

Baptist and Reflector

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News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

Seminar kicks off SBC focus on family

ATLANTA — Kicking off Southern Baptists' three-year focus on family life, nearly 1,200 attended the Christian Life Commission's seminar on "Strengthening Families" last week.

In addition to hearing 19 speakers present various aspects of family life in 25 speeches, the commission presented Distinguished Service Awards to former President Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalynn for their contributions to applied Christianity, including setting high standards for their marriage and family life.

During the three-day seminar, speakers related the family to internal and external forces, such as television, the church, aging, singleness, and prejudice.

A feature of the program came on Tuesday night of last week when Jimmy Allen, president of the Radio and Television Commission, and Jerry Falwell, pastor of Thomas Road Baptist Church of Lynchburg, Va., and leader of the Moral Majority, both addressed "Strengthening the Families in the Nation." (See the separate article on page 3.)

Theme interpreter David R. Mace,

noted family and marriage authority, described the major functions of the family as producing children, which includes transmitting human culture from one generation to another, and as seeing all humanity as family.

Declaring the Bible is "the right place to begin" in focusing on family concerns, Mace said men and women continue God's creative function when they produce new life, "the most God-like activity" of which they are capable.

Mace, who directs the marriage enrichment program at North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, also said marriage is the foundation stone of the Christian family. Pastoral and clinical experience has taught him that "at the heart of well-functioning families" are "warm and creative marriages."

Mace said churches are in crisis over the remarriage of divorced persons. "I can accept divorce for Christians in very difficult situations, although always with regret."

Mace called for Baptists to emphasize preventive ministries to the family that will help family members with the resources they need to keep families out of trouble.

As an example of what one Southern Baptist church is doing to strengthen families, Pastor Neal Jones and Minister of Counseling Dale Keeton of Columbia Baptist Church, Falls Church, Va., described a multi-faceted local church program of family ministries.

During discussion following their presentation, one seminar participant expressed frustration at knowing where to begin, saying he is pastor of a small church that does not have the resources for such an extensive program and asking where to start. "Find a need and then try to develop ministries to meet that need," Jones advised. "Then start to work on another need. Take them one at a time."

In the closing address, Houston Pastor

Kenneth L. Chafin urged seminar participants to go home and start to work on strengthening families by making their number one priority improving their own family relationships.

Chafin, whose South Main Baptist Church has specialized for a decade in ministry to singles and divorced persons, said "tokenism" toward the family will not do, and that pastors and churches must "make a vocation out of strengthening families."

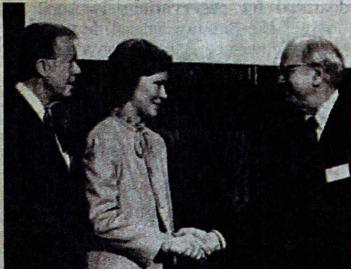
Pastors in particular must begin by strengthening their own families, Chafin said, realizing there is no "special immunity" against divorce or other family tragedies in pastoral families.

Earlier, veteran Southern Baptist pastoral care expert Wayne E. Oates sounded a similar theme, warning that the pastor is particularly vulnerable to family crises. Rather than "putting the Lord's work first," he declared, ministers should heed Paul's admonition that anyone who fails to care for his own family is worse than an unbeliever, a neglect he described as "the least used test of orthodoxy."

Former Vice-president Walter Mondale (Continued on page 3)



PRIORITY — Walter Mondale, former U.S. vice-president, addressed the Christian life seminar on "Strengthening Families: A National Priority."



AWARDS — Former President Jimmy Carter and Rosalynn Carter received the 1982 Distinguished Service Awards from the SBC Christian Life Commission and its executive director, Foy Valentine.

FMB missionaries reported 'safe' after Guatemala, Bangladesh coups

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Southern Baptist missionaries are apparently safe in both Guatemala and Bangladesh, according to the Foreign Mission Board, following the overthrow of governments in these two nations last week.

In Guatemala on March 23, the government of Romeo Lucas Garcia was ousted and replaced with a junta headed by retired Gen. Efraim Rios Montt, who ran unsuccessfully for president in 1974 as the candidate for the Christian Democrat Party.

Charging that the March 7 election was fraudulent, the coup leaders pledged over radio and television that they would defend human rights and stamp out terrorism in Guatemala.

Don Kammerdiener, FMB director for

middle America and the Caribbean, was assured by missionaries in Guatemala by telephone that all 22 missionaries there now had been "accounted for" and were in no danger.

Also on March 23, a bloodless coup in Bangladesh toppled the presidency of Abdus Sattar. The Army chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Hossain Mohammed Ershad, who led the takeover told the nation in a radio broadcast that his goal is to re-establish democracy and hold general elections as soon as possible.

Two days after the coup, FMB officials in Richmond received a cable from the missionaries serving in Bangladesh that all 10 were safe.

In both Guatemala and Bangladesh the missionaries expect to be able to continue their work without inconvenience.

SWBTS faculty adds McDow

FORT WORTH, Tex. (BP) — The naming of two major campus buildings, the adoption of a record budget, and the election of three new faculty members were highlights of the spring trustees meeting at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Malcolm McDow, director of evangelism for the Tennessee Baptist Convention since 1977, was elected associate professor of evangelism effective May 1.

McDow previously was a pastor of Cherry Road Baptist Church in Memphis and on church staffs in Rayville, La., and Houston. He is a graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern and New Orleans seminaries.

Earl R. Martin, Southern Baptist missionary to Rwanda, was elected professor of missions and world religions effective June 1.

Martin is a graduate of Maryville College, Maryville, Tenn., Southwestern and Southeastern seminaries, and the

University of Nairobi, Kenya. In addition to duties as a general evangelist in Kenya and Rwanda, he was on the Baptist seminary faculty in Arusha, Tanzania, for 11 years.

Doyle L. Young, of Weatherford, Tex., was elected instructor in church history effective May 1. He currently is Baptist Student Union director and Bible instructor at Weatherford College and an adjunct teacher in church history at Southwestern.

Young, a native of Temple, Tex., is a graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern.

The seminary's Recreation/Aerobics Center was named for Myra K. and J. Roy Slover of Liberty, Tex., who gave property valued at \$1-million in February 1979, the largest single gift in Southwestern's history.

The board also voted to name the Memorial Building complex for B.H. Carroll, founder and first president of the seminary. The complex includes Scarborough Hall, Truett Auditorium, and Fleming Library, which will retain their original names. The entire complex will be known as the B.H. Carroll Memorial Building.

The board adopted a record \$14-million operating budget for the 1982-83 academic year, representing an 18.2 percent increase over the 1981-82 operating budget of \$11.9-million, according to Russell H. Dilday Jr., seminary president.

In presenting the budget Dilday noted that \$5.6-million in funding from the Southern Baptist Convention Cooper-

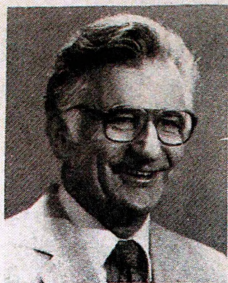
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Wayne Allen improves

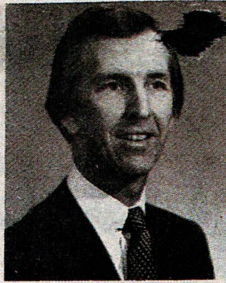
Wayne Allen, president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, has left the hospital and is doing "just great," according to East Park Baptist Church of Memphis where he is pastor.

Allen suffered a heart attack on March 9 and was taken to Baptist Memorial Hospital East, Memphis, where he stayed until March 26.

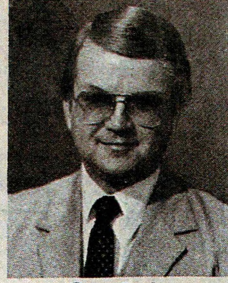
He is expected to be confined to his home for about three weeks, and then will be able to resume a restricted schedule.



Keith Mee



Mancil Ezell



Gary Cook

BSSB staffers to highlight media library convention

Five Baptist Sunday School Board staff members will highlight the 1982 Tennessee Baptist Media Library Convention, April 15-17, in Chattanooga.

Jacquelyn Anderson, Gary Cook, Mancil Ezell, John Hack, and Keith Mee will lead conferences of interest to church staff members, media library staff, and others interested in media/library subjects.

