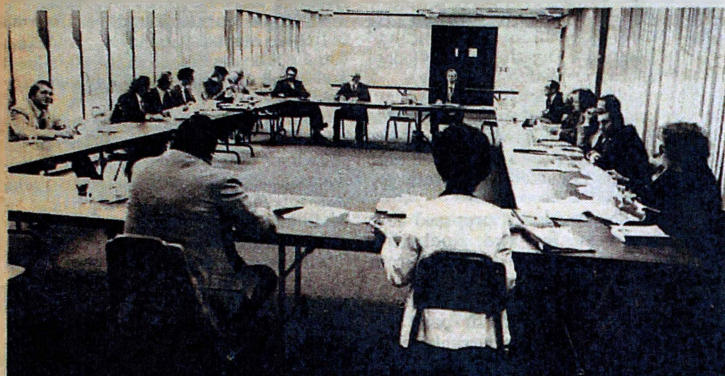


Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 147/No. 12/March 25, 1981

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention



TBC PLANNERS — Plans for the 1981 Tennessee Baptist Convention were finalized by the Committee on Arrangements at a meeting last Friday. The annual convention will meet Nov. 10-12 at Radnor Baptist Church, Nashville.

Committee selects theme, speakers for 1981 TBC

The Arrangements Committee for the 1981 Tennessee Baptist Convention set the theme and basically finalized the program agenda at a meeting in Brentwood March 20.

The TBC will meet Nov. 10-12 at Radnor Baptist Church, Nashville.

Chosen for the theme of the annual meeting was "Our Churches Moving Forward in Bold Missions."

Among the changes in the program for the 1981 session will be three miscellaneous business sessions — instead of two as in the past; and two report periods for the Resolutions Committee — instead of one.

Miscellaneous business periods will be Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday morning, and Wednesday afternoon during the Nov. 10-12 gathering. The Resolutions Committee will report Tuesday night and Thursday morning.

Former presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention from Tennessee and former TBC executive secretaries will bring devotionals at the opening of each session. Former presidents who have been enlisted are Wayne Dehoney, Ramsey Pollard, James Sullivan, and J. D. Grey. Joining these will be Ralph Norton and W. Fred Kendall, former TBC executive secretaries.

The Wednesday night session (Nov. 11) will focus on Tennessee Baptists' involvement with mission work in Upper Volta and Michigan. These will be highlighted during reports of the Hunger Committee and the TBC convention ministries division.

Two of the major speakers were deter-

Jarnigan calls pastor

Jarnigan Chapel Baptist Church, Clinton, recently called Luther Kidwell as pastor. A member of the church, Kidwell has been serving as moderator for the past two months.

Kidwell accepted the church's call on March 16 and is now serving as pastor. This is the first pastorate for the Knoxville native.

mined by the messengers to the 1980 state convention which met in Johnson City.

Named to preach the convention sermon was H. K. Sorrell, pastor of the Brownsville Baptist Church, Brownsville. The messengers elected John David Laida, pastor of First Baptist Church of Clarksville, as TBC president, which means he will bring the president's address.

Three other speakers have been enlisted by the Arrangements Committee. These are Edsel West, pastor of South Harriman Baptist Church, Harriman; Walter Shurden, dean of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; and Tom Madden, executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

It was announced that housing information and request forms are being prepared and will be available in the near future.

The committee named Dennis Lyle to coordinate meetings of alumni and other special groups during the November TBC. Those planning to have such meetings should contact Lyle at the Nashville Baptist Association.

HMB reaffirms integrity, urges prayer for Atlanta

ATLANTA (BP) — Expressing grief and anger over the senseless murders of 20 black children, the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board called on Baptists throughout the nation to observe Sunday, April 19, as a day of prayer for Atlanta's black children.

In their spring meeting in Atlanta, the board of directors for the national mission agency urged President Ronald Reagan to proclaim April 19 as a national day of prayer "for an end to this senseless killing and for a break in the investigation of the murders."

April 19 is both Easter Sunday for Christians and Passover Sunday for Jews.

In other major actions, the 80-member board reaffirmed its 1976 action approving the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message statement as its theological basis and guideline for employment of staff missionaries, re-elected Howard Cockrum of Knoxville as chairman, adjusted its 1981 budget, approved a new church bond program as a part of the board's church loans division, and approved three staff changes.

In reaffirming the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message Statement, the board responded to a resolution passed by the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis last year exhorting the trustees of all SBC agencies to preserve the doctrinal integrity of the denomination.

In its response, the board endorsed the section of the Baptist Faith and Message statement on the Scriptures which states: "The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is the record of God's revelation of himself to man. . . . It has God for its author, salvation for its end and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. . . ."

Presenting the response to the board on behalf of its administrative committee, Emmett Henderson of Atlanta told board members, "This action is an opportunity to proclaim the commitment of this board to Biblical faith and the Bible as the inspired Word of God."

Anticipating increases in income,

mostly through interest income, the board hiked its 1981 budget of \$36.6-million to \$36,875,000. Most of the \$275,000 increase will be used to cover increased travel costs for 1,400 summer missionaries.

Board members approved five recommendations from its church loans committee, saying it hoped the action would help provide financial resources to increase the number of SBC churches from 35,500 to 50,000 by the year 2000.

One recommendation created a broker-dealer subsidiary of the board

(Continued on page 2)

Coors chooses Virginia site

The Coors Brewery, Golden, Colo., has announced plans to open a new brewery in Virginia, rather than a 2,500-acre site near the New Tellico Lake in Monroe County.

Baptists in the Sweetwater association near the proposed east Tennessee site had fought the proposal last June by sending a registered letter to officials of the Coors Brewery and by protesting the encouragement given Coors by some Tennessee officials.

Bennie Creel, director of missions for the association, said the registered letter contained a copy of a resolution passed by the association and copies of individual resolutions adopted by nearly 70 churches in the association.

Creel said the letter was neither answered nor acknowledged by Coors officials. He said the Sweetwater Baptists had decided to "back off and wait" until a decision was made.

"We're very grateful it's gone that way (the decision to locate in Virginia)," Creel said. "We rejoice that it's over."

In support for the action of the Sweetwater Baptists, the Loudon County Baptist Association had also adopted a resolution opposing the establishment of a Coors Brewery.

Smith predicts harmonious SBC

ATLANTA (BP) — Saying he wanted to be "somewhat of a prophet," Southern Baptist Convention President Bailey Smith predicted the denomination's 1981 convention in Los Angeles would be harmonious rather than controversial.

"I believe when we get to Los Angeles, it's going to prove to be the greatest, most harmonious expression of love that our denomination has ever known," Smith told directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Repeating his pledge to be a peacemaker between conservative and moderate factions in the denomination, Smith said he was "totally committed" to doing whatever he can to see that love and harmony characterize the convention in Los Angeles.

"It's not perfect," Smith said, "but I believe the Southern Baptist Convention is the greatest force ever put together for winning this world to Christ."

"Frankly, I don't want anything to bother that. I want God to keep blessing it and enriching it and strengthening it and binding it together in love and harmony."

Smith, who had just returned from Africa, praised the mission work of both the Home and Foreign Mission Boards of the SBC. He told home board directors, "What you emphasize is what I emphasize and what almost every Southern Baptist emphasizes."

He challenged Baptists to match the missions commitment of the denomination's missionaries, saying too many Christians are so busy going to church that they never have time to get personally involved in missions.

"One reason we meet is to avoid doing what we ought to be doing," charged Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla.

Board sets ethnic guidelines, names liaison to black Baptists

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)— In separate actions, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board named Elmer West as liaison to black Baptists and established guidelines for the appointment of missionary candidates of various ethnic backgrounds who are naturalized citizens of the United States.

In an effort to encourage more black Southern Baptists to consider missionary careers, West will work with Emmanuel McCall, director of the Home Mission Board's department of black church relationships.

West, who will continue to carry his primary duties as director of the Foreign Mission Board's ministries and deputations department, has worked both as a pastor and a denominational worker to foster closer relationships between Southern Baptists and Christian blacks. In his new responsibility, he will work with McCall to provide information and resources about foreign missions to the 600-plus black Southern Baptist churches.

The 90,000 black Southern Baptists represent only a small fraction of the 13.6-million-member denomination. But for years the Foreign Mission Board has been responsive to qualified black candidates seeking missionary appointment. Much of Southern Baptist work overseas is with black populations.

The board's current missionary force of 3,032 includes two blacks — one a

career missionary and the other a missionary journeyman on two-year assignment. About six other blacks have served in recent years, and some 25 others have helped overseas as Baptist Student Union missions workers.

West's new assignment was announced after a meeting of the human resources committee during the board's March meeting. At the same meeting, the guidelines on church and national identity for naturalized citizens seeking appointment were adopted.

Each such request, the guidelines note, requires "careful study by members of the human resources committee, overseas and administrative staff, and board members." The board said it "welcomes the appointment of qualified persons from all ethnic, social, and economic backgrounds who are active members of Baptist churches related to the (Southern Baptist) convention. But it has not attempted to send as missionaries persons who have no identification or only superficial identification with Southern Baptists."

The guidelines regarding persons from other countries who want to be missionaries are:

1. Persons who have moved to the United States from countries where Southern Baptists do not have missionaries assigned, such as Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, and have developed significant identification with Southern Baptist church life may be considered.

2. Persons who have moved with their families to the United States prior to completing secondary school and have grown up in Southern Baptist church life may be considered.

3. But persons coming to this country at college, seminary, or other graduate levels will not be considered.

"The development of overseas indigenous churches with their own national leadership is a central purpose of the board," the statement said. "Any arrangement which would take potential indigenous leaders and make them instead missionaries of the Foreign Mission Board would undercut that purpose."

Bentley accepts call to Lebanon church

Rocky Valley Baptist Church in Lebanon recently called Albert Bentley as pastor. He began his ministry in Lebanon the first of January.

Bentley is a native of Hawkins county in Tennessee. He graduated from Clear Creek Baptist School in Pineville, Ky. Bentley has served pastorates in Kentucky and Tennessee. He comes to Rocky Valley from Gravelly Baptist Church in Kingsport.

Valentine urges House panel to reject alcohol program cuts

WASHINGTON (BP)— A Southern Baptist ethical and moral concerns specialist urged a House budget panel to reject President Reagan's proposal to slash funding for a federal program which aids victims of alcohol abuse and alcoholism.

Foy Valentine, executive director of the SBC Christian Life Commission, told the House Budget Committee's Task Force on Human Resources that the proposal would result in the "dismantling" of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

"You have a mandate to do something, if you can, about inflation," Valentine said. "But you also have a mandate to help the poor and the needy, including the missions affected adversely by alcohol abuse."

Under the president's proposed 1982 budget, funds for the Rockville, Md.-based agency would be slashed from \$161-million to \$37.9-million.

Under the proposed Reagan budget, the agency's authorization to spend \$123 million of its \$161 million current budget would be removed. Those funds would be

consolidated with similar funds from some 40 health service programs and sent directly to the states to spend as they choose, following an across-the-board 25 percent cutback.

