in His law was celebrated. In Psalm 105 God is praised for His revelation in history. In the Bible God everywhere reveals Himself as the God who acts. History and nature are the arenas of His saving activity. In contrast to the surrounding pagan peoples who viewed reality in mythical terms, the Israelites were convinced that God was in complete control of historical events for the purpose of salvation. This consciousness of history as "salvation history" was a unique phenomenon in the ancient world and could only have come about through divine revelation.

Psalm 105:1-6

In this rhapsodic introduction to the psalm the worshipping community is summoned to give thanks to the Lord. Notice the typically heavy use of thank and praise language: give thanks, sing, sing praises, glory in His name, rejoice, ect. The reason for praising God's name is given in verse 5: His miraculous deeds and the judgments of His mouth. The psalmist calls upon the worshippers to remember these wondrous miracles. God's people must always be a remembering people (cf. I Corinthians 11:23-26), because as long as they remember God's faithfulness in the past, they will have confidence in God's ability to fulfill His promises for the future.

Psalm 105:7-11

The theme of this section is found in verse 8: God remembers His covenant forever. Israel forgot, Israel rebelled, Israel turned away time after time, but God never forgets His steadfast covenant. See also verse 42: "For He has remembered His holy word, and Abraham His servant." Compare Exodus 2:24.

God's faithfulness to the covenant which He had made with Abraham is the connecting thread running throughout Genesis.

In Genesis 12:1-3 God announced His covenant promise to Abraham. In the following chapters whenever a crisis situation developed which could shake Abraham's confidence in God's promise, God repeated or renewed the covenant. In each succeeding generation God renewed the covenant with Abraham's descendants. It is this historic faithfulness of God to His eternal promises which this psalmist enjoins his fellow worshippers to remember in songs of praise.

Psalm 105:12-15

In these verses the congregation is reminded of God's elective grace and of His providential care during the period of the patriarchs. Abraham and his family were few in number, wandering from place to place until God should fulfill His promise of a land for them to inherit. These wanderers were important to no one but God, and they had no protection except that which He gave. But God's providence was sufficient in every situation (cf. Genesis 12:20-13:1, 20:1-18).

Psalm 105:16-22

The psalmist extends his catalogue of God's gracious acts by including the events of Joseph's life. Verse 17 tells us that God "had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave." The main message of the Joseph narrative in Genesis is found in its interpretative framework in Genesis 45:4-8 and 50:19-21. Joseph's brothers had sold him into slavery in Egypt. They meant to do their worst against him. But Joseph later showed them how it was not they who had sent him to Egypt but God, to prepare the way for them and to keep them alive in time of famine. The psalmist wishes the congregation to remember God's sustaining grace in the past.

Psalm 105:23-42

Here the psalmist reaches the most pivotal event in the Old Testament, the Exodus. His main purpose in recounting the events of the Exodus is to demonstrate God's complete control of every event. The Lord made His people very fruitful and stronger than their foes (verse 24). He caused the Egyptians to hate and fear His people so that His power of deliverance could be manifested.

Notice that God is the subject of most of the verbs in these verses. He sent, He turned their waters into blood, He spoke, He smote, He led forth Israel, He spread a cloud, He

brought quails, He opened the rock. God is the main actor in these dramatic events: leading, delivering, saving, and sustaining His people, because He remembered His covenant with Abraham.

Verse 28b is a difficult passage. Most translations render it: "and they rebelled not against his words," apparently understanding that it was Moses and Aaron, mentioned in the preceding verses, who did not rebel. However, some understand that it is the Egyptians who are meant here. If that is the case, then the traditional translation is troublesome, because the Egyptians systematically rebelled against God's commands and deeds. However, without changing the Hebrew text, it is possible to understand the "not" as a precative, meaning "indeed," thus giving the translation: "indeed they rebelled against his words." Or it is possible that there is here a rhetorical question: "did they not rebel against his words?"