The convention, hosted by First Baptist and Red Bank Baptist churches in Chattanooga, is expected to attract about 350 Tennessee Baptists from across the state.

Jacquelyn Anderson, consultant in the church media library department of the Sunday School Board, is the author of four Broadman cassette tapes in the Media Center Techniques series, and has written three books on church media library subjects.

Gary Cook is director of the church and staff support division at the board. He is responsible for the operation of the church administration, church architecture, church media library, church music, and church recreation departments. A graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., Cook served as pastor of churches in Oklahoma before joining the board.

Ezell, secretary of the church media library department, has served in positions at the board since 1964. He is the author of four books, five filmstrips, and one teaching kit.

John Hack, church library consultant for the church library department, has served as minister of education and music at churches in Kentucky, was audiovisual librarian at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and has served as president of the Kentucky Baptist Library Association.

Baptist broadcasters to organize in April

FORT WORTH, Tex. — A support group of Baptist laypersons in the broadcast industry is being formed by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, with its first meeting scheduled for April 6.

The organization, Baptists in Broadcasting, is designed to provide broadcasters an opportunity to share professional resources with each other and with the Radio-TV Commission, and to fellowship with their Baptist peers.

Ron Dixon, RTVC vice-president for media services who is coordinating this effort, said he is inviting radio and TV station owners, general managers, program directors, news directors, sales managers, and others to join.

The first meeting, April 6, will be in Dallas in conjunction with the annual convention of the National Association of Broadcasters April 4-7.

Keith Mee is supervisor of the program and field services section of the church media library department. He is the author of two books on the use of library and audiovisuals. A native of Oregon, Mee is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, Lexington. Before joining the board in 1960, he was minister of education at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, Ky., for eight years.

Registration for the convention will begin at 12:30 p.m., April 15. First Baptist Church will host the Thursday sessions and the Friday daytime sessions. Red Bank Baptist Church will host a Friday evening banquet and the Saturday sessions. The convention will end at noon, April 17.

Gary McEwen called to Cottage Grove

Gary McEwen accepted a call from Cottage Grove Baptist Church, Cottage Grove, to come as its pastor.

McEwen, who began Jan. 27, came to the church from the pastorate of Bethel Baptist Church, Yorkville.

A native of Memphis, McEwen is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and is enrolled in seminary extension courses with Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., through Union.

Recreation plays 'unique' role in church ministry, says Conner

Recreation has a unique potential, place, and purpose in the ministry and outreach of a church, according to Ray Conner, secretary of the church recreation department of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Conner addressed the Church Recreation Mini-lab at Henry Horton State Park, March 19-20. About 50 people, including church staff members and lay persons involved in church recreation, attended the meeting, making it the largest state-wide church recreation conference ever held in Tennessee, according to Eleanor Yarborough, church recreation consultant for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

"Recreation offers meaningful support to every function of a church," Conner said. "Every church is involved in the ministry of recreation whether they recognize it or not."

He said when a banquet, social, team sport activity, craft activity, or a drama takes place, that is church recreation.

"Contrary to popular belief, a church need not be rich, have a paid staff worker, a large congregation, a gym, or a lot of youth to have a strong and vital recreational ministry," Conner continued, adding that a balanced program of recreation should meet the needs of all ages and both sexes.

Baptist Pavilion to awaken with activity as fair opens

KNOXVILLE — When the 1982 World's Fair opens here May 1, the Baptist Pavilion will begin to buzz with activity, entertainment, and a positive Christian witness.

Every operating hour of the fair, a variety of musical, dramatic, and multimedia presentations will be delivered in and outside of the pavilion.

Beginning at 10:00 each morning, Puppet People, Baptist Ministries for the 1982 World's Fair's strolling puppet team, and assorted guest puppet teams will greet fair visitors outside the Baptist Pavilion.

The Puppet People, 11 Tennessee college students, are all Tennessee Baptist Convention sponsored semester missionaries. Serving as crowd movers to draw people to the Baptist Pavilion, the Puppet People will perform from strolling circus-style wagons.

"The Word Is ... Energy," a multimedia presentation, produced by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, will kickoff the morning's events. The presentation will address God as the creator of energy and His supplementing relationship to man's need for energy.

Following the multi-image presentation, the musical-drama team, PowerSource, will deliver "Love, You Spoke a Word," a musical-drama composed by blind Christian entertainer Ken Medema of San Francisco and writer and entertainer Craig McNair Wilson of New York City. Composed of 16 vocalists, PowerSource, split into two octets, will perform every hour, totaling ten performances daily.

At 11:45 a.m. and 12:20 p.m. each day, a visiting Baptist church or college choir will perform in the pavilion. Coming from as far as Texas and Michigan, 145 choirs will perform throughout the fair's six-month span.

The afternoon agenda will commence with the multi-image presentation followed by PowerSource. The Baptist Pavilion hourly cycle will continue likewise until the fair's conclusion each

night at 10:00.

Adjacent to the Baptist Pavilion, a 40-foot carillon tower, with a repertoire of hymns and 23 national anthems, will chime every operating hour of the fair.

An exhibit at the base of the structure will explain how the instrument, composed of bells and electronic devices, works.

The Southern Baptist Convention logo, a cross superimposed over an open Bible below a universal globe, will be displayed at the top of the carillon tower.

Three meetings set for VBS training

Three mission Vacation Bible School team training conferences are scheduled in April in Brentwood, Memphis, and Chattanooga.

Designed to train workers in mission Vacation Bible Schools, the conferences are sponsored by the Sunday School department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Age group conferences and a conference on backyard Bible clubs will be led at each location by Ray Evette, director of preschool and children's work for the TBC Sunday School department; and three state-approved consultants, Lou Heath of Nashville, Eddie Neely of Knoxville, and Georgia Sinclair of Knoxville.

The Brentwood conference, April 19, will meet at the Tennessee Baptist Convention building. Berclair Baptist Church will host the Memphis conference, April 20. The Chattanooga meeting will be at the Hamilton County Baptist Association office.

Each conference will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m. The deadline for reservations is April 12. Contact the Sunday School department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention for reservations.

SWBTS faculty...

(Continued from page 1)

ative Program, and a 35 percent increase in endowment earnings and 39 percent increase in gifts and grants allowed the substantial budget increase.

Major increases included utility expenses, general salary increases for faculty and staff, and operating expenses for several new programs previously approved.

The board approved an increase in the student matriculation fee to \$225 per semester effective in the fall of 1982 as part of the budget. The increase is concurrent with a standard increase approved by the five other Southern Baptist seminaries.

Justice C. Anderson was named Bottoms Professor of Missions, effective Aug. 1. He will continue as director of the World Mission/Church Growth Center.

James Eaves, former pastor of Union Avenue Baptist Church of Memphis and presently SWBTS professor of evangelism, was named to the George W. Truett Chair of Ministry for the 1982-83 academic year. He will be a teaching liaison for the evangelism, pastoral ministries, and missions divisions and be responsible for Pioneer Penetration, an annual week of revival emphasis across the United States involving Southwestern students.

R. Cal Guy, Bottoms Professor of Missions and founding director of the World Mission/Church Growth Center, was honored for 36 years of teaching at Southwestern. He will retire July 31.

Jerry McGehee dies in Alabama hospital

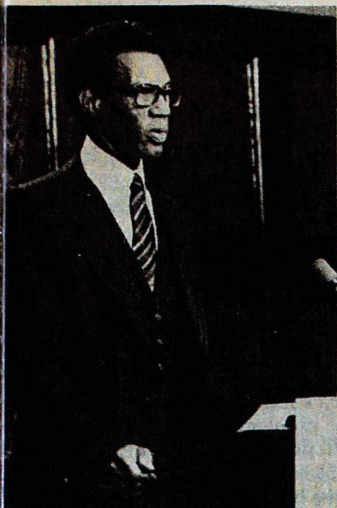
Jerry McGehee, pastor of Tennessee and Alabama churches for 46 years, died March 19 in a Huntsville, Ala., hospital.

McGehee, 79, retired from the pastorate of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Huntland, in 1978. His previous pastorates include Oak Grove Baptist Church, Flintville; Keith Springs and Lexie Baptist churches, both of Belvidere; Elora and Donaldson Grove Baptist churches, both of Elora; and Macedonia Baptist Church, Ardmore.