Governors would then be allowed to use their discretion in spending the so-called "block grant" so no state would be obligated to spend any portion of the funds for alcohol-related programs.

Valentine warned that several of the national alcohol agency's programs could not be duplicated at the state level and urged the panel not to "abandon the federal system."

"Let's not turn it back to the liquor lobbies, which are by far more influential in state legislatures than they are in the national Congress," said Valentine, who was introduced by John Buchanan, a Southern Baptist minister and former congressman from Alabama.

Valentine said: "The continuing fight against alcohol and its pushers in business and advertising ought to be bipartisan."

Many alcoholics, he said, are among "the truly needy" Reagan has repeatedly vowed would be spared from budget cuts. "Particularly deserving of society's compassionate help are the families of these alcoholics," Valentine continued, "most often abused wives and neglected children."

Valentine added that "what America ought not to do now and what America is not going to do in the long run is to honor and reward the rich and powerful while turning away from the poor and needy, including the truly needy among the nation's addicted victims of alcohol."

Center accepts call to Walker Memorial

On March 15, Walker Memorial Baptist Church, Franklin voted to call Hayden Center as their new pastor. He will begin his ministry there on May 1, 1981.

A native of Chattanooga, Center is a graduate of Belmont College, Nashville; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, La.

Center has been serving as pastor of Morning View Baptist Church, Montgomery, Ala., for the last three and one-half years. Prior to Morning View, he had served as pastor of First Baptist Church, Americus, Ga.; First Baptist Church, Dayton; and First Baptist Church, Sparta.

Center will succeed Kerney Bailey at the Franklin church. Bailey resigned last October to become pastor of Inglewood Baptist Church in Nashville.

William Harbin, director of the church ministers information department at the Tennessee Baptist Convention, has been serving as the interim at Walker Memorial.

Jacksboro church calls Paul Hunley

In the Campbell County Baptist Association, Paul Hunley has accepted the call of Macedonia Baptist Church in Jacksboro. This is Hunley's first pastorate.



Center

Long-term pastor dies in Dunlap

Carl H. Barrett, a pastor in Tennessee for 43 years, died at his home in Dunlap Feb. 28. He was 68.

Before retirement two years ago, he had served as pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Dunlap for 24 years.

Other pastorates in Fayette and Hardeman counties include Shady Grove Baptist Church, Liberty Baptist Church, and Feather's Chapel Baptist Church, all in Somerville; Hickory Valley (Tenn.) Baptist Church; First Baptist Church, Middleton; Bethlehem Baptist Church, Whiteville; Toone Baptist Church, Toone; and Hornsby Baptist Church, Hornsby.

Barrett, a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, La., also served as pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Nashville for seven years.

Active in the field of education for 25 years, Barrett was guidance counselor at Sequatchie County High School at the time of his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Susie Blanche Barrett, and a daughter, Judith Barrett, both of Dunlap; a son, Carlton W. Barrett, Toone; three brothers; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held March 2 at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Dunlap, with Robert Hooks, Paul Keener, and Tom Beavert officiating.

10,000 respond at Villahermosa

VILLAHERMOSA, Mexico (BP)— In sharp contrast to his Mexico City crusade, evangelist Billy Graham's meetings in Villahermosa, Mexico, received support from all areas.

The five services held March 13-15 "were probably the largest gatherings of evangelicals in one place in the history of Mexico," said Southern Baptist representative Harvey Walworth.

About 35,000 squeezed into the 12,000-seat baseball stadium each of the last two nights. Additional bleachers in the outfield still left many standing.

The Mexico City crusade, held earlier in the month, was fraught with confusion about meeting place and time, stemming from Mexico's constitutional law regarding separation of church and state. But more than 3,500 people made professions of faith and about 3,000 others indicated a desire to know more about Christianity.

A total of 10,899 made inquiries during the Villahermosa crusade, with 7,597 of these making decisions to accept Christ as their Saviour.



HONORED — Two supporters of Belmont College received Collegiatus awards from President Herbert Gabhart (left). The new inductees are Mrs. Dorothea O. Wright (center) and Joe C. Davis.

Belmont College Collegiatus inducts Davis, Mrs. Wright

Two faithful supporters of Belmont College, Nashville, were inducted into the Baptist school's Collegiatus during special ceremonies at a banquet on the campus March 19.

The new inductees are Joe C. Davis and Mrs. Dorothea Olloman Wright.

Mrs. Wright is the widow of Fred D. Wright, who served on the Belmont Board of Trustees for eight years and was chairman of the board for six years. Several years ago the Wrights established a fund to make annual length-of-service awards to faculty members. Belmont President Herbert Gabhart noted that the two "worked as a team and gave themselves unstintingly in all phases of Belmont College's life."

Wright Hall, a ladies dormitory completed in 1968, was named in honor of their generosity.

Mrs. Wright is a member of Nashville's Immanuel Baptist Church.

Davis was honored for his philanthropic activities. Among his contributions to the college are two tennis courts on the campus.

Carl Duck, executive director of Nashville Baptist Association, noted that Davis has provided food at Christmas for more than 50 families as a part of the association's Christmas "Toy Store."

Active in community affairs, Davis is a member of First Presbyterian Church, Nashville.

Speaker at the Collegiatus was George Capps, associate executive director of the Southern Baptist Convention's Education Commission. Capps observed that the "future of Belmont College lies in the success of its graduates." He added that success must be measured in the ability to make a life, not finances or notoriety.

"Christian education must be the integration of faith and learning," Capps said. "We cannot prepare students to solve the issues of the 21st century, because we don't know what these issues will be," he said, "but we must impart those principles with which these students can face those issues."

Capps listed the two main resources of a Christian college as a competent Christian faculty and students who are effective Christian witnesses.

Founded in 1978, the Belmont College Collegiatus annually honors individuals whose support of Christian higher education has been of special relevancy and significant continuity in the life of Belmont College. Selections are made by the Board of Trustees.

The award is endowed by the family of Lemuel B. Stevens, who served as chairman of the college's trustees. He died in 1977.

Previous awards have been presented to Stirton Oman (posthumously) and Albert B. Maloney in 1978; Willette Thomason Wright and Hollis E. Johnson in 1979; and Mrs. Margaret Oman Leu and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Moench in 1980. Morris C. Early, trustee chairman, presided at the ceremonies.

'Religious right' leader named to Education post

WASHINGTON (BP)— Robert Billings, a key leader of the religious right, was named March 18 as special assistant to the secretary in the Department of Education.

Billings, who two years ago opened Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority operation here, becomes the first well-known figure from the religious right to be named to a high position in the Reagan administration.

In the \$51,000-a-year job, Billings will be charged with finding ways in which the federal government can help private schools. That effort is expected to include heavy lobbying of Congress for a tuition tax credit bill, a measure Billings favors.

Billings' assignment also will include being the voice of Christian schools to the secretary of education and representing the secretary on special projects.

Billings, a Bob Jones University graduate, left his position as executive director of Moral Majority during last year's presidential campaign to work among evangelicals for Ronald Reagan's election. He also campaigned

actively for other Republican candidates.

In a Baptist Press interview, the independent Baptist said he is "really not that unhappy" with Reagan's appointments thus far. The president has come under heavy attack in recent weeks from the New Right for not appointing more hard-line conservatives to top jobs in his administration.

"I have to be a pragmatist and realize that the president of the United States is president of all the people," he said. At the same time, he added he "would be less than honest" if he did not wish for the appointment of more born-again evangelicals to posts in the government.

Billings said his own studies of last year's presidential election show that evangelical voters provided Reagan with his margin of victory in many states and accounted directly for 249 of the 270 electoral votes needed for victory.

As though to underscore his high expectations of the new administration, Billings predicted Reagan "will go down in history like Washington and Lincoln" in that all three "tried to turn the country around."

History group to present plaques to churches noting anniversaries

A commemorative plaque will be presented by the Tennessee Baptist Historical Society to churches which will be observing their 50th, 100th, or 150th anniversary during 1981, according to Jean Adkinson, TBC history consultant.

When possible, the plaque will be presented during the church's commemorative service by some member of the society or other designated person.

Thirty Tennessee Baptist churches are observing such anniversaries this year.

Those celebrating their 150-year anniversaries are: Zion Baptist Church,

Brownsville, First Baptist Church, Clarksville; Thompson Creek Baptist Church, Como; Antioch Baptist Church, Humboldt; and Longfield Baptist Church, Lake City.

Noting their 100th anniversaries this year are First Baptist Church, Carthage; French Broad Baptist Church, Dandridge; Oak Hill Baptist Church, Fayetteville; Boones Creek Baptist Church, Jonesboro; First Baptist Church, LaFollette; Ruthville Baptist Church, Martin; Trace Creek Baptist Church, New Johnsonville; Union Grove Baptist Church, Niota; Parksburg Baptist Church, Pinson; Catherine Nennet Baptist Church, Whitesburg; Mitchell Springs Baptist Church, Rutledge; New Salem Baptist Church, Speedwell; and Ebenezer Baptist Church, Toone.

Those noting their 50th anniversaries are Central Baptist Church, Caryville; Mount Harmony Baptist Church, Copperhill; Mountain View Baptist Church, Eidson; Hulen Baptist Church, Erwin; Rittertown Baptist Church, Hampton; Oral Baptist Church, Lenoir City; Morley Baptist Church, Morley; First Baptist Church, Perryville; Sale Creek Baptist Church, Sale Creek; Howards View Baptist Church, Sevierville; First Baptist Church, Spencer; and Lakeside Baptist Church, Vonore.

This new project will be a continuing emphasis by the Tennessee Baptist Historical Society.

Mountain City church razed by Sunday fire

Pine Grove Baptist Church, Mountain City, one of the older churches in Johnson County, was razed by fire around 6:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 15, 1981. The church's earliest records, which date back to 1836, were not destroyed in the fire.

Members of six area volunteer fire departments rushed to the church fire but were unable to contain the blaze. It is thought the fire began in the furnace room.

The congregation met March 22 in temporary quarters to decide on a future meeting site and to discuss future plans.

Roy Porter named to Lewisburg pastorate

Roy Neal Porter recently began his ministry as pastor at the Parkview Baptist Church in Lewisburg. He returns to Tennessee from Roanoke Rapids, N.C., where he served as pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church.

Porter, a native of Lincoln, graduated from Belmont College, Nashville, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Other pastorates include the Harris Chapel Baptist Church, Hollister, N.C.; Cross Keys Baptist Church, College Grove; and Petersburg Baptist Church, Petersburg.

Union alumni chapter to meet in Brentwood

Union University alumni and their spouses from throughout middle Tennessee will gather in Brentwood on April 7 for their spring chapter meeting.

The Dutch treat meal will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the dining room of the Tennessee Baptist Convention building. "Proclamation," vocal ensemble of Union students, will present music for the occasion.

Administrators from the Jackson college will be present for the program.