Psalm 105:43-45

The psalmist has covered several centuries of Israelite history in his recital of God's mighty acts, from Abraham, through the Exodus, to the point when the conquest of the promised land could begin. He concludes the psalm with these marvelous words: "So he led forth his people with joy, his chosen ones with singing" (verse 43). This is the same note with which he began: the encouragement of the people of God to lift their voices in unceasing gratitude for His revelation in history.


Conclusion

God's people today need to be a history-conscious people. They need to be keen students of contemporary events as well, for God is still at work in this world to achieve His purposes. The Christian believes that God is in control of this world, leading events to their culmination according to His plan. And God is still in the business of calling people into His service, to participate in the great task of calling men to repentance. Jesus is still saying to disciples, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38).

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Marion C. Barnett, Pastor
Broadway Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee

Basic Passage: John 15:1-17
Focal Passage: John 15:1-12, 16-17

The True Vine

When Jesus began to describe His relationship to the disciples in terms of a vine and its branches He was speaking of something which was already familiar to them. The Prophets in the Old Testament had frequently spoken of Israel as a vine and their words of prophetic judgment often described how God would either prune the vine or cut it down.

In thinking of God as the vinedresser, it was easy for the Hebrews to picture how God had a mission and a plan for His people and how He was working with them across the ages trying to bring to fulfillment His desires for them. When Jesus says, "I am the true vine and My Father is the vinedresser," He is stating very plainly to His disciples that He is the fulfillment of Old Testament hopes. In Him they can see what God has been trying to do with Israel all the time.

When they listen to the rabbis their vision of God is being filtered through the lens of what man has to say about what God is like. They are seeing through a glass darkly as Paul would say. However, when they listen to the words of Jesus they are hearing, as one theologian recently said, "what God has to say about Himself."

Made Clean

God's redemption has already been revealed and made available to the disciples. As Jesus said, "You are already made clean by the Word which I have spoken to you." Again, His Word is a contrast to the

religion of Rabbinic Judaism. The religion of the rabbis was itself a serious attempt to receive the kingdom of God. However, the rabbis felt that that kingdom could not come until Israel had been "made clean" by a perfect effort to keep all of the Mosaic Law.

Jesus, of course, has proclaimed that God has taken the initiative in that redemptive process. In the enterprise of righteousness man is not alone. On the one hand he has to take seriously God's demands in the Old Testament that he "do right."

On the other hand God is doing right by him as well and making him right, so much so that God has now taken initiative to the point that He is sidestepping the whole procedure of ritual and sacrifice with its heavy emphasis upon what man must do to reach God. God is reaching around that in Jesus to man himself. God takes initiative also in making man right to the point that in Jesus He is helping man to deal with His demands; that is with the real underlying spirit of the Mosaic Law.

In Jesus He does that by making the law clear, by forgiving man of his sins, and by entering into personal relationship with him. Thus, in becoming disciples of Jesus and in

following after Him we have already been made clean. It is not a hope for us, it does not depend upon us alone, it is already come to pass and Jesus has made it so. He is the source of our cleanness.

Abide in Me

Jesus asks those whom He has cleansed and redeemed to abide in Him. To abide in Jesus means to enter into a relationship with Him. It is the relationship of disciple, but more than that it is a relationship of love, a relationship of one friend with another. This results in our bearing fruit (verse 5). As the years pass we find that our thought patterns change; we approach our work and our life goals differently, even the way in which we relate to our marriage partner and our close friends and our children is transformed.

This abiding brings also a new source of power (verse 7). The power issues from the fact that God's Word is in us; we now know what He wants and we can never completely ignore that.

But also we may petition Him directly for His personal help. Most of all, however, this abiding is characterized by love. "As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Abide in My love." Perhaps it would help to think of love as caring concern and commitment. We're to abide in the fact that Jesus has cared for us, and that He is ultimately committed to us. We must care and be committed to Him and to others through Him because of His love which is stirring up the sources of life within us.