A native of Jackson County, Ala., McGehee is survived by his widow, Jenny Mae; and three daughters, Edith, Mrs. Raymond Brown, and Mrs. Clifton Moore, all of New Market, Ala.

The funeral was held March 22 at Gallant Funeral Home, Fayetteville.

Family life seminar...



PREJUDICE — Houston pastor William Lawson, a graduate of Tennessee State University, Nashville, spoke to last week's seminar on "Families Combating Prejudice."

Missionary jailed after car accident

HONDURAS (BP)— Southern Baptist missionary Stephen Baillio was jailed overnight and later released on bail after he was driving struck and killed a woman near Tegucigalpa, Honduras, March 14.

Baillio said he was driving about 35 miles per hour when the woman stepped off a bus, parked on the wrong side of the highway, and walked directly into the path of his car. The missionary family was returning home from morning worship services.

He took the injured woman to a hospital in Tegucigalpa, where she died about three hours later.

Baillio was held in custody overnight, then released to his home under "house arrest" for the next four days. He was released on bail March 19 pending filing of formal charges.

It is customary throughout Latin America for drivers involved in injury accidents to be jailed and charged, regardless of specific circumstances in the accidents.

Baillio said by telephone he was overwhelmed by the visits of about 30 members of his Honduran church, who came by his home to offer their support. Members of three churches assisted the family, and the Woman's Missionary Union of one church spent one night in prayer for the missionary.

Retreat scheduled for small churches

The 1982 Small Church Sunday School Leadership Retreat, April 23-24, will be held at Camp Carson, Newport.

Age group conferences will be led by five consultants from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board: Cosette Baker, James Berthelot, Cos Davis, Daryl Heath, and Becky Martin.

Sponsored by the Sunday School department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, the retreat begins with registration at 4 p.m., April 23, and ends with lunch on April 24.

The deadline for reservations is April 15. A \$12 registration fee should accompany reservations sent to the Sunday School department, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027.

(Continued from page 1)

dale called for reordering the nation's priorities to make sure every person lives a full life, pointing out that almost every social problem in the nation is related to family crises. He affirmed his personal Christian faith and clearly stated, "I am not a secular humanist." He said he supports a strong national defense but not at the expense of social programs that help the poor and needy.

U.S. Congressman Claude Pepper, urged expanding ministries to the aging, saying "the great tragedy" of old age in America is the feeling of "being a burden instead of a blessing to the family."

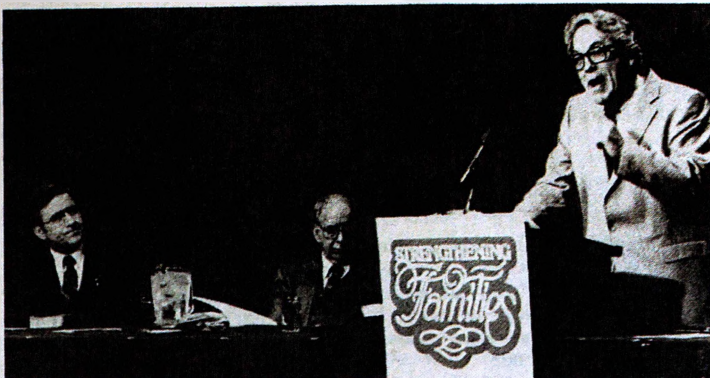
Former Baptist and Reflector columnist David Edens said that "within the Christian lifestyle, singleness is a valid option," noting that 43-million adults in the United States live alone. "Every adult has to deal with being single: the questions are 'when?' and 'how long?'"

Edens of Stephens College, Columbia, Mo., said that loneliness is the most often cited consequence of singleness, and ironically freedom is the greatest advantage of being single. He closed by saying that singles are crying out, "we want to be treated as persons, rather than mission projects; we want to be mainstreamed into the total church family."

A black Baptist pastor from Houston, Bill Lawson of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, urged families to work on the problem of racial prejudice in the home. Acknowledging "the sickness of racism belongs to us all," Lawson said it is nevertheless "a curable disease." The only antidote to prejudice in his own life, said Lawson, was "love nurtured in the womb of a family that prayed together and shared Christian values."

Speaking on the effect of television on families, especially children, TV personality Robert Keeshan — "Captain Kangaroo" — said too many parents blame television as a "scapegoat" rather than accepting responsibility for the root causes of problems among young people. Parents have a responsibility to make judgments concerning programs which their children watch as well as to work with others seeking to improve the moral quality of television programming.

Other major speakers for the seminar included Charles Petty, director of the governor's office of citizen affairs for North Carolina; James Dobson, producer of a widely-used film series on family life; Joyce Landorf, popular author and speaker; and Dorothy Sample, president of Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the SBC.



SEMINAR — Jerry Falwell (left) listens intently to Jimmy Allen (right), awaiting his turn to address the same topic, "Strengthening Families in the Nation," at last week's seminar in Atlanta. Foy Valentine (center) is executive director of the SBC Christian Life Commission which sponsored the seminar.

Falwell, Allen give opinions on school prayer, abortion

ATLANTA (BP)— Moral Majority president Jerry Falwell and former Southern Baptist Convention president Jimmy R. Allen gave differing views on the roles of public schools and abortion during a Christian Life Commission seminar in Atlanta on strengthening families.

Falwell, pastor of Thomas Road Baptist Church Lynchburg, Va., and founder of Moral Majority, and Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, each spoke on the topic, "Strengthening Families in the Nation" before a packed crowd of almost 1,200.

Falwell supported the teaching of "scientific creationism" and "scientific evolution" in public schools, saying he does not believe it is a violation of separation of church and state as declared by an Arkansas Federal District Court. Falwell also endorsed "voluntary" prayer in public schools, and supported alternative education through 18,000 Christian parochial schools.

Allen, however, drew applause from the crowd by reaffirming his conviction "that withdrawal from the public school of the children of our strongest Christian families and of the finest Christian teachers or administrators is a basic mistake of strategy for the Christian community." This leaves the public school system "abandoned to non-Christians, poverty-stricken, and a few stubborn and embattled believers," Allen said.

Citing the personal influence of a Christian teacher in an inner-city public school which did not have formal devotional or prayers, Allen said, "What I am calling for is not formal prayers in public schools, but for more Christians who are prayerers to be in the public schools of America."

Allen said the greatest classroom in America is not the schoolroom, but the living room or den where the television set is located. "Television is the greatest teaching tool in the history of humanity."

Christian television programming can make a new impact on American family values, Allen said, but Christians must become involved in strengthening the family, not because it concerns the health of the nation, but because of the purposes of God. "It is not enough to be concerned about the family for patriotic reasons," said Allen, who warned that "civil religion is dangerous because it overpromises and underproduces."

Although both opposed abortion on demand, Falwell said he "respectfully disagreed" with Allen's plea for "compassion and forgiveness" for women and young girls who have abortions in cases of rape, incest, and threat to life and health of the mother.

In introducing Falwell, Christian Life Commission Executive Director Foy Valentine pointed out Falwell had a clearly stated agenda for "strengthening families in the nation."

"I assume that the agenda he pursues as pastor of the Thomas Road Baptist Church is one with which we would be in essential agreement, but the agenda pursued by the Moral Majority political organization is apparently not one with which we are in complete and total agreement," Valentine said. "Nevertheless, we need to hear you," he told Falwell.

McDivitt to lead Trimble Baptists

Jerry McDivitt was called to lead First Baptist Church, Trimble, as pastor, a ministry he began Jan. 27.

McDivitt came to the church from the pastorate of Halls Westside Baptist Church, Halls, and was previously pastor of Beaver Baptist Church, Brighton, and First Baptist Church, Mason. He is evangelism committee chairman for Dyer Baptist Association.

A native of Covington, McDivitt is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

SBC fills rooms in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — All 6,800 hotel rooms reserved for participants in the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting June 15-17 have been claimed, as well as 300 to 500 others the New Orleans housing bureau was able to dig up, according to convention manager Tim Hedquist.

Hedquist suggests persons still planning to attend the meeting, but who have no room, write the New Orleans Convention and Housing Bureau at 334 Royal St., 70130. Ask for a brochure that lists all the hotels in the area. They can be contacted individually.