Henry Love named to lead fellowship

MEMPHIS (BP)— Henry E. Love, who retired a month ago as administrator of First Baptist Church of Memphis, has been named the first executive director of the Southern Baptist Medical-Dental Fellowship.

The five-year-old, 350-member spiritually oriented professional organization has headquarters at the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. Its purpose is to "provide Christian professional fellowship among the membership and to strengthen individually and collectively the relationship and commitment of the membership to Jesus Christ."

In recent years, members of the fellowship have supported missions by sharing their professional skills in Southern Baptist disaster relief operations and in short-term missions efforts in the United States and overseas.

The Brotherhood Commission has provided the fellowship with liaison staff services for the last two years and will continue to assist the physicians and dentists, said James H. Smith, executive director.

Love said he will concentrate on increasing the membership, developing the work of the fellowship, and on organizing state meetings.

Membership in the fellowship is open to any Southern Baptist physician, dentist, or dental or medical student, Love added.



Love

EDITORIAL

Bold Mission Thrust: How are we doing?

How is Bold Mission Thrust getting along?

The visionary 23-year emphasis was launched by the Southern Baptist Convention at its 1977 session in Kansas City. The overarching is to confront every person on the face of the earth with the gospel by the end of this century.

In order to reach this and other worthy goals, the planners decided to break the period down into phases with goals. The first phase is designated as the "implementation period."

At the meeting of the SBC Executive Committee last month, a report was given related to the goals of this first five-year period, 1977-1982.

There are some encouraging aspects to progress which is already being made. Let's review these goals and the status of our collective accomplishments.

The first section deals with "The Church Growing."

Under the need for more and better Sunday Schools, there was the goal of "an increase in enrollment of at least 12 percent between 1977 and 1982."

The 1980 report noted that Sunday School enrollment was 7,433,404 — which is only three one-hundredths of a percent increase over the 1977 enrollment of 7,430,931. But the good news is that the slow rate of growth appears to be accelerating. The 1980 enrollment figure was a 1.6 percent gain over 1979.

Related to evangelism, there is the goal of "10 percent increase per year in baptisms, 1979-1982." After three years, the number of baptisms per year has grown from 345,690 in 1977 to 429,742 in 1980 — a 24.3 percent increase. The 1980 reported baptisms were 16.5 percent over the 368,738 reported in 1979. This was the highest percentage gain since 1945 and the second highest number of baptisms in any year of SBC history.

The third goal under this section is for the starting of 5,800 new churches and missions for the period 1977-82. The net number of churches has grown 1.5 percent from the 35,255 in 1977 to 35,800 in 1980. The Home Mission Board reports that last year there were 1,135 new missions and 450 new churches started. At the close of 1980, the HMB said there were 2,400 missions and that 1,700 churches were sponsoring new work.

The next goal desires "better understanding of missions, including increased knowledge of the Biblical basis for missions and what Southern Baptists are doing in missions."

Related to this goal is the enrollments of the two church organizations responsible for mission education. Brotherhood enrollment has grown 4.7 percent from 1977 to 1980, while Woman's Missionary Union enrollment has remained static. It should also be noted that there has been an increase in the number of mission-related articles in all Southern Baptist publications, including Baptist state papers.

Under "The Church Going" section, there is the goal of "1,000 more career missionaries (net gain)." In 1980 there were 139 new career appointees by the Foreign Mission Board, and a net increase of 111 missionaries under the Home Mission Board.

A second goal seeks "5,000 Mission Service Corps volunteers, 1977-1982."

The HMB has assigned 372 MSC volunteers and reports that 826 applications have been received. The FMB has assigned 130 MSC volunteers, with about 40 more awaiting funding for overseas assignments.

The third goal under this section is "150,000 other short term missionaries, 1977-1982." As of Nov. 30, 1980, there have been 5,117 volunteers.

The last section of the 1979-1982 implementation period deals with "The Church Giving."

The first goal under this section is "15 percent increase per year in the local church." Last month's report noted a 38.1 percent gain for 1977's \$1.8-billion to \$2,483,645,551. The growth in local church gifts last year grew 11.8 percent.

The second goal is "double Cooperative Program giving from \$150-million (1977) to \$300-million (1982) in five years." The gain for the first three of these five years is reported to be 38.9 percent. Cooperative Program gifts for 1980 reached \$207,093,254 (state and SBC total).

Special mission offerings is the subject of the third goal which seeks 10 percent increase per year. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions grew 27.1 percent from \$31,938,553.04 in 1977 to \$40,360,514 in 1980. The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions increased from \$10,745,967.60 in 1977 to \$16,479,032 in 1980 — a 53.4 percent gain.

The fourth goal is "10 percent per year increase in associational mission support." Giving to associational missions has grown from \$32,461,892 in 1978 to \$37,051,057 in 1979 (14.1 percent gain) and to \$41,369,514 in 1980 (11.6 percent gain over 1979).

The final goal seeks "individual gifts over and above regular gifts for 5,000 MSC personnel." Because of the way the Mission Service Corps is administered, a total dollar support cannot be determined. Progress toward this goal is closely tied to the number of MSC volunteers serving.

In summary, the Bold Mission Thrust report to last month's SBC Executive Committee stated:

"Most exciting and encouraging is the fact that the emphasis continues to be a priority concern of the churches. Although denominational agencies, state convention, and associations are attempting to stimulate, coordinate, and support the emphasis, the momentum and agenda remains in the hands of the churches."

"The idea of sharing the gospel with every person on earth by the year 2000, though not specifically a 1979-1982 Bold Mission Thrust goal, has caught the imagination and challenged the creativity of countless churches."

"Gratefully, the emphasis cannot be confined to the carrying out of a prescribed set of activities. Bold Mission Thrust is alive with creativity, compassion, and determination that can only be attributed to the working of the Holy Spirit."

The world, our denomination, and our Lord Jesus Christ are eagerly watching to see if Southern Baptists are committed to carrying out the Great Commission — "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:19-20).

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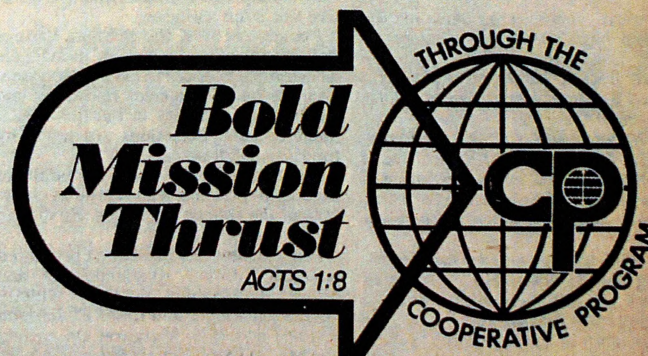
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Letters to the Editor...

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.

Limiting the president

Dear editor:

Once again the "anti-conservative" crowd is doing their thing. For years there was no problem with the way the SBC president appointed the Committee on Committees. There was no cry made as to convention presidents being "a person of power."

Just as soon as the "liberal establishment" recognized a marked conservative trend, they started working furiously to keep their stranglehold on the convention. With unbelievable tenacity, they are using every political method possible to turn aside the will of the majority of Southern Baptists.

What is so utterly disgusting to a thinking mind is the way "liberal" brethren scream foul every time they see a conservative group using methods the "liberals" have devised carefully and employed for years.

Obviously they do not want intelligent "conservatives" sharing in the convention's work. Maybe they want a "liberal" brain trust to control the convention totally with everyone else serving as fund raisers to support them and their methods.

You appear to be a thinking man. What is your opinion?

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5094 East Shelby Dr.
Memphis, TN 38118

My opinion, for which you asked, is that the proposed amendment to the SBC Constitution to make the appointments to the Committee on Committees and the Committee on Resolutions by a committee of the three top officers, rather than the president in consultation with the vice-presidents, is a bad proposal. My reasons, which would differ from yours, will be presented in an editorial at a later date. (editor)

Not derogatory

Dear editor:

In the Feb. 11 issue of the Baptist and Reflector, I read the article captioned, "A clarification" about Otis Clingan and the Jan. 28 article which announced his coming as pastor of East Chattanooga Baptist Church.

Unfortunately, some construed the first article to imply that he was not a committed Southern Baptist. I went back and reviewed the Jan. 28 issue. It said nothing derogatory either directly or by implication about Clingan.

The article did say that "Clingan attended Tennessee Temple School, Chattanooga." I also attended Tennessee Temple College and Tennessee Temple Bible School. I graduated with a graduate of theology degree from the Bible School in August 1963. I was then and still am a Southern Baptist and a Tennessee Baptist — and proud of it. I am also proud to have received much of my Christian education at Tennessee Temple College (now University).

Neither Clingan nor his friends should be sensitive or insulted about the Baptist and Reflector reporting where he attended school. Where a man did or did not go to school should not necessarily commend him or the school.

The late J. Frank Norris was an honor graduate of Baylor University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. The late John R. Rice was educated at Decatur Baptist College, Baylor University, and Southwestern Baptist

Theological Seminary. I hope no one will withdraw support from these institutions.

Christian maturity would require that we judge a man by his fruits and not by his roots. I am aware that some of Southern Baptist's most vocal critics today have been educated in state convention- and Southern Baptist Convention-owned institutions. In the interest of justice, do not judge a man because of his school. Give him a chance to show his loyalties to Christ, the Scriptures, and the denomination.

Jimmy Stroud
4917 Oak Ridge Highway
Knoxville, TN 37921

Objects to articles

Dear editor:

I was appalled by your article of March 11 (page 12) concerning the pope's recent visit to Alaska and the actions of the First Baptist Church of Anchorage. Surely there were more newsworthy stories than that, which concern Tennessee Baptists. If we are to have an article about Roman Catholicism or any other false religion or cult, it should be to warn people about the heresies that it teaches, rather than presenting an attitude of acceptance!

There was a time when Baptists cried out against the lies of salvation by works, purgatory, and the like, along with the man whom Roman Catholics call "Holy Father." Some Catholics may truly be saved, but if so, it is in spite of this doctrine in their church and the pope who heads it!

I mention only one quote that your article had from the pope's remarks, "Many people of diverse backgrounds and cultures are drawn into one community of faith." This seemingly harmless remark actually coincides with many other remarks that the pope has made that show his firm commitment to help establish a one-world church! Those of us who have studied the Book of Revelation know that the Word of God tells us that such a church will be established after the true church has been caught away to heaven! This one-world, super church will be headed by none other than Antichrist and will take in people from all walks of apostate Christianity, both Protestant and Catholic.

I pray that all true blood-washed, born-again believers will cry out against all false religions and cults, such as Roman Catholicism, and point people to Christ Jesus, who will one day return to this earth upon a white horse and destroy the Antichrist along with the harlot church!

Terry Wilkerson
P.O. Box 1022
Lebanon, TN 37087

Powell's Trinity calls Ronnie Bright

Trinity Baptist Church in Powell has called Ronnie Bright as pastor. He is a native of Powell.

A graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Bright has served as minister of youth and activities at Glenwood Baptist Church, Powell; as associate pastor and minister of youth at Churchwell Avenue Baptist Church, Knoxville; and as associate pastor and educational director at North Cleveland Baptist Church in Cleveland.