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Family Living

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

Parents consider winning too important

Any time a boy show unseemly signs of sportsmanship during sports competition, he is likely to be restored to reality by parental shouts from the grandstand. "Give 'em the ol' knee, Howie!" bawls, Mon, if the lad displays gentlemanly restraint on the field. Parents easily lose sight of the values inherent in sports and place too much emphasis on winning, a study of parents-aspectators shows.

The closer the teams' scores, the more violent was parents' advice to their offspring—and the closer parents sat to each other, the more aggressive their behavior became, University of Michigan researcher Nancy K. Forbis found in her observations of 135 mostly middle-class and white parents whose sons were members of six Detroit area hockey teams.

By mid-season, around December, parental frenzy reached its peak, says Forbis. "Interest tapers off in the spring, perhaps because by then the teams know where they stand, and the competition is less intense."

At the end of the season, kids on the team that places last may find themselves removed from the sport and thrust into another activity by parents determined to place their child "in a winning situation." Boys on the other teams in the hockey league Forbis studied were still regarded as winners by their parents since they had after all, defeated **somebody**.

The parents in the study, all in their 30s, showed no sign of maladjustment or lack of self esteem. They simply felt that winning was the name of any game.

"These adult values cannot help but rub off on the children," says Forbis. "White children need spirited emotional support from their parents, and they also need to observe friendly relationships between adults as a model for healthy competitiveness. One of the great lessons sports teach is that one can release feelings of anger and aggression constructively, without destroying relationships with others."



MUSIC EDUCATORS—William Reynolds (center), secretary of the Sunday School Board's church music department, confers with four Baptist college and seminary music deans during the first Convocation of Music Deans. From left are James D. Woodward, Oklahoma Baptist University; James C. McKinney, Southwestern seminary; Milburn Price, Furman University; and Forrest Heeren, Southern seminary.

Baptist music deans hold first convocation

NASHVILLE—How to meet the growing demands of churches for trained church musicians was a central theme of the first Convocation of Music Deans held in Nashville at the Sunday School Board last month. About 25 music deans from Southern Baptist colleges and seminaries attended the meeting convened at their request by the church music department.

"We provided a room and an arena for them to sit down and dialog," said William J. Reynolds, secretary of the church music department. He cited the increasing music enrollment in churches as one indication of the need for more trained leaders. More than 1.3-million persons participated in music programs in their churches in 1977 compared to 575,000 twenty years ago.

Reynolds expressed hope that church needs for music leadership can be met because more students than ever before are now in Baptist colleges and seminaries preparing for careers in church music.

The deans debated at length what skills a music student should have after college and after seminary graduation. "Church musicians must first of all be musicians," said Paul T. Langston, Stetson University, Deland, Fla. "We need to be giving basic musical skills to our students at the undergraduate level."

In addition to music skills, Clint Nichols, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, noted that church musicians also need training in relating well with people.

Varying opinions were expressed about what kind of college music education best prepares a student for seminary study. The college deans shared a concern that students not have to repeat at seminary level the same courses they passed in college.

"We deplore redundancy for our students at the seminary level," said James D. Woodward, Oklahoma Baptist University, "But we don't want them slipping by in areas where they need further study."

James C. McKinney, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, noted that repetition of a subject is not a problem if seminaries exercise care to be certain that courses are taught at a graduate level. "People learn by meaningful repetition," he said.

The deans noted that a problem exists in educating persons for church staff positions which combine responsibilities for music and youth or music and education programs.

They agreed that the large number of hours required for a seminary music degree do not allow a student time to take many hours in other fields. The deans expressed concern as to whether combination degrees some colleges offer which include a few hours in music, religious education, religion, youth ministry, and church recreation can adequately prepare a person to work in any field.

The problem in educating persons for multiple responsibilities assumes larger proportions because a study by the Sunday School Board's Research Services Department projects that in the next decade churches will need 5,000 additional persons to fill varied kinds of combination positions which include music. And approximately 3,000 new positions for fulltime ministers of music are expected to be added.

Skyrocketing costs of church music education, the need for church musicians to have instrumental as well as vocal skills, and continuing education for ministers of music also were discussed.

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