The number of rooms reserved through the housing bureau is double that reserved last year in Los Angeles when registration reached 13,529.

Statistician Martin Bradley and registration secretary Lee Porter project registration will be just over 20,000. Porter says further it is conceivable registration could pass Atlanta's record registration of 22,872 in 1978. Martin's projections are based on location, Baptist strength in the area, and registration over the past eight years.

Hedquist says the youth evangelism emphasis that is bringing 5,000 young people to New Orleans for a week of study and witnessing, has soaked up rooms that normally would be available to the convention bureau. Dorm space in New Orleans colleges is gone, and almost every major Southern Baptist church in the city is housing youth, he says.

The 6,800 original rooms were sold out by Dec. 1 after registration opened Oct. 1. The majority of the hotels were filled in two weeks.

EDITORIAL

Baptists must respond to family life crisis

Every survey of church and denominational leaders in the past decade that we recall has listed as a major concern "the deterioration of the family in America."

Most of today's adults were children in an era when movies and television depicted marriage as ideal, complete happiness. What problems arose in "Father Knows Best" were all solved joyfully in 30 minutes. Marriage was a life-long commitment; divorces were so rare that neither the church nor society in general knew how to deal with the victims — and did not seem concerned that it did not.

Strict laws made divorce almost impossible. Many denominations did not permit divorce by its members. Public opinion almost made social outcasts of those who admitted to unsuccessful marriages.

Because of these legal, religious, and attitudinal restrictions, there is really no way of knowing how many marriages were "happy" or simply "tolerated."

The post World War II emphasis on materialism would seem to have been the beginning of family life demise in America. The family was no longer judged by its internal cohesive relationships, but by the size of the house, the make and number of automobiles, and the acquiring of "things" like boats, color television sets, and country club memberships.

These pressures for materialistic success led to the conclusion that one ordinary job was not sufficient, leading to overtime hours, second jobs, and employment outside the home taken by wives and children.

The home, which had once been the center of recreation and relationships, became merely a place to refuel, rewrap, or rest the physical body between outside activities.

The quest for "happiness" was never satisfied, because there were always new models or more exciting things to be acquired.

Accompanying this materialism was an overwhelming parallel emphasis on "selfishness." Personal satisfaction and pleasure were seen as the key to real happiness. Gradually this attitude worked its way into family life, leading many to believe that family responsibilities were a threat and hindrance to realizing a person's goals.

The movies, television, and magazines began to glamorize divorce. Legislatures repeatedly acted to make divorce laws more lax.

Faced with the rising number of family breakups, the churches began to speak less and less about divorce — and eventually less and less about marriage as a God-ordained institution.

Finally, the trend in churches has begun to shift. No longer could this massive problem be ignored. So, in the midst of Bold Mission Thrust — Southern Baptists' visionary goal to confront every person on earth with the gospel by the end of this century — we are inserting a three-year emphasis on strengthening family life.

To launch this needed priority, the Christian Life Commission held a significant seminar last week in Atlanta. For three days an outstanding array of those involved in various aspects of family life explored the seminar theme, "Strengthening Families."

The response was overwhelming. Registration reached 1,163 — more than

twice the number who normally attend the annual Christian Life Commission seminars.

This was not a seminar of "doom" with leaders predicting the complete demise of family life in America. Naturally, there was a certain amount of "viewing with alarm" the rising divorce rate, touching the marriages of active church members and even pastors.

Many speakers challenged churches to make family life a top priority, forsaking the syndrome of silence for an active emphasis on counseling and marriage enrichment programs. Churches must seek ways to equip their members for marriage — and give continuing assistance for a proper interpretation of family life.

Certainly, neither Bold Mission Thrust priorities nor a three-day seminary will solve the crisis in America's families. It is a beginning, but unless the churches tackle this immense problem in their local congregations and communities, the emphasis will produce little positive results.

Yes, there is a critical crisis in family life. Yet, as Christians, we are convinced that God is vitally concerned in the breakdown of the family — His first institution, outdating the church and governments. Likewise, we are convinced that God desires to guide any effort to reclaim the spiritual, social, and physical importance of the family unit.

Because of this, we are not without hope or help. The problem is immense — but so is God's power.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Dollars for defamation

By Elmer L. Gray, editor

"The California Southern Baptist," Fresno, Calif.

An 18-inch ad during February in the San Rafael Independent Journal offered \$1,000 to students of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary who would write and report "liberal statements of professors."

San Rafael is the county seat of Marin County where Golden Gate seminary is located. Golden Gate is one of six Southern Baptist seminaries in the United States. These six seminaries have a total enrollment of over 20,000 students preparing for church ministries and church-related vocations.

The ad that offers to pay students \$1,000 for speaking against their professors makes it clear there is no intention to pay any of these students \$1,000. No! The writer of the "best essay" will be paid \$500 and then \$100 will be paid five others who might be selected.

For some reason the person placing the ad felt that it was important to offer anonymity to the students writing their complaints about their professors. He insisted that this would be done to protect the writers.

The person placing the ad is not identified, but any student wishing to malign a professor publicly in print and get paid for it may send his "essay" to "Dr. William A. Powell" of Hollywood, Calif.

Powell is editor of *The Southern Baptist Journal*, published in Buchanan, Ga. The masthead of the paper identifies itself as the publication of "Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship, Inc., of Southern Baptists." However, it states in boldface type in the masthead, "This is NOT an official publication of the Southern Baptist Convention."

This isn't the first time Powell's Georgia paper has attacked the Southern Baptist seminary in California. Powell printed a series of articles written by someone whom he identified as a graduate of Golden Gate, of California Graduate School of Theology, and of San Francisco Theological Seminary which was apparently meant to be disclosures of liberalism.

In the meantime Golden Gate seminary continues to grow. It has the largest enrollment it has ever had. Its students are boldly witnessing for Christ and serving churches and missions as far away as the Nevada line.

The faculty has been increased in order to take care of the rapidly growing student body. Every faculty member joins with the others who have served through the years in signing his full and unreserved commitment to the Bible as having "God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter."

What should be done about this ad?

Nothing can be done about it. This is a free country. Anybody can attack what Southern Baptists are doing without fear of retribution. It is not appropriate for us even to answer such charges nor to condemn any student who might be attracted by the dollars.

But, some keep asking, "Why does this kind of thing happen when the Lord is so obviously blessing Golden Gate seminary and California Southern Baptists?"

When an individual or a group starts a forward surge in serving Christ, opposition will often arise. Some opposition is obviously inspired by the devil, but some of it comes from seemingly well-meaning persons who are not satisfied with the terminology or the methodology. Criticism should be taken seriously, but we should determine not to lose the momentum of the advance simply to pacify some critics.

Usually those who go public with their criticism are not interested in helping, but rather in profit or in power. This isn't true with all critics. Some will be the strongest supporters of a work that they are critical of. The only thing to do is to keep our eyes on Christ and to follow His leadership without hesitation.

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE — 79,756

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News Journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention
Tom Madden, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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Nominations sought for heritage award

The awards committee of the Tennessee Baptist Historical Society has announced it is still open to nominations for the 1982 Tennessee Baptist Heritage award to be presented during the annual Tennessee Baptist Convention, Nov. 16-18, in Memphis.

The award will be given to a nominee who has made a significant contribution to Baptist life on a state, associational, or local church level, according to Eleanor Yarborough, TBC historical consultant.

Anyone wishing to nominate a candidate for the award should send the person's biographical sketch, a list of written works, major accomplishments, and other pertinent data, according to Glenn Toomey of Morristown, director of missions for the Nolachucky Baptist Association and chairman of the awards committee.

The deadline for nominations is July 31. These should be submitted to Toomey or the committee members, Eugene Cotey of Murfreesboro and Marilyn Redding of Memphis.

The recipient will be asked to attend the Tennessee Baptist Convention to receive the award.

Personal perspective

By TOM MADDEN
TBC executive secretary

"But I went into Arabia" (Galatians 1:17).

After the dramatic conversion of Saul of Tarsus, he was eager and impatient to share his Damascus Road experience with the whole world. Instead he was led by God into Arabia, where some scholars think he spent about three years.

Surely Paul needed time to restudy the Word of God in light of the fact that he now believed the Messiah had been born, lived, crucified, and was already risen. He had formerly believed the Messiah was yet to come.