Bright began his ministry at Trinity Baptist Church on March 8, 1981.

Union trustees name businessmen to lead \$1.75-million campaign

Two Baptist laymen from west Tennessee have been named to lead Union University's \$1.75-million expansion program fund drive.

Union City insurance executive Larry Bates will head the campaign's steering committee, while Memphis business executive George B. Jones will serve as advance large gifts chairman. The two men will head a staff of nearly 400 volunteer workers during the next year in their quest for additional funds for the Baptist college.

"We are greatly indebted to these men for their dedication and service to Union University and their unselfish volunteering of time and talent," said Union President Robert Craig. "The success of a campaign of this size rests heavily on volunteer laborers who are dedicated to the cause of Union University."

The expansion program, announced recently by the trustees, will raise funds for the first major expansion of Penick Academic Complex and the construction of eight additional student apartments.

Personal perspective

BY TOM MADDEN
TBC executive secretary

Recently Dr. E. B. Bowen, executive director-treasurer of our Baptist Children's Homes, invited me to the annual meeting of the Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists. It was a most helpful experience for me.

Dr. James Gregg brought the devotional messages at the beginning of each session. All of his messages were highly inspirational, but especially a portion of one on "Lifting up Christ" has continued to warm my heart. Christ said in John 12:32, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."

He was physically lifted up at His crucifixion. He was lifted up on the cross, and the cross was lifted up on a hill outside the gates of Jerusalem.

He was lifted up from the dead. Death and the grave could not hold Him. "He is risen from the dead."

He was lifted up from the earth in His ascension. "...while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9).

He was lifted up in Heaven. "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name;" (Phil. 2:9).

The experiences of life may be used to lift up Christ. When tragedy came to Isaiah in the death of King Uzziah, he saw the Lord lifted up. "In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and His train filled the temple" (Isa. 6:1).

You and I may lift up Christ many ways in our lives. We may lift Him up in our worship services, in our daily living, and in our witnessing.

One day He is going to lift us up and we will sit together with Him in heavenly places.

Even so, be ye lifted up, Lord Jesus!

Bates, a resident of Martin, is chairman of the board of Bates, Campbell & Co. Insurance Group, Union City. He also operates Bates Farms in Sedalia, KY.

A graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, Bates has served three consecutive terms in the Tennessee House of Representatives. As a freshman legislator in 1970, he was selected as Majority Floor Leader. He was later named chairman of the Committee on Commerce and served on the Calendar and Rules Committee, the Education Committee, and the House Agriculture Committee.

Bates is a member of the Union University Board of Associates, a group of more than 100 area business persons who serve in a lay capacity for the raising of funds and recruitment of students for the college. He is a member of First Baptist Church in Martin.

Jones is president of George B. Jones and Company, a firm specializing in audits for retail automobile transactions, both foreign and domestic. He has been a trustee of Union since 1958 and has additionally served on that board's executive committee.

A 1978 recipient of the college's Honorary Alumnus Award, Jones has been president of the Union University Endowment Society, which encourages deferred giving to the college through wills, trusts, and life insurance arrangements.

He attended Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, and studied at LaSalle Extension University of Chicago, during which he earned the certified public accountant title. Jones is a member of Ridgeway Baptist Church in Memphis.

The two men will formally begin their leadership roles at the campaign's kick-off banquet, set for 6 p.m. April 10 in Fred Delay Gymnasium at Union. University of Alabama head football coach, Paul "Bear" Bryant, will be special guest at the banquet. Bryant, winningest coach of modern times, received his first coaching position from Union in 1936.

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Atlanta church measures faith with \$2.7-million yardstick

ATLANTA (BP) — Members of Atlanta's First Baptist Church gave more than \$2.7-million in 11 days as a "test of faith and obedience to God."

Pastor Charles Stanley urged them not to borrow "one copper penny" of the money to buy downtown property and buildings adjacent to church facilities. He told them to trust God and forget all possibility of failure.

They responded by reaching for their checkbooks. And when that wasn't enough, they walked the aisles and gave wedding bands, antiques, automobile titles, coin collections and stock certificates to be sold for cash.

Donation of material gifts began spontaneously during a Sunday morning invitation and continued throughout the week, the next Sunday and beyond, according to Sid Hopkins, associate pastor responsible for staff and program coordination.

"They gave things very precious to them," said Hopkins, who compared this offering to the one conducted by Moses when the Children of Israel built the Tabernacle.

He said the gifts were given above and beyond the church's regular budget offering. The \$2.7-million offering was part of a \$2.85-million pricetag for the property. The total amount was raised during a two-month period.

The property, two city blocks formerly used by an automobile dealership, is only the most recent acquisition the church has made without borrowing money. During the last quarter of 1980, the church paid \$500,000 cash for three parking lots and a building which now houses its singles ministry. Earlier in the year, it renovated another building for \$600,000 cash.

The reason the church felt it needed to expand is simple: it's growing and "running out of space."

In the past couple of years, the church has stepped up its Sunday School program to catch up with a "pulpit oriented

ministry," Hopkins explained. More than 1,100 persons joined the church last year, and Sunday School attendance on a recent Sunday was 2,693, up nearly 900 from two years ago.

More church education space was made available by moving the singles ministry to the new quarters, he said. And when the church's TV and tape ministry moves into the auto dealership buildings, even more space in the church's main building will be available for new classes.

The church felt it doubly important it should expand without borrowing money because the interest on large loans is exorbitant. A 10-year loan for the amount of the last purchase "would have cost us \$8-million," Stanley said.

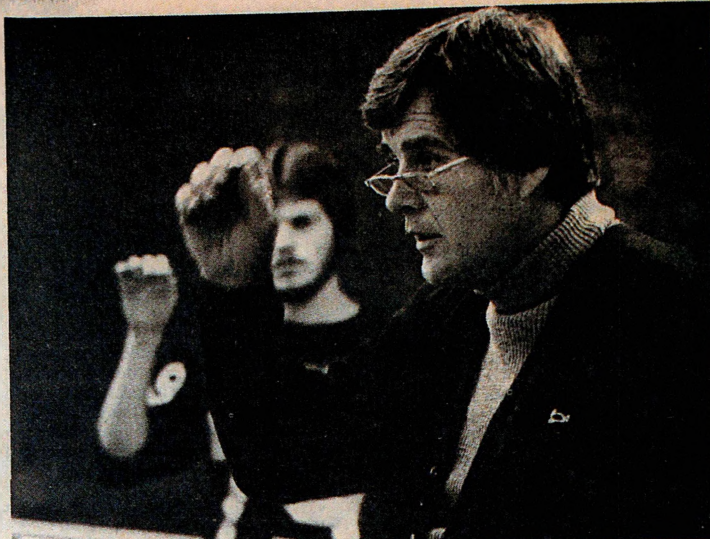
Hopkins labeled such a practice "poor stewardship of the Lord's money." Stanley expanded on that theme: "The banks in America own most of the churches," he said, "and I don't believe that's of God."

But Stanley feels the principle of increasing the faith of the church is even more important than good stewardship.

Members of the church have made a "commitment to obey God, whatever the consequences," he said. "I see all this as a spiritual school to teach our people obedience and faith. We could go to the bank and borrow money, (but) that wouldn't take any faith. Far more (important) to me than the land ... is the faith that God is building in our fellowship."

Stanley said if someone had given the church \$3-million to purchase the latest property and buildings, the action "would have ruined the opportunity for God to bless many of our people."

However, the pressure of raising the money before the property deal was to be closed and of not turning to a bank for a loan placed the church's obedience to God "on the line," he said, adding that God worked a "miracle" by helping members give the money and leading them to deeper faith.



NEW BSSB MUSIC MAN — Wesley L. Forbis, director-elect of the Sunday School Board's church music department, leads a class in choral conducting at William Jewell College, where he has been chairman of the music department since 1962.

Gospel message overarches musical taste, says Forbis

By Charles Willis

LIBERTY, Mo. (BP) — Persons should be attracted to church music ministry because of the call to serve rather than the lure of music, says Wesley L. Forbis, who in May will become director of the Baptist Sunday School Board's church music department.

"We must not unwittingly allow the gospel to be used as the vehicle to promote the art of music rather than using music to promote the gospel," says Forbis, who has led the music department of William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., since 1962.

Because the denomination is culturally diverse, from extremely large churches to small country churches, Forbis understands why multiple musical tastes exist. He says musical taste results from life experience, and the musical snobbery that occasionally surfaces can be "a lonely, private, and costly luxury."

"If we are consistent and if there is any unanimity in the mandate of the gospel, then we can welcome plurality in expression," he says.

Forbis notes the board's church music department must supply materials and services that appeal to all churches, small through large, and to church musicians with all levels of training. "The department will supply materials and services which fit the needs of our Baptist churches, recognizing that more than 61 percent of our churches have memberships of 300 or less," he says.

Forbis feels persons stuck in their own cultural mold will never be able to see that "while music is a universal language, it has many dialects." He says

his one hope "is that persons in all kinds of churches would come to see that musical validity doesn't lie in musical style, but that it lies in the redemption of Jesus Christ."

Forbis, a former athlete and football coach, has experienced first-hand the wide range of musical tastes while serving on the staffs of small rural churches, suburban churches, and large downtown churches.

As a high school senior, Forbis and a friend rode on the 4 a.m. milk truck from Chickasha, Okla., to a church near Amber, Okla., each Sunday. They cleaned and swept the church before the congregation arrived. During the worship service, Forbis led the music and his friend preached. For the evening services, they exchanged duties. On Sunday nights, they slept in a barn, and before their return home on Mondays, they would each receive a Bull Durham tobacco sack containing their love offerings.

During his years at William Jewell College, he developed the music department from an insignificant area of the college into what the institution's president, Gordon Kingsley, now describes as "one of our strongest programs."

Forbis' professional reputation is that of diversity in musical taste. "I've watched him lead an internationally-famous concert choir in difficult pieces," observed Kingsley, "and I've seen him lead a revival choir in our local church. He's equally at home in both places."

From his years of varied experience with musical worship styles, Forbis has developed a philosophy which says, "Church music is an acceptable and useful medium of communication about life, if we remember that the gospel — and not music — is the medium of comprehending life."

Texan sees attitudes improving for Baptist ministers over 50

By Jim Lowry

NASHVILLE (BP) — Prejudices affecting the mobility and effectiveness of ministers over 50 may not be as prevalent as feared, according to ministers attending a seminar at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

James Cooper, coordinator of counseling services for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, believes ministers over 50 are reaching a new level of acceptance today, partly because of the larger number of older persons in society.

Often pastor search committees fear an older pastor will move to a church just to retire, or he will "coast" when he arrives, preaching from his reservoir of sermons. They also fear potential health problems and an inability of the pastor to understand needs of church members.

"In most cases, these are likely false assumptions," Cooper said. "Older ministers understand more of what the ministry is about because of the depth of experience gained over the years."