He needed the wilderness experience in order that he might later say, "I received of the Lord that which I also delivered unto you."

The thought came to me that many of us have an Arabian desert experience bound up in the bundle of life.

There is the Arabia of illness. I have never known a sickness to be convenient or welcomed. However, I have known some illnesses, looked upon in retrospect, that have been used of God for good. At these times we can say, "It is good for me that I have been afflicted."

All of us travel to the Arabia of sorrow and grief. Either we have experienced it or we are on the waiting list. It is in this experience we can learn of God's grace and the peace that passeth all understanding. We can say, "Thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress."

Surely all of us have been to the Arabia of disappointment. Our plans go awry, our dreams fade, and we can say, "The ships went not, for they were broken on the rocks."

I do know this, God can take our Arabian experiences and, in time, use them for much good. I don't believe Paul would have been all he came to be if he had missed his Arabian experience.



Madden

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.

Care for the retarded

Dear editor:

I am in sympathy with the lady that wrote you about her retarded daughter (letters to the editor, March 3). She made me realize how badly we need a home for our retarded people.

On page 3 of that issue there is mention of many, many millions of dollars. I see there is \$12.5-million to be spent on two different challenge phases. What better way could we spend some of this huge amount of money? I think there should be one built in western Tennessee, one in middle Tennessee, and one in eastern Tennessee.

A lot of retarded people will never be able to work. To me, I think our churches could help take care of these retarded people.

The officers of our SBC ought to do this soon. I am of the opinion that a lot of our money sent overseas to mission fields never gets to the ones that really need it most. I have an idea that the big wheels of these poor countries get most of the money.

If the Executive Committee of our SBC would authorize the building of these three schools and homes, this would be much better than sending a lot of money for the poor in Africa, India, or wherever. We Southern Baptists could visit these people, and at least we all could see something good our tithes helped make possible.

This is similar to what our government does. They give our tax dollars away to help poor people, but most of it never reaches the poor.

Sam E. Goad
Rt. 1, Box 343
Covington, TN 38019

Confirm or confound?

Dear editor:

Thank you for your challenging editorial on Southern Baptist education (March 17). If indeed the thesis says what it seems to say, then theological education at Southern seminary does not confirm a person's faith, but rather confounds it.

At least, your suggestion to investigate is certainly in order. If the questions were on minor issues, I would not be alarmed, but the questions you listed in your editorial seem to be the very heart of our faith.

Please keep the issue alive and us informed as to any action taken.

Clay Frazier
311 Cypress St.
Mount Carmel, TN 37642

Outraged at Porter

Dear editor:

I was outraged to read of the comments made by Nathan Porter, the SBC Home Mission Board Domestic Hunger Consultant, regarding President Reagan's budget cuts ("Hunger specialist urges fewer federal social cuts," March 17).

He was right when he said he could not speak for all Southern Baptists. What he believes as an individual is one thing, but as an employee of the convention, he should be careful not to misrepresent the entire SBC.

I quote Porter, "Human need and social justice cannot be sacrificed at the altar of economic program and military might."

He also stated that the time has not come to "abandon our compassion, our ideals, and our commitment to justice."

He said all of this before a House budget panel in Washington. He blasted the Reagan program as an "irresponsible transfer of help to the rich."

He sounds as if he is running for the Democratic nomination in 1984.

He is judging the President's motives when he claims that he is hurting the poor and helping the wealthy.

There are many of us who believe that cuts were necessary and that the military needed a higher priority in our budget.

I hope our convention workers deal more with solutions and less rhetoric in the future. The president needs prayers, he already gets enough criticism.

Dennis Vest
287 Jefferson
Ripley, TN 38063

Concern for daughter

Dear editor:

I would like to add my comments and concern to that of the lady who had the "special child" and was concerned about its future if she became unable to care for it or died before it did (letters, March 3).

My wife Frances and I have a 33-year-old daughter about whom we are very concerned, if something should happen to us. The only thing she can do for herself is feed herself and the food has to be fixed exactly right or she can't do that. Having been the pastor of small, rural churches for the past 30 years and a school teacher for the past 20 years, it is understandable that we have amassed very little of this world's goods. What little we do have would be gladly given to the TBC if we had the assurance that our little one would be properly cared for if we precede her in death or become unable physically to care for her.

We have tried to be good stewards of God's blessings in this life and would like very much to be assured that if anything is left at our passing, it would be used wisely by the TBC to help provide for not only ours but others as well.

Lauren Locke
Rt. 1
Darden, TN 38328

Incisive, informative, fair

Dear editor:

Your editorial on the Hollyfield thesis is probably the most important one to appear in your paper or any state journal for many a moon. It is incisive, informative, and eminently fair. It demonstrates great courage to face the issue of theological drift in our convention without labeling everyone a liberal or trying to damage our schools. It is a

Citizen's Corner

By Jerry M. Self
Public affairs and Christian life consultant

Two gambling bills are set to be voted on by the Tennessee House Wednesday, April 7. The Racing Commission Law, HB 1106, which would bring paramutuel gambling to Memphis and Nashville, is the first of these bills. The Senate companion, SB 1074, waits patiently in the Senate calendar committee to see what action the House will take.

The second bill would remove the June 30 deadline to outlaw gambling on pinball machines. If passed, HB 2247 would legalize pinball gambling using

machines already in the state. No new machines would be allowed in. Supposedly, when existing machines wear out, pinball gambling would become illegal. The Senate version of the bill, SB 2218, was due for a hearing before the senate judiciary committee on Tuesday of this week.

The Senate meets this week while the House is in recess. After next week's round of legislative sessions both houses should have only two days available for business. The legislative leadership has considered saving a day or two to meet in Knoxville at the opening of the World's Fair. Even if they find it necessary to use their full 90 days in Nashville, we will see the conclusion of the 92nd General Assembly in the next few days.

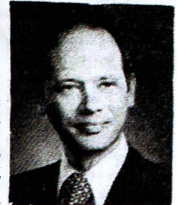
sincere effort to apprise your readership without being an unreasonable critic of theological education. It demonstrates the tremendous sense of stewardship you must feel about your ministry as editor.

During the Elliot controversy, (The Message of Genesis), in the early 1960s, every gory detail was aired in our press with most editors taking a position of opposition to the contents of the book and of real concern for the issue.

In our present theological unrest, there appears to be a strange silence by many editors which some have interpreted as suppression of the facts and a real reticence on their part to positionize themselves, which makes your editorial all the more important.

As one who was saved, nurtured, and called to preach in Nashville churches and who pastored in Tennessee for 16 years, I love Tennessee Baptists and thank God that you are editor of the Baptist and Reflector.

Eldridge L. Miller
122 West Chickasaw St.
Sallisaw, OK 74955



Self

New lesson writers named

Two pastors have been named to write Sunday School lesson commentaries for the Baptist and Reflector during the next quarter.

Larry M. Taylor, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City, will write the Life and Work series commentary; and Dennis R. Plank, pastor of First Baptist Church, Madison, will provide the Bible Book series commentary. The first lessons for both writers appear in this issue of the Baptist and Reflector.

Taylor, a native of Little Rock, Ark., has been pastor of the Jefferson City church for more than five years. Before that, he was pastor of First Baptist

Church, Cleburne, Tex. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

A native of London, Ontario, Canada, Plank grew up in upstate New York. Before becoming pastor of the Madison church in 1981, he was pastor of First Baptist Church, Greenbrier, for more than seven years. He has also served churches in Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana. Plank is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and has done post graduate work at the University of Louisville (Ky.) and the University of Akron (Ohio).

Humor, integrity mark FMB's Keith Parks

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is part of a series of feature stories on the executive heads of Southern Baptist agencies, boards, and institutions. Each article has been written by a public relations person within the agency.