"The minister over 50 has experienced hurts and trauma personally and in the lives of church members, giving him a greater empathy and making him less judgmental and more objective."

"He also is a better counselor by virtue of his insights and life experiences," Cooper said. "The minister over 50 understands what the ministry is about and is able to establish priorities which

eliminate the busy-ness that can occupy so much time. He knows he can't be all things to all people."

Cooper recently conducted a survey among several ministers over 50 in Texas. He found the pastors felt the thing they do best after age 50 is preach, which is usually the first requirement from pastor search committees.

"I think the trend in churches is toward more openness, in terms of age restriction," Cooper said. "However, it is a gradual movement, not a wholesale change."

Adults are much more actively involved today in continuing education than several years ago, he said. More ministers participate in continuing education to sharpen their skills, which keeps them from "dying on the vine."

Improved health care and the knowledge that people can be active and vital past age 50 should lessen the health concern.

The average stay for pastors in Southern Baptist churches now is about 2.5 years, Cooper said. Older pastors generally do not move as frequently and can give the church a sense of continuity with an established ministry that will many times be longer than the average.

"Ministry is an attitude as well as a role," Cooper said. "If pastors keep their attitude, a loving God will use them and bless them."

Old Hickory revival to use pastor's sons

Ron Kurtz and John D. Kurtz, both of whom are sons of the pastor, will lead a revival at Tulip Grove Baptist Church, Old Hickory, March 28-April 1.

Ron, minister of youth at First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., will be the evangelist, and John D., minister of music at First Baptist Church, Lillburn, Ga., will lead the music.

Their father, John W. Kurtz, is pastor of the Tulip Grove church. He is currently celebrating his 40th anniversary in the ministry.

Guitar book completed

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — The guitar edition of Chantez Au Seigneur, the first book of African songs and choruses for Baptists in Ivory Coast, is expected off the presses soon. The book is the first guitar book of African songs he has seen, said Jim Lassiter, mass media coordinator for the Baptist missions of French-speaking west Africa.

Our People and Our Churches . . .

PEOPLE...

Michael Taylor, son of John Lee Taylor, pastor of West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson, has been appointed to the Tennessee legislative internship program. Young Taylor, a Union University student, is the first student to be appointed from Union. He is among the 23 Tennessee students selected to serve in the 1981 legislative sessions. These students were selected from more than 100 applications.

The Holston Baptist Association recently honored Fred Witty Jr. with an anniversary celebration. Witty has been a BSU director for 30 years and has served the last 25 of those years at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City.

West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson, recently honored Mrs. Florence Barnes who had given 50 years of service in the church's nursery department. John Lee Taylor is pastor.

Roy Neal Finley and Weldon Harris were recently ordained as deacons by First Baptist Church, Adamsville. Gary R. Kendrick is the pastor.

Vance King's father, Lon W. King, died Feb. 21. Vance King is pastor of Eagleview Baptist Church, Eagleview.

Belle Aire Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, recently ordained Russell Lail and Tommy Tomlinson as deacons. Joe Elliott is pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. George H. McKay recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The McKays are members of First Baptist Church, Cookeville. Gerald L. Stow is the pastor.

Gary Shirley was recently licensed to preach by Cedar Hill Baptist Church, Baxter. John R. Davis is pastor of the church.

Highland Heights Baptist Church in Memphis recently ordained Otis Bills, A. L. Bloodworth, W. T. Callicutt, Tommy

Lumpkins, Gary Maxey, David Roberts, Ralph Scott, and Wade Watts as deacons. Roy E. Fowler is the pastor.

Recently celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary were John and Estelle Bradford. The Bradfords are members of First Baptist Church, Jonesboro, where John S. Carpenter is pastor.

CHURCHES...

Silver Springs Baptist Church, Mt. Juliet, recently held a note burning service retiring the debt on land purchased. Participating in the service were Russell Davis, a charter member; Emmitt Vantrease; Eldon Harner; Bob Porter; Turner Bradford; Ken Etheridge; and the pastor, Joe C. Estes.

Parkview Baptist Church, Lewisburg, celebrated their ninth anniversary on March 1, 1981. Church membership has grown from 12 families to approximately 200 families in the nine years. A note burning ceremony was conducted during the evening service. Guest speaker was Bob Mizell, director of missions for the New Duck River Baptist Association. Roy Porter is pastor of the church.

Dayspring Baptist Church, Chattanooga, has voted to support their pastor, Spencer Johnson, full-time on the field. He has served in a bi-vocational capacity since May 1, 1980. Dayspring was chartered June 1, 1980 and now has 94 members.

Scenic Drive Mission, formerly the New Vision Mission, Murfreesboro, held dedication services on March 15, 1981. L. R. Baumgartner, director of missions for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, gave the dedicatory sermon, and Joe Elliott, pastor of the sponsoring Belle Aire Baptist Church, led the dedication. Tommy Bryant, director of missions for the Concord Baptist Association, and Carl Scarlett, pastor of Miracle Baptist Church, LaVergne, also participated in the service. Paul Hall, associate director of missions for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, is the interim pastor of Scenic Drive Mission.

LEADERSHIP...

Bethel View Baptist Church, Bristol, recently called Chuck King as minister of youth. King has also served Cedar Grove Baptist Church in Kingston as youth director. John W. Rayburn is pastor of Bethel View.

Stanley A. Helser Jr. recently resigned as associate pastor of Brook Hollow Baptist church, Nashville. Helser has accepted the call as minister of education at First Baptist Church, Clemmons, N.C. Brook Hollow's pastor is John B. Daley.

New Hope Baptist Church, Hermitage, recently called David Head as minister of music. Head, a junior at Belmont College, Nashville, came from Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington, Ky. Steve Atwood is pastor of New Hope.

Beech Grove Baptist Church, Mercer, recently called Tommy Stuts as interim pastor.

John Peters, a Carson-Newman junior, has been called as minister of youth and church activities of First Baptist Church, White Pine. Peters is the son of August Peters, who has been involved in pioneer mission work in Michigan. Kenneth Richey is pastor of the White Pine church.

Mary Hutson recently resigned as minister of education at First Baptist Church, Knoxville. She has moved to Little Rock, Ark.

Herschel Spivey recently accepted the call as minister of music and youth advisor of Memorial Baptist Church, Hixson. He has served as minister of education at East Ridge Baptist Church, Chattanooga, for the last seven years. Spivey has also served churches in Florida.

Kentucky, Alabama, and Georgia. Bobby Douglas is pastor of Memorial Baptist Church.

Raleigh Baptist Church, Memphis, recently called Gary Newman Murphy as director of activities for the church's new family life center. A native of Alamo, Murphy graduated from Memphis State University, Memphis. He has been an assistant principal, teacher, and coach in several Memphis area Baptist schools. Stephen Breault is pastor of the Raleigh Baptist Church.

Glen Merriman has accepted the call of Central Baptist Church, Fountain City, to serve as minister of education and administration. A native of Wichita, Kan., Merriman graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo. He comes to Central Baptist from Dalewood Baptist Church, Nashville, where he served as minister of education/outreach.

Thomas E. Smith of Old Hickory recently accepted the call as interim pastor of Nolensville Baptist Church, Nolensville.

Doyle Seals has recently resigned as pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Rogersville.

In the Western District Association, Jerry Dunn has resigned as pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Paris.

Eula Scoggins recently resigned as pastor of Parkway Baptist Church, Cleveland. The church elected W. H. Liner of Charleston to serve as interim pastor.

In the Clinton Association, Fred Bean, pastor of Jarnigan Chapel Baptist Church, Clinton, recently resigned.

Troy Hopper recently resigned as pastor of Old Bethlehem Baptist Church, Rutherford.

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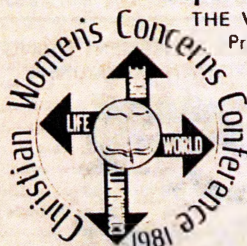
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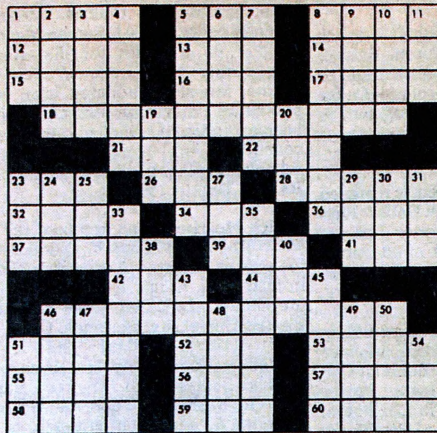
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Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 10



ACROSS

- 1 "—melech the Ethiopian" (Jer. 38)
5 Musical notes
8 Corruptible thing (1 Pet. 1:18)
12 Yield
13 Chemical suffix
14 Bitter herb
15 Village (Josh. 15:52)
16 66 books: abbr.
17 The devil (John 8:44)
18 "— and anguish" (Rom. 2:9)
21 Korean soldier
22 Hindu cymbal
23 "And they departed from —" (Num. 33:45)
26 Japanese coin

28 "apt to —" (2 Tim. 2:24)

32 "The Lord is — to anger" (Nah. 1)

34 Habit

36 Babylonian goddess

37 "We have an —" (Heb. 13)

39 Sanskrit school

41 "and — for war" (2 Ki. 24:16)

42 "give a —" (John 13:26)

44 Cardinal number

46 "unlearned, or —" (1 Cor. 14:23)

51 Butter substitute

52 Fortify

53 Kind of body (Phil. 3:21)

55 City of Manasseh (1 Chron. 6:70)

- 56 Spindle
57 English school
58 Mountain pool
59 Study of insects: abbr.
60 Bamboo

DOWN

- 1 Government agency: abbr.
2 "Sesame Street" character
3 Tower (Gen. 35:21)
4 King of Eglon (Josh 10:3)
5 "— of them all" (Hos. 5:2)
6 Dye purple
7 Month (Zech. 1:7)
8 Nazareth's land (Luke 1:26)
9 Medley
10 Obligation
11 German article
19 Esau or Jacob (Gen. 25:27)
20 Make lace
23 O.T. book: abbr.
24 State: abbr.
25 Witty saying
27 Shell or cake
29 Constellation
30 Kind of cake
31 Stetson, for one
33 "of whom — Jesus" (Matt. 1)
35 "— the Spirit" (Acts 5)
38 Fish eggs
40 O.T. book: abbr.
43 Collocate
45 Not ever
46 Arm bone
47 —do-well
48 Important metal
49 Ordinance
50 Haw
51 Grain
54 Death

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Interpretation

The Christian and murder

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Thou shalt not kill" (Matthew 5:21).

In this and succeeding verses, Jesus deals with certain Old Testament laws, showing that their spirit demands more than their letter. In each case He elevated, not lowered their demands. Note His repeated "But I say unto you" (vv. 22,28,32,34,39,44), indicating His divine authority in interpreting the Scriptures.

This is the commandment against murder, the meaning of the Hebrew verb in Exodus 20:13. Jesus so translated it in Matthew 19:18. It applies to deliberate murder, not killing in the broader sense such as in war.

But Jesus shows that you do not have to take a person's life to destroy him.

"Anger" (v. 22a, "without a cause" not in best texts) envisions a dispute between two people.

"Judgment" here refers to lower courts.

"Raca" means empty-headed or stupid, a sin against one's personhood.

Devotional

Humility and joy

By Evelyn Foote

"Joy is a net of love by which you catch souls," says Mother Teresa, who perhaps as much as anyone alive today is the embodiment of humility.

Working in the teeming streets of Calcutta, India, she comforts and cares for the sick, the down-trodden, and the poverty-stricken. In spite of great honors and worldwide fame for her humanitarian efforts, she remains a simple woman.

In the midst of the filth, starvation, and disease all about her, how can she weave this "net of love" she calls joy? Is it simply that she has forgotten self? Are humility and joy somehow related?

For the ultimate answer, let us look at Jesus. He told His disciples: "He who is greatest among you shall be your servant; whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted" (Matt. 23:11-12 RSV).

He put those words into practice when He "humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Phil. 2:8).

But hear Jesus speaking of joy in the hours before Calvary. "These things I have spoken to you that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full (John 15:11).... Your sorrow shall be turned into joy (16:20).... Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full (16:24).... These things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves" (17:13).

Be humble; be joyful. These are Christ's mandates to His own.

Evelyn Foote and her husband Bill are home missionaries serving the Shelby County Baptist Association in coordinating the needs of Michigan Baptists with the resources of Tennessee Baptists in the new sister-state relationship.

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"Council" refers to the Sanhedrin, the supreme court of the Jews.

"Fool" means scoundrel, so contempt for one's heart and character.

"Hell fire" reads "the Gehenna of fire." This referred to the Vale of Hinnom which was the garbage dump of Jerusalem where fire consumed the garbage. Jesus used it as a picture of eternal punishment.

The point is that you can commit murder without doing the overt act. We should have such a high regard for human personality that, not only will we not commit murder, but will not be guilty of anger against another. We will not hold him in contempt in either mind or character. The root of overt murder is found in these ugly attitudes. Note the progression: anger, contempt for one's mental ability, contempt for his character. Such is the seedbed of murder.

Jesus added that if a brother has aught against you, you cannot even worship God in truth (vv. 23-24). Also, it is better to suffer loss in a disagreement than to prevail at the loss of your own spiritual life (vv. 25-26).

We should be careful as to our relations to other people. For in the final analysis we harm ourselves more than we harm them. Verses 21-26 contain strong words. But they are the words of the King!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ **Citizen's Corner** ★
★ By Jerry M. Self ★
★ Public affairs and Christian life ★
★ consultant ★

Two bills which concern liquor sales have made it halfway to the governor's desk. To become law, a bill must pass both the Senate and the House and then be signed by the governor.

Senator John Ford of Memphis has secured passage of a bill to permit sale of alcohol at hotels or restaurants located at commercial airports. SB 252 passed the Senate on Monday, March 16. The companion House bill, HB 474, by Sharon Bell of Knoxville and Palma Robinson of Jonesboro is in the state and local government committee of the House.

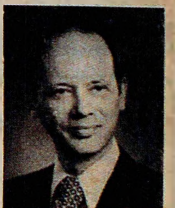
On Wednesday, March 18, the House passed HB 322 by Shelby Rhinehart of Nashville. His bill eliminates election day closing of liquor stores. The Senate companion bill, SB 434, failed the Senate by a vote of 12 in favor, 13 against, and three present not voting. A bill that fails the Senate may be brought up one more time during the session. If there had been 17 no votes, the bill would have been rejected and could not come before the Senate again during this session.

Once a bill passes one house it is introduced in the other house. If a companion bill has already been introduced, then the companion will have progressed to some extent through the committee system enhancing the chance of passage by both houses.

The airport alcohol sale bills will receive a strong push to pass the House. Representatives voted 54-33-6 on the election day opening bill. Express your opinion on these bills.



Mrs. Foote



Self

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/TREASURER

EVANS B. BOWEN

UNION UNIVERSITY RECOGNIZES MARY LEWELLING

Mary Lewelling is one of the youth at TBCH from the Memphis Campus. She is a sophomore at Union University in Jackson.

Recently the school newspaper featured Mary and four other students in an article about dorm life on campus at Union. The story is unique because of the way the girls have almost become a family of sisters — cooperating in everything to make life better for each other.

It is rewarding to observe the attitude of Mary Lewelling when she was interviewed. Tennessee Baptists should be proud to be a part of Mary's life. The following quotes will help you understand why this is so.

Listen as Mary speaks. "We've all got different personalities, but we've all found something in common — the Lord. We're here for a purpose." Mary says, "We share everything." She also has a forgiving spirit as she says, "We don't keep grudges, we go to the person and apologize right then. We don't wait a week."

Tennessee Baptists' support for Mary has been an influence that only eternity can measure.

TENNESSEE HOSTS SBC CHILD CARE EXECUTIVE MEETING

TBCH was the host for the thirty-third annual meeting of the Child Care Executives at Gatlinburg February 17-19. The group last met in Tennessee in 1967.

There were about one hundred who attended the meeting — consisting of Executive Directors and other staff from the following states: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, and the host state, Tennessee.

Several guests were invited to be a part of the program. Among these were SBC Director of WMU, Carolyn Weatherford; TBC Executive Secretary, Tom Madden; TBC Foundation Executive Secretary, Jonas Stewart; and former Children's Homes Director, Jim Gregg.

The meeting was considered to be excellent in both fellowship and as a source of education in many areas of Child Care. Tennessee Baptists can be proud of the way in which fellow laborers from all over the United States were received by Dr. and Mrs. Bowen and the staff of TBCH.



SNOW DAY ON FRANKLIN CAMPUS

Snow has not been in abundance in Franklin this year but on Wednesday, February 11, ice and snow did come. The boys and girls were thrilled. School was dismissed after the children were already prepared to attend school and they were ready for a full day of fun in the snow. Sledding and snowball fighting were the two most popular events, taking precedence over cleaning closets which the houseparents had planned.

Since Wednesday is Prayer Meeting night and the roads were not conducive to travel, we decided to join together for an evening of fun and worship. Linda Dalton, the Activities Director, supervised a volley ball game between houseparents and the children. The children were excited over their victory. After the fun and exercise, Mr. Morris led in a devotion on Zaccheus.

To top the evening off, there was a Men's Bake-Off, which was participated in by nearly all the men staff members. We found that we have a wealth of skill and talent among our men and hope that they will exercise it more often.



MR. AND MRS. MARVIN RUSSELL

Superintendent Wilson Interviews Houseparents

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin (Marie) Russell came to work on the Campus of The Baptist Children's Home in Memphis in March, 1973. They have worked hard during these eight (8) years. Superintendent Wilson met with them and asked them some questions to give them an opportunity to share their feelings about their tenure of service with TBCH:

Q. How did you know about Baptist Children's Home?

A. Our son was a pastor of a church near to Memphis and he told us that there was a need for mature couples to work with the children.

Q. Why did you apply for work here?

A. Each of us felt that we wanted to serve the Lord in this way. Also, this work allowed us to be in mission work together.

Q. Tell me about your first visit to the Campus.

A. We saw a real need. There were many children already on Campus and help was needed to care for them.

Q. Is there a need for the Home to be here with its program of help?

A. Yes! There will always be those children who need a home away from home. It is the intent of the houseparents to make the cottage as near like home as possible.

Q. What qualifications are important for the adults who live with and work for the children?

A. Child care workers, whatever their age, must have maturity. They must be sensitive to a calling from God and they must have a very strong love for children.

Q. Are you glad that you came to Baptist Children's Home to work?

A. Yes, — most of the time. One thing we know — we have a "family" that we could not know in any other way.

Q. Is there anything that has encouraged you to continue your work as Houseparents for these eight (8) years?

A. There may be other things, but we will name just two: 1) The certainty of God's call with the assurance that we are in His will; 2) The feeling of joy that is fostered by true love.

Q. Do any of the children who did live with you ever call or come to visit you?

A. Yes, we are happy to say that we do receive calls and occasional visits. We are thrilled to know that we are remembered!

Q. Could you recommend that mature, Christian adults consider sharing their lives with the children who live with us?

A. Yes, if you are interested in something more than "just a job." This is a full-time work with its good times and some not so good.

Q. Do you feel that this is a missionary work?

A. It is as much missions as any other work that I know about.

Q. As you look back over these eight (8) years, what do you remember best?

A. We have seen many children work through their problems and find greater fulfillment. Also we have seen many become Christians.

Q. Do you have any serious regrets?

A. No. We sought and found the will of God for our lives, through these years we have been helpers to children. In values that matter, we are richer.

I am elated over the zealous support for TBCH across the state of Tennessee. It is always encouraging to those of us who seek to advance the Kingdom of our Lord when we encounter those who are seeking to do the same.

Tennessee Baptists have proved themselves repeatedly in the ministry of Child Care. Thank you for what you have done and continue to do.

I want to encourage every Baptist in this great state to begin to pray for the annual Mother's Day Offering as it approaches. You will be hearing much about our work in these next few weeks as the churches rally to give their prayer and financial support to the work of TBCH.

Many of you are aware that your gifts to the Mother's Day Offering are about one-third of our operating budget. We believe that 1981 will be the best year Tennessee Baptists have ever experienced in the Child Care Ministry. Why? Because you know the needs and because you care. Jesus issued the mandate and Tennessee Baptists are earnestly seeking to follow His will.



DEAN DOSTER

MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS

We have had so many favorable responses by Tennessee Baptists with a memorial gift and others who are interested in honoring a living friend or relative that we are changing the form to include both. Please observe that you may use the Memorial and Honor Form for whichever type gift you prefer to share.

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THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

During the month of February, Hamilton County Baptist Association promoted a "Food Fair" for the East Tennessee Campus of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes throughout the Churches of Hamilton County. Church members were encouraged to give through their church, commercially canned goods for the Children's Home. One little youngster living at the Home was caught up in the enthusiasm of giving food and asked if he might take canned food to the Church to "give" to the children living at the Home. Jesus taught it is more blessed to give than to receive.

BIBLE BOOK SERIES

Lesson for March 29

Christians' resurrection

By Ira Samuel Perkins, director of missions
Big Hatchie Baptist Association, Covington

Basic Passage: 1 Corinthians 15:35 to 16:24

Focal Passage: 1 Corinthians 15:42-58

The resurrection body (15:35-50)

We still ask questions about the resurrection body as did the Corinthians.

People want to know the shape, size, or composition and if the body will be able to pass through doors. Will we be able to touch, taste, feel, and smell?

Paul says these are foolish questions because each seed sown becomes a plant. Each seed is different. All flesh is different because there are mammals, fowl, and fish, each different in composition. There is a lot of difference between a T-bone steak and an oyster. Everything in creation is different, but all things are made by God and have a different function and purpose.