By Robert O'Brien

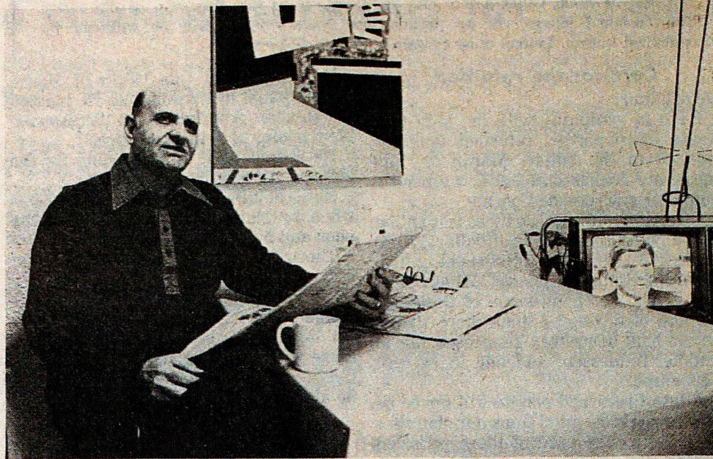
RICHMOND, Va. (BP)— As a frail, sickly child, Keith Parks surprised doctors when he lived beyond the age of 13.

Years later, when his kids were teenagers, a robust Keith Parks surprised their friends, who could not envision losing to an "old man," when he challenged and beat them in impromptu foot races.

Members of the Foreign Mission Board surprised 25-year veteran missionary and board administrator Keith Parks — and many outside observers — when they picked him to succeed Baker James Cauthen as chief administrator of the world's largest evangelical missionary-sending agency.

It still surprises 54-year-old Foreign Mission Board President Keith Parks when people talk about him in the role of president. "I'm always a little surprised or detached when they talk about it. Sometimes I feel like they must be talking about someone else. I never thought I'd be that in my wildest imagination."

Parks, in turn, has surprised a lot of people since he assumed his duties Jan. 1, 1980, with the sweeping innovations his administrative style has brought. The openness which characterizes his presidency — such as his willingness to speak forthrightly on even the most complex problems of run-



TIME OUT — A cup of coffee, a newspaper, and a TV newscast take Keith Parks' mind away from his busy role as president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board during time at home with his family.

ning a \$100-million-a-year agency — kicks their surprise into overdrive.

Parks believes integrity demands that Southern Baptists know the problems as well as the victories as the board spends their contributions to reach the world for Christ.

His sense of integrity was forged in small towns in Texas and Arkansas in the family of a cattle trader who — in his eldest son's memory — exemplified spiritual depth, tough-minded discipline, and honesty.

"I would hear Daddy say, when talking about guys who would try to trade him a sick animal, 'It does me a lot of good to be an honest man and beat them at their own game,'" recalls Parks.

But those days, in the heart of the depression, were not easy for Parks, who developed a severe rheumatic condition at age six and spent a painful summer in the hospital. "When I got out of the hospital, I was skinny and weak. I didn't know until years later that doctors told my parents that I wouldn't live past 13."

He also did not know until years later that his mother and father knelt by his bed and prayed that if God would heal and strengthen him they would do all they could to encourage him toward Christian service.

Parks also learned years later that his mother had felt called to missions when she was a teen-ager but could not go because of difficult circumstances during World War I. After he had decided to become a missionary, he learned she had prayed for years that God would call one of her children for overseas service.

Keith, oldest of four, answered the call to Indonesia. If current plans hold, all four of his children will end up on the mission field. Randall, now 28, earned a Ph.D. at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where his father also earned a doctorate, and has been appointed for Egypt. Kent, 24, a student at Southwestern, says he will seek appointment, as will Stanley, 18, and Eloise, 20, both students at Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex.

"Mom and Dad never pushed us toward missions," Stanley says of the independent-minded Parks children. "They gave us the spiritual guidance and helped us develop the tools to find out for ourselves what God's call was."

Parks' wife, Helen Jean, his children, and co-workers paint a picture of a complex man:

Conscientious family man, sporadic jogger, warm preacher, avid reader, early-rising tennis player, serious Bible

student, sure-handed egg-throwing champion of annual board picnics, good listener, "Godly man" with "feet of clay," good handyman, consensus-seeking administrator but firm — some say stubborn — romantic and thoughtful husband, encourager of creative ideas, hard worker, strict but loving father who can get angry but forgives and forgets, down-to-earth humorist, optimistic realist, selective TV viewer, more prone to view the "big picture" than to keep up with details, practical admirer of beauty, rabid Dallas Cowboy fan, and faithful church member — even when the Cowboys play a late Sunday afternoon football game on TV.

A well-developed sense of humor, a key ingredient of that complex mix, helps Parks lighten relationships and break tension and fatigue at home and work. Other escapes at home include quietly sipping coffee and watching a lighted aquarium in the darkened room, a habit he picked up as a missionary in Indonesia, and reading Louis L'Amour's western novels.

Parks has learned that the responsibility for the board's \$104-million budget, 3,100 missionaries, and 350 home office staff has headaches as well as victories. With that turf goes responsibility to make decisions — popular and unpopular. Parks has made some of both.

A close co-worker says Parks often hurts inside when he has to make a tough decision regarding staff or when he receives a lot of criticism for an unpopular decision. He likes to be liked, but he has the capacity to make difficult decisions regardless of what people think of him, he says.

Commenting on that type of decision, Parks says: "I must make those decisions based on strong rationale and objective data so that the decision has validity apart from feelings and emotion. There is no way to please all the people in this role. If there's a basic conviction on something I know I've got to stand by — whatever the reaction — I have to plant my weight in terms of my own convictions."



FAMILY PET — Duke of Sprite, pedigree Shetland Sheep Dog, basks in a moment of affection from Keith and Helen Jean Parks in their Richmond, Va., home.



MOTHER'S LIFESTYLE AFFECTS UNBORN CHILD — "A child depends on his mother from the moment he is conceived. For nine months, the child lives as she lives, gaining all nourishment needed for life from her body. That's the message the March of Dimes Foundation tries to deliver to expectant mothers. Without proper care or precautions, a woman creates unfavorable 'living conditions' for the fetus, and unfavorable conditions create birth defects. Although the largest number of birth defects are caused by genetic factors, defects caused by environmental factors can be prevented by mothers. Smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, and taking unnecessary drugs during pregnancy are of particular concern. 'There's no question with mothers who smoke during their pregnancy — their babies are at risk of being born either early or small,' Terry King, director of the neonatal pediatric intensive care units at St. Francis Medical Center in Monroe, said. ... Alcohol is another damaging environmental factor. ... 'It's (fetal alcohol syndrome) a very real syndrome which usually occurs if the mother drinks more than two or more alcoholic drinks a day.' Drugs are another substance which may create problems in unborn children. Expectant mothers should check with their physician before taking any prescribed or over-the-counter medication.'" (LOUISIANA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME NEWS, March, 1982)

Texas layman to lead 50,000 joggers in Brazil Baptist centennial event

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)— Physical fitness expert Kenneth Cooper will lead 50,000 joggers down Rio de Janeiro's Copacabana Beach Sept. 25 in what a Brazilian national newspaper has labeled "the run of the century."

The event, part of the centennial celebration of Baptist work in Brazil, will allow Texas Baptist layman Cooper to share his Christian testimony with participants, according to Thurmon Bryant, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board director for eastern South America. Runners will receive gospel literature and be invited to Baptist churches by trained counselors at the scene.

Bryant reported on the plans at the board's March meeting as he told of accomplishments already achieved in Mission to Brazil, Texas Baptists' mission partnership with the Foreign Mission Board and Brazilian Baptists.

In 1981, Bryant said, more than 1,100 Texas volunteers from 373 churches

were instrumental in helping Brazilians accept Christ as Saviour. Another 3,500 Texans have been requested this year for 87 projects pointing toward the centennial observation Oct. 15.

Cooper is well known in Brazil because of his training program which helped Brazil's soccer team win its third World Cup in 1970. A Brazilian asks a person if he jogs this way: "Have you done your Cooper today?" In the United States, Cooper is best known for his books on aerobics and for his large aerobics center in Dallas.

Aerobics is a conditioning system that emphasizes fitness of the heart, lungs, and circulatory system.

Board Chairman Travis Berry of Plano, Tex., urged prayer for the April 13 missionary appointment service in Birmingham, Ala. Alabama Baptist sponsors have set an attendance goal of 15,000 and are praying for 500 decisions for missionary service. The board also will meet in Birmingham April 12-14.

Philippine crusades reap 13,544 decisions for Christ

MANILA, Philippines (BP)— Thousands of Filipinos accepted Christ as Saviour during two partnership crusades in January and February.