There is the physical and spiritual part of man and each has a peculiar function. The resurrection body will be spiritual, heavenly, and non-perishable, created by God for His purpose and glory. In Romans 6:5, Paul says we will be like Christ in the resurrection if we are united with Him in His death.

The victory over death (15:51-57)

Death, to the Christian, is not a green-eyed monster but rather a doorway through which he steps into the presence of God.

The key idea is that we will be changed from flesh to spirit. Death will be defeated, sin destroyed, and victory realized through Jesus, and because of this we can rejoice. Joy is not determined by circumstances.

I remember, while preaching the funeral of a deacon, seeing his wife smile. She was not smiling because of

death but because of a living, loving Saviour. She knew Jesus and could rejoice because her husband was with Him.

The motive for service (15:58)

The resurrection principle is the basis of operation for the Christian. He serves because of Jesus who lives in and empowers him. The resurrection principle gives stability, courage, and assurance as life is lived in and for the glory of God. We serve, motivated by the ever present reality of a living, loving, reigning Lord.

The offering for Jerusalem Christians (16:1-4)

Paul believed in as well as practiced missions. The church in Jerusalem was weak and needed financial help, thus Paul promoted a love offering for them. It was to be taken during the regular worship service in the church for the purpose of helping others. Missions is giving for others rather than receiving. A mission-minded person never asks, "What do I get?" but rather, "What can I give in order to glorify God?"

The reasons for Paul's delay (16:5-9)

Paul would pass through Macedonia and would like to spend the winter with the Corinthians. He did not want to just say, "Hello" and, "Goodbye" but desired to spend some time with them. He also wanted them to have a part in his further ministry.

Final instructions and greetings (16:10-24)

Paul expressed his gratitude for his companions and co-laborers, praising them for their faithfulness and service. They were to love and compliment each other. They were not only to stand firm in the gospel, remain loyal to the teaching, be strong and courageous; but also to love and admonish each other. This would demonstrate the grace of God and help in the fellowship.

He began his letter to them by calling them "saints," and closes by calling them "brethren." The Corinthian church had more problems than any other church Paul established and yet he loved them, desired to visit them, and praised them for their faithfulness.

We should learn from this and, like him, show the real love of God by loving each other regardless of our faults.



Perkins

UNIFORM SERIES

Lesson for March 29

Be ready — be faithful

By Ircel C. Harrison Jr., director of campus ministries
Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City

Basic Passage: Matthew 24:36 to 25:46

Focal Passage: Matthew 25:1-13

"Since they have made these commitments before God and this assembly, by the authority of God and under the laws of this state, I declare that Scott and Beth are husband and wife." With these words, a young couple's commitment to one another before God was sealed in a Christian wedding service.

A wedding is the culmination of many months of preparation and planning. A Christian wedding also marks the beginning of a new relationship and new levels of commitment. It is a significant turning point, not only in the lives of the man and woman involved, but for friends and families as well.

Although the customs have changed, the wedding was as significant in Jesus' day as it is in our own. Therefore, Jesus had chosen a familiar setting when He used a parable related to Jewish wedding customs to encourage preparation and faithfulness among his followers. In the parable, Jesus exhorts His disciples "to be ready."

Being ready (24:36-41)

As Jesus continued to teach His disciples about the end times, He proclaimed that not even He knew the appointed hour for all of these things to occur. Only the Father knows. This declaration reflects Jesus' humility, but it also points out that it is useless and wasteful to spend time speculating on something that the Son of God did not know and about which He was not particularly concerned. As one preacher commented, "We have been called to serve on the Preparation Committee, not the Time and Place Committee."

At the other extreme there is the danger of becoming complacent and careless about the second coming. There is nothing wrong in the various activities mentioned here (v. 38), but we should not become so preoccupied with the daily routine of life that we neglect to prepare for His return.

Being faithful (24:42-51)

Jesus challenged His own disciples to be watchful. He pointed out that a thief depends on the element of surprise to achieve his dishonest goals. If he gave "fair warning" to his intended victims, they would take steps to protect their property. Jesus warned that the coming

of the Son of man would be just as unexpected.

He compared the actions of the dependable servant who works diligently while the master is away (vs. 45-47) with those of the faithless servant who uses the master's delay in returning as an excuse for slothfulness and an opportunity to misuse his authority (vs. 48-49).

William Barclay points out that "the most dangerous of all delusions is that there is plenty of time." Before one knows it, time has run out and the time of reckoning is at hand (vs. 50-51).

This is a clear warning to Christians to exercise wise stewardship and be diligent in Christian service. We may be called upon for evaluation at any time. We are not saved by our works, but we will be judged by them.

It is interesting to note that the reward for faithful service is not retirement or "being put out to pasture," but the assignment of greater responsibilities by the Master (v. 47). What does this teach us about the nature of heaven?

Being prepared (25:1-13)

In Jesus' day when a couple married, they did not go away for a honeymoon. They stayed at home and held open house for family members and friends. It was a time of great festivity.

The purpose of the parable is to encourage preparedness among God's people for the second coming of Christ. The interpretation of the elements within the parable is relatively clear.

Jesus is the bridegroom, the ten maidens are God's people awaiting Christ's return, the bridegroom's delay is the interval between the resurrection and the second coming, the groom's sudden appearance is the coming of Christ in His glory, and the rejection of the foolish maidens is Christ's judgement upon those unprepared for His return.

In the parable, five of the girls prepared for a long wait by taking extra oil for their lamps. The other five did not expect a delay, so they did not make special preparations. They were ready for the "short run" but not for the "long haul." When the runner came to announce the arrival of the bridegroom, they realized their need for additional oil. When they could not borrow from the other five, they ran to buy more. While they were gone, the bridegroom came, the feast began, and they were excluded.

There are certain things which cannot be done at the last minute. Every Christian has at least one gift to exercise in building up the body of Christ, but it must be nurtured and used if it is to be developed to maximum effort.

Some things cannot be borrowed. A person cannot borrow a relationship with God; he must possess it. Each one must become a child of God on his own, for God has no grandchildren. We enter into salvation through our own experience with Him and not on another person's decision. We cannot live on the growth experience of others. Certainly, we learn and grow from good preaching and Bible teaching, but there comes a time when we must learn how to study the Scriptures for ourselves and find there the means to Christian maturity.

Jesus' closing injunction, "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor hour" (v. 15), is both a promise that He will return and another warning that we should be about His work when He does return.



Harrison

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LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Lesson for March 29

'Not My will, but Thine'

By Danny E. Bush, associate minister
First Baptist Church, Oak Ridge

Basic Passage: Luke 22:1-46

Focus Passages: Luke 22:14-20, 39-44

The story is of a defiant little boy who was made to stand in the corner of a room for punishment. His defiance continued, however, because he was overheard to say, "I may be standing on the outside, but I am still sitting on the inside." What a strong will this chap had even in the midst of punishment.

Our Lord had plans for the redemption of mankind. He was determined to fulfill this plan at all costs, even death on a cruel Roman cross.

We might ask ourselves the question, "How determined am I to fulfill the plan of God for my life?"

Jesus had made advance plans for celebrating the Passover with the disciples. He sent Peter and John into Jerusalem to make final arrangements for the meal. They were to spot a man carrying a jar of water. For a man to carry a water jug in the ancient world was unusual because this was a task commonly done by women. When they found the man they were to follow him to the house he entered. They were to say to the owner, "The Teacher says to you, Where is the room where my disciples and I will eat the Passover meal?" (Luke 22:11 TEV). The owner was to show them a large furnished room upstairs. Everything went as planned by Jesus.

Several passages of Scripture emphasize that the redemptive plans of God were conceived "before the foundation of the earth." People who are to experience a more satisfying life are often encouraged to "plan your work and work your plan." In these New Testament events of the life of the Son of God, we are viewing the plan of God working in unusual and deliberate ways.

These early disciples were blind as to what Jesus was talking about. Here they were celebrating an ancient feast with their beloved teacher. The things He spoke of were not clear to them. It would not be until after the resurrection that they would begin to grasp the significance of this last supper with Jesus. Jesus was actually directing them from an ancient recollection of freedom from slavery to a new celebration of freedom from the shackles of sin which brings spiritual death.

During the time of Moses, God made a covenant with His people, those who believed in Him and followed Him. Jesus was to become the new covenant for those who believed in Him and followed Him. As a believer, this new covenant is being worked out in you. Evidence of this new life in you varies. It varies, in large part, because of the constant struggle of choices between your will and the will of God being done in your life.

From the 39th verse it is clear that the Mount of Olives had been a regular place where Jesus retired to pray. If the Son of God thought it necessary to pray reg-

ularly, certainly His followers, then and now, should be alert to this marvelous example.

"Gethsemane" in Hebrew means wine press and oil farm. This particular garden, or orchard, is at the foot of Olivet, to the northwest, and nearly a mile from the walls of Jerusalem. Not much of the abundant beauty remains to this day. But, the hardness of olive trees to endure could mean that some of the snarled trees that still exist may be remnants of those that were present during that night when Jesus knelt in prayer.

In that night of deepest anguish, our Saviour struggled with concerns of leaving those early immature disciples, rejection by the chosen people who should have been receptive, the anticipation of physical torture, and the powerful forces attempting to discourage the plans of God.

Such a phenomenon, haematidrosis, blood mixing with sweat, is medically possible because tiny blood vessels can rupture into the sweatglands. What is described here is undoubtedly a body in great fearful stress and agony of mind.

"Be done" in the Greek means, in effect, "let what was planned to happen continue happening." Jesus was willing to be absorbed by the will of the Father.

While Jesus was in this bitter physical and spiritual struggle, the disciples went to sleep.

Unfortunately, this is too often a picture of the followers of Christ. Right in the middle of the struggle between righteous and unrighteous forces, we Christians are often asleep. Sometimes we sleep to escape the reality of needed bold service. At other times we sleep simply because we relax and don't really expect much to happen in our Christian lives anyway. In either case, it is apparent that we are not anxious to do the will of God. God is so patient with His followers.

Christians can also get so concerned over what other people think, or preoccupied with self-preservation, that they miss the fulfillment of experiencing the will of God being worked out through them.

Bold missions requires seeking the will of God, not self-will. Bold missions can result in the followers of Christ experiencing the positive victories that come from humbly praying and deliberately living the spirit of the prayer, "Not my will, but Thine be done."



Bush

Missionary physician recovers, resumes work in village clinics

NALERIGU, Ghana (BP)—Walter Moore is back at work in the villages of Ghana after having experienced a speedy recovery from serious injuries he received in an automobile accident.

Moore, a Southern Baptist missionary physician, returned to his work a month after he suffered a head wound, two broken ribs, and a fractured kneecap when his vehicle crashed into a dump truck Dec. 18.

Moore was pinned inside his vehicle after the accident, wedged tightly between the seat and steering wheel and unable to breathe. Just as Moore was beginning to lose consciousness, a highway department soils inspector came to investigate, alerted by the continuously blowing automobile horn.

"He jerked the seat backwards and I felt the sweet fresh air pour into my lungs," Moore said.

The inspector, Manfred Dho, cradled Moore in his arms as the injured man was taken — by dump truck — the 27 miles to Tamale and the hospital.

Dho, said Moore, was at the scene of the accident only because he had refused an earlier offer of a ride into town.

By the next morning, Moore's wife had arrived. All the Baptist mission stations in Ghana, the Foreign Mission Board and the International Missionary Ham Network had been notified. A worldwide prayer chain started.

That same morning Moore saw the man considered the best-trained Ghanaian surgeon, who wasn't supposed

to be in Tamale. But since the surgeon was ill and stayed in Tamale, he returned to work the day after Moore's injury and a few days later repaired Moore's kneecap.

The day after Christmas, Moore returned home to Nalerigu on a helicopter provided by Canadian friends working for the World Health Organization. Moore had removed a ruptured appendix for one of the pilots four years earlier.

Thanks to the prayers for him, Moore says he was able to visit the Baptist Medical Centre, Nalerigu, where he works, only two weeks after the accident.

"Another week and I was seeing clinic patients and on Tuesday, Jan. 20, returned to the villages with a driver to do my current public health program, measles vaccinations," he says.

The only thing holding him back now is a leg cast, but he has a driver to take him to his work and the cast comes off Mar. 23.

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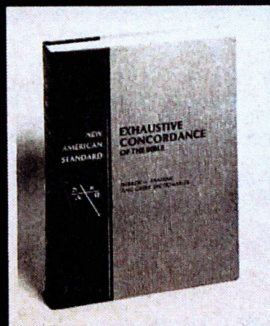

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Doctor who marvels at birth, now counsels the dying

By David Wilkinson

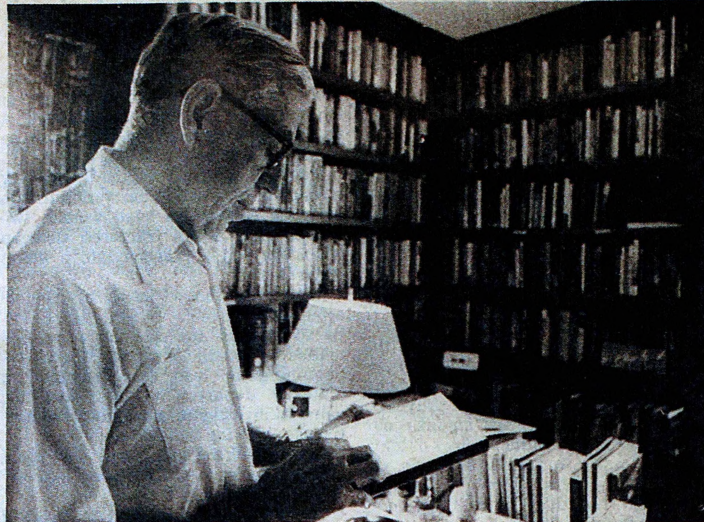
BALTIMORE (BP) — Bill Dorman has witnessed the miraculous event of human birth about 9,000 times during his career. But it still awes him.

"You'd have to be pretty stupid not to wonder and marvel at what was going on before your very eyes," explains the retired obstetrician. "Just imagine, nine months ago, that baby was only a single cell."

It was this undeniable evidence of a divine hand in the creation of human life, coupled with a frightening experience of human inadequacy, which triggered the questions that led Dorman to a personal spiritual "rebirth" more than four decades ago. As a first-year intern in obstetrics at City of Baltimore Hospital, Dorman delivered the baby of an unmarried woman who told him she planned to commit suicide. "I didn't have anything to say to her," Dorman recalls. "I had no idea what to do."

The experience still haunted him several years later when, as a Navy doctor in the Pacific during World War II, a Lutheran chaplain introduced him to Jesus Christ.

After returning to Baltimore, the new Christian and his wife, Martha, joined a Southern Baptist church. For the next 35 years the Southern Baptist layman practiced what one grateful patient dubbed "Christian family childbirth." Con-



TIME FOR STUDY — Retired obstetrician Bill Dorman finds time to study, despite a busy schedule of volunteer involvement.

sistently focusing on the total needs of the mother-to-be, as well as the health of the yet unborn infant, Dorman often deviated from the routine practice of his colleagues.

In the 1950s, when most obstetricians

prescribed heavy drug dosages to help patients through labor, Dorman emphasized as little reliance on drugs as possible — a practice much more popular today. Dorman's rationale was simple: "I would tell my patients, 'If you use little or no drugs, when you're lying on the table and I hold that baby up, you'll be able to see God's latest miracle on the face of the earth.'"

Dorman's unorthodox practice often included special instruction in self-hypnosis to help patients relax and cope with pain. Many times he used group therapy, utilizing previous patients to help alleviate the anxiety of expectant mothers. He moved an easy chair into his office and spent numerous hours counseling emotionally troubled patients or patients who had difficulty with previous births.

During a recent drive through the campus of his alma mater, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, the retired doctor was halted four times by

former patients. One woman explained that she had had three consecutive miscarriages before she went to see Dorman. After finding nothing "structurally wrong," Dorman suggested that she follow the same course as before, but that she add a period of daily prayer to her schedule. The result: three healthy babies — all weighing more than nine pounds at birth — and a new outlook on life.

"Dr. Dorman," adds another former patient, "has the God-given gift of making every patient feel like she was special. I never felt like he was too busy to talk."

Despite 35 rewarding years of private practice in Baltimore, Dorman has one regret about his medical career. Although he honestly tried "to love people to the Lord" through his person-centered practice, Dorman admits that he never "really got a grip on what it means to be a Christian" until 1973 when he attended a lay renewal conference.

The conference opened new dimensions to Dorman's Christian life. One evidence is his approach to retirement. While he and his wife have the means and the time for leisure and travel, he has not abandoned his commitment to medicine and to people.

He serves at the Church Home Hospice, this time as a volunteer rather than a professional. He spends time with the dying as they try to find meaning to their lives during their final days, and counsels family members as they deal with the imminent death of a loved one. But he also serves them in more tangible ways.

He bathes them. He washes their bodies and shaves their faces. He cuts their toenails and helps them to the bathroom. Bill Dorman has learned what it means to be a servant, to flesh-out the Kingdom of God.

"I just hate to think there are so many people who didn't know any better until so late in life, like I did," says the Baptist deacon. "They just don't know what they're missing."

Adapted from the May issue of World Mission Journal.

Food chain president resigns over decision to sell beer

By Fletcher Allen

GREENVILLE, S.C. (BP) — Harold Kelly, a deacon at Eastlan Baptist Church, has resigned as president of Bi-Lo Inc., over a decision by the grocery chain's executive committee to sell beer and wine in its six Charlotte, N.C., stores.

Kelly, president of the 120-store supermarket chain, which last year had sales in excess of \$617-million, said: "I'm not saying their choice is wrong. I'm not saying that the stores are wrong. I am not a judge. But as for Harold Kelly, I can't have a part in it."

He added "I have committed too many sins to set myself as an example. But I hope this action will be a witness for the Lord."

Bi-Lo, according to Kelly, has been a family-type store. "I am concerned that families, particularly children, would see beer and wine in Bi-Lo's stores. I am concerned with the easy availability of beer and wine, especially to new drinkers. Of the people who start drinking, many become alcoholics. I cannot be a part of that. I could not live with myself knowing I was a part of it."

Gospel speaks Chinese

AMMAN, Jordan — When two Chinese men requested books at the Baptist Book Store in Amman, Jordan, the manager asked them if they also would like a Bible. They said they did not believe in it, but the bookstore manager gave them a Gospel of John in Chinese and suggested they read chapter three, verse 16.

As they read "For God so loved the world He gave His one and only son..." the men began to tremble. Taking the gospel with them, they hurriedly left the store.

Two weeks later the two returned, happy with what they had read, and purchased a Bible and a complete set of cassette tapes of the Bible in English.

Kelly joined Bi-Lo in 1956 as office manager after having been a partner in an Anderson, S.C., public accounting firm for 11 years, joining the chain at the invitation of the late Frank Outlaw, founder and former president of the grocery chain.

Kelly served as comptroller and then secretary-treasurer, becoming president in 1975 when Outlaw died.

"Mr. Outlaw would have understood my decision," says Kelly. "He did not believe in selling beer and wine."

He went on to say that Outlaw, widely known for his Christian integrity and business acumen, was "one in a million. Many people have God-given talents but some don't use them. I believe Mr. Outlaw did. God intended for him to be a groceryman and he did it to the best of his ability. That's why Bi-Lo has been successful. It was a blessing to work for him."

Kelly was quick to express concern for the company he left. "I have all the concern as if I were still there. I wish them nothing but success." He said that while it is not certain that the Charlotte action will be duplicated in South Carolina stores and elsewhere, in other companies that has often been true. He added Bi-Lo is one of the last chains to begin selling beer and wine.

Kelly's future plans are uncertain, but he said he has just about ruled out the possibility of the supermarket business, since most of those now sell alcoholic beverages.

He added the future, however, is not uncertain. "We know the Lord has a place for us. He led us to Bi-Lo and He will lead us now."

Kelly's pastor, Stewart Simms Jr., said "he is a man with very deep principles and operates on a complete commitment to God."

Allen is associate editor of the Baptist Courier, journal of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

Urban forum told evangelization of cities requires global vision

ATLANTA (BP) — Evangelization of today's cities requires "global vision" and "custom-built churches," participants at the 1981 spring forum on urban evangelism were told.

Raymond Bakke, formerly pastor of Swedish Baptist church in Chicago, said the world's annual urban growth rate is 7.2 percent, and the number of people living in cities will double in the next decade.

"There is no place to hide from urban reality," said Bakke, associate professor of ministry at Northern Baptist Theological Seminary. "The suburbs are not an escape from the city, merely extensions of it. And people running away from Chicago are running into people running away from Los Angeles."

Such growth and change has not only shifted people from city to city; it has moved them from country to country, he added, noting the emergence of at least 175 "world-class cities" which have populations of more than one-million and are of international significance.

As examples, he reported Los Angeles is 74 percent non-white, and "the best place to evangelize Arabs and Jews is London," he said, citing the large numbers of those groups there.

"For 2,000 years we have had the com-

mission to go into all the world and preach the gospel to all these peoples and nations," he said. "And just now, we're finding where they are — in our world-class cities, next door."

"If we're going to survive in these cities, we've got to have a global vision" he added.

Because of the opportunity for reaching wide varieties of language and culture groups, the networks of cities have become extremely significant in world evangelism, Bakke said, classifying the potential for reaching people for Christ as unparalleled in history.

"Yet we are going to miss this if we continue to see home missions as here and foreign missions as there," he insisted.

"We're going to have to custom build our churches to reach the cities," he said, pointing to the plurality of languages and cultures that exist within the reach of established churches.

Building such congregations requires "pastoral choreography" to blend multiple strategies and resources from a "rich theological arsenal," he said. "We don't need new, avant-garde, untested strategies, we need to get back to Scripture and understand we've got a gold mine there for urban ministry."