Reports, still lacking totals from at least 10 churches, indicate 13,544 people made professions of faith, 1,078 were baptized, and 242 indicated a desire to enter full-time Christian ministry.

The crusades were the first sponsored fully by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board since it assumed partnership evangelism from the World Evangelism Foundation Jan. 1.

The first crusade, held Jan. 24-31 in three Baptist associations on the island of Luzon, drew 171 Southern Baptists from the United States who paid their own way to participate. Another 179 came for the second crusade in the metro Manila area Feb. 21-28. A total of 71 Filipino Baptist churches participated in the two crusades.

Decisions to follow Christ as personal Saviour are recorded only after individuals have signed decision cards also bearing the name of the person who witnessed to them, said Missionary Jim Slack. "We don't count raised hands and give those figures as professions of faith."

The figures are impressive. One Southern Baptist pastor, who has witnessed little response in five years at his home church, was overwhelmed by more than 500 professions of faith during his week in the Philippines.

For years Southern Baptist missionaries in the Philippines have said the country is a ready field for witness. "You won't find a people more responsive to the gospel than you will find here," Missionary Bill Tisdale told crusade participants.

To reach the people, Southern Baptists and Filipino baptists paired up. Every morning and afternoon they went out into areas around their assigned churches to witness, encourage, and invite people to evening services. Every evening the American pastor preaching in the local church brought an evangelistic message and called for decisions. Toward the end of the week a baptismal service was held.

In doing so, they penetrated virtually every level of Filipino society.

Partners worked in fishing villages along the coast, in farming communities in the mountains, among the affluent of metro Manila, and with the poor packed into Manila's slums. One team spent a week among the prisoners at the national prison in Muntinlupa where 1,000 believed and several worked among the cardboard and plywood hovels of squatters migrating to the cities from the provinces in search of a better life.

"The churches of the Luzon Baptist Convention are ecstatic about what has happened," said Bob Nash, chairman of the Philippines Baptist Mission. "The

crusades have put church growth here years ahead of what it would have been without them."

In planning for the crusades, Filipino Baptists asked God for 30,000 professions of faith and 10,000 baptisms during the year. To reach those goals will require extensive follow-up efforts on their part.

"Now our work begins," said Henry Cabalang, pastor of University Baptist Church in Manila and chairman of the crusades' steering committee. "Now we have to disciple these people and help them become part of our churches."

Though the American volunteers will not be able to see the full results of their efforts, they already are seeing some results in themselves. The consensus of the group was they would never be the same. Their experience with partnership evangelism had changed them.

"There is not a one of us from our city who could have afforded to come here on our own," said Carol Ann Yarber of Mesquite, Tex. "When you see the seven of us, think of the 500 who supported us financially and helped us to come. Somehow, we've got to share with them what we learned about leading others to Jesus."

Even Charles Bryan, vice-president of overseas operations for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, was unprepared for the depth of feeling he received from the crusade.

"I used to talk about being bold in our witness," he said. "But now that I've been here, I know what boldness is."

Bryan, who lead a team from Applewood Baptist Church near Denver, Colo., worked with Open Door Baptist Church in San Pablo City, about two hours by bus from Manila. During the week he saw more than 500 people make professions of faith and participated in a tandem baptism service, with four pastors baptizing, for 66 people.

One who accepted Christ as personal Saviour during that week was the mayor of a nearby town. Though there were numerous interruptions as the group visited with the mayor, Bryan managed to talk seriously with him about Christ. Before they left, the mayor knelt and asked Christ to come into his heart.

"Whatever else we do on the mission field," Bryan said, "We've got to remember that our first priority is to win souls to Jesus Christ."

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SIMULTANEOUS BAPTISMS — Four ministers who participated in the evangelistic crusade in the Open Door Baptist Church, San Pablo City, Philippines, baptized 66 Filipinos in one service. In all churches combined, partnership crusades in the Philippines resulted in 13,544 professions of faith.



WITNESS — Ron Proctor of Irving, Tex., was one of 350 volunteers from the States who saw thousands — the affluent and the poor, the fisherman and the farmer, the city official and the prisoner — come to know Christ.

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Springville church calls Roy Milner

Springville Baptist Church, Springville, called Roy Milner as its pastor, a ministry he began in January.

Milner is a former pastor of New Prospect Baptist Church, McKenzie; Mooring Baptist Church, Ridgely; Ruthville Baptist Church, Martin; and New Prospect Baptist Church, Morris Chapel.

A native of Martin, Milner attended the University of Tennessee at Martin.

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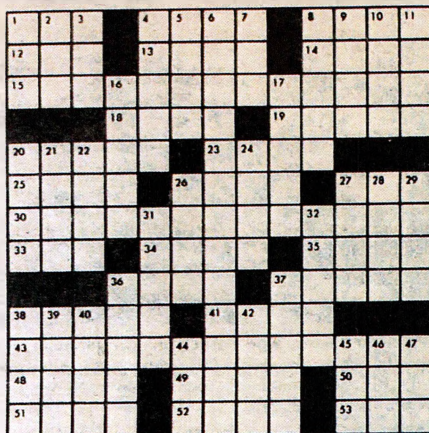
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Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 10



51 Bench
52 Otherwise
53 Pound and ounce: abbr.

DOWN

- 1 The cherubim covered it (2 Chron. 5:8)
- 2 French king
- 3 Great, rich and mighty (Rev. 6:15)
- 4 Wild ones (Dan. 5:21)
- 5 Male swans
- 6 "Therefore let all the — — —" (Acts 2:36)
- 7 Printer's measures
- 8 Ancestor of Jesus (Luke 3:31)
- 9 Always
- 10 Mislay
- 11 Hardy heroine
- 16 Unclean bird (Deut. 14:13)
- 17 Silver and gold (Psa. 115:4)
- 20 Trees
- 21 Spanish cheers
- 22 Bar-jesus (Acts 13)
- 24 Work
- 26 Golfer's cry
- 27 Eagle or head
- 28 Afternoon parties
- 29 Narrow opening
- 31 The Lord smote him (1 Sam. 25:38)
- 32 Set upright
- 36 Portion
- 37 State
- 38 "our secret — —" (Psa. 90)
- 39 Arrow poison
- 40 Tibetan priest
- 42 American inventor
- 44 Prefix
- 45 Present
- 46 Hundredweight: abbr.
- 47 Some trains

ACROSS

- 1 "and reapeth the ears with his —" (Isa. 17)
- 4 Word with tooth or ear
- 8 "and the elements shall —" (2 Pet. 3)
- 12 Wild (2 Sam. 2:18)
- 13 Promptly
- 14 Bacchanals' cry
- 15 "and did the — —" (Dan. 8:27)
- 18 Blessed of the better (Heb. 7:7)
- 19 Ventures
- 20 "concerning his —" (Heb. 11:22)
- 23 English school
- 25 "— saw them" (2 Sam. 17:18)
- 26 Prophet (Hos. 9:7)
- 27 English nobleman: abbr.
- 30 "— — —, hear these words" (Acts 2:22)
- 33 Compass reading: abbr.
- 34 Seed covering
- 35 Jai —
- 36 Presidential nickname: poss.
- 37 "Now about the — of the feast" (John 7)
- 38 Place (2 Ki. 12:20)
- 41 New Zealand birds
- 43 "among you — — —" (2 Cor. 12:12)
- 48 Jules Verne character
- 49 Bridle part
- 50 Night bird

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Groner receives award of merit

MEMPHIS — Frank S. Groner, who saw Baptist Memorial Hospital grow from 500 beds to the largest private hospital in the United States during his 34 years as president, received the award of merit of the American Protestant Hospital Association, March 15 at Louisville, Ky.

The presentation of APHA's most

prestigious award to Groner, president-emeritus of the 2,068-bed Baptist Memorial Hospital since 1980, occurred at the national conference of the association.

Only four other persons in the association's 62-year history have received the award.

APHA, a professional organization of 250 church-related hospitals and other institutions, honored Groner for his outstanding contributions to and demonstration of unusual leadership in the field of church-related health care delivery. The award also recognized his service to APHA.

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Tennesseans to lead conferences at national youth ministry meet

NASHVILLE — Twenty-two youth leaders from Tennessee will serve as conference leaders for the upcoming Youth Ministry National Conference II, April 19-23 in Nashville.

Tennesseans who will participate include Joe and Gloria Morrell, Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville; Carolyn Jenkins, First Baptist Church, Nashville; and Lela Hendrix, Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville.

Sunday School Board employees who will lead conferences include Ken Parker, Don Barr, Wayne Jenkins, David Danner, Alice Magill, Ann Gardner, Charles Doggett, Keith Kline, Dick Ham, Lee Sizemore, Joe Palmer, Brooks Falkner, Judy Wooldridge, Martha Jo Glazner, Wendell Newman, Don Mattingly, and Gerald Armstrong.

A wide array of special interest conferences is planned for the visiting youth leaders, according to Wes Black, consul-

tant in the board's church training department and chairman of the conference committee.

Some of the more than 60 topics to be covered include enlisting volunteers, Bible study, witnessing, puppetry, Acteens, Christian family money management, youth ministry in metro areas, working with the youth committee, time management, effective group leadership, and personal growth.

Every agency of the Southern Baptist Convention which has an assignment related to youth will have representatives at the meeting, including the Home and Foreign Mission Boards, Woman's Missionary Union, Christian Life Commission, Sunday School Board, Brotherhood Commission, and the seminaries.

The special interest conferences will be conducted at the Sunday School Board and at First Baptist Church, Nashville. Evening sessions will be held at different sites, including the Grand Ole Opry House on the closing night, when "Beginning Again," a new youth musical by David Danner, will premier.

About 1,000 full-time, part-time, and volunteer youth leaders are expected to attend the meeting, which will be directed by Bob Taylor, youth ministry coordinator in the Sunday School Board's church administration department.

Southeastern elects Hawn, sets budget

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) — Trustees of Southeastern Baptist Seminary elected Charles Michael Hawn as associate professor of church music and adopted a record budget of \$4,589,773 during their semi-annual meeting.

Hawn, minister of music at First Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga., was elected to a newly-created position to strengthen the church music program.

The record budget reflects a 13 percent increase over the previous year. The largest component of projected receipts, \$3,136,354, or 68.3 percent, will come from the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention.

During their meeting, trustees joined with the seminary family and friends in celebrating the successful completion of the school's "Equipping for Bold Mission" campaign. More than \$4,131,000 was pledged during the three-year effort, exceeding the \$3.5-million goal.

Trustees also gave each of the 115 employees a two percent bonus from funds received from the Convention's Bold Mission Thrust Challenge budget; adopted an Executive Council Study/Improvement Plan for the top four administrators, which includes a six-month leave similar to the traditional one-year sabbatical leaves for faculty members; and adopted a landscaping plan for the 25-acre central campus.



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Tennessee Scene

CHURCHES...

A bank note acquired in 1963 was burned by Central Baptist Church, Chattanooga, on Feb. 28. Participating in the Sunday morning ceremony were Pastor Jerry Songer and Treasurer Gale Franks.

Eastview Baptist Church, Shelbyville, recently completed the renovation of its sanctuary. The church installed a new ceiling, windows, carpet, and pews, as well as enclosing an area for a foyer. Bruce Smith is the pastor of the church.

First Baptist Church, Blountville, held a note-burning service recently to symbolize the end of debt on its sanctuary. Participating in the service were Pastor Mike Gilmore, Building committee Chairman J. R. LeSuer, and several church members.

LEADERSHIP...

Eldon Byrd, chairman of the department of sociology at Union University, was called as interim pastor of Woodland Baptist Church, Brownsville.

Calvary Baptist Church, Brownsville, accepted the recent resignation of its minister of music and youth, Frank Fawcett. Ronnie Davidson is the pastor of the church.

Roy Worley resigned as pastor of Liberty Baptist Church, Somerville, to accept the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Kiser, Ark. Worley's resignation was effective Feb. 28.

Bethel Baptist Church, Henderson, called Lynn Gibson as minister of music and youth, a position he began Feb. 14. Gibson, of Silerton, is a student at Union University, Jackson. Stan Smith is the church's pastor.

Stoney Wiser accepted a call from Bible Grove Baptist Church, Jackson, to come as its minister of youth. Wiser, who began the position in January, is a freshman at Union University in Jackson. The pastor of the church is Lewis Parrish.

East Union Baptist Church, Jackson, accepted the resignation of its minister of youth, Randy Houston. The pastor of the church is Calvin Moore.

Carl Freudenthal, pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church in Springfield, resigned that position to accept the pastorate of Adairville Baptist Church, Adairville, Ky., effective April 4.

Radnor Baptist Church, Nashville, called Louis Rideout as associate pastor, a ministry he began March 1. Rideout is a former pastor of Grandview Baptist Church, Nashville, and has led other

churches in Tennessee, Ohio, and Kentucky. Paul Durham is the pastor at Radnor.

Jeff Murdock has resigned as minister of music at First Baptist Church, Charleston. Bryon Gibson is the church's pastor.

New Hope Baptist Church, Cleveland, accepted the recent resignation of Pastor Curtis Cobb.

Charles Roberts accepted a call from Block Springs Baptist Church, Blaine, to come as minister of music. Roberts, who accepted the position Feb. 10, is a junior at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City. Charles Hobbs is the church's interim pastor.

Second Baptist Church, Union City, called Jerry Leggett as associate to the pastor, with responsibilities in counseling and youth work. Leggett was ordained to the gospel ministry by the church on March 7. Noel A. Edwards is the pastor of the church.

REVIVAL PRAYER REQUEST...

Valley Grove Baptist Church, Knoxville, will have a youth-led revival April 4-8, at 7:00 each evening. David Coffield, pastor of Beulah Baptist Church in Boaz, Ala., will be the evangelist, and Mike Miller, minister of music at Beech Grove Baptist Church, Louisville, will lead the music for the services. Harry C. Mynatt is the pastor of Valley Grove.

REVIVALS...

Jonas Stewart, executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, led Smith Springs Baptist Church of Nashville in recent revival services. John Joslin, pastor of the church, reported 10 professions of faith, one new

member by letter, and eight rededications.

Southland Baptist Church, Memphis, was led in revival Feb. 14-21 by Evangelist Wayne Bristow, soloist and composer Jimmy Hodges, and Music Director Felix Snipes. According to Pastor Frank Huddleston, there were 113 professions of faith, 80 rededications, seven new members by letter, and 109 decisions in schools.

Recent revival services at West Haven Baptist Church, Knoxville, resulted in 17 professions of faith, one new member by letter, and 46 rededications. The services were led by Evangelist Henry Linginfeller of Alcoa, and Music Director Dick Barrett of Bremen, Ga. The pastor of the church is Taylor Smith.

PEOPLE...

Ted Mills and Carl Vineyard were ordained Jan. 24 as deacons of Mouth of Richland Baptist Church, Blaine. Participating in the ordination service were Pastor Kenneth Armstrong, Grainger County Association of Baptists Director of Missions J. R. Stallings, and William Purdue of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City.

Second Baptist Church, Union City, honored Mozelle Brinkley on the occasion of her 20th anniversary as church secretary, Feb. 14. The celebration included gifts for Mrs. Brinkley and a churchwide fellowship meal. Noel A. Edwards is the church's pastor.

Reelfoot Baptist Church, Troy, ordained Mike Bowers and Johnny Caudle into its deacon ministry. The church's pastor is Richard O'Brien.

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Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Burley celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary during a Feb. 14 reception at Ridgedale Baptist Church, Chattanooga, where they are members. The pastor of the church is William E. Owens.

Eastview Baptist Church, Shelbyville, recently licensed Jackie Bassham to the gospel ministry. The church's pastor is Bruce Smith.

Dalton Ferguson was ordained to the gospel ministry Feb. 7 by Kelley's Creek Baptist Church, Ardmore. Ferguson was recently called as pastor of Elkwood Baptist Church in Alabama's Limestone Baptist Association. Billy McElyea is the pastor at Kelley's Creek.

James Murphy was ordained Feb. 7 as a deacon of Bangham Heights Baptist Church, Cookeville. Bill Griffith is the church's pastor.

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BIBLE BOOK SERIES

Lesson for April 4

David anointed king

By Dennis R. Plank, pastor
First Baptist Church, Madison

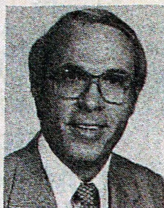
Basic Passage: 2 Samuel 1:1 to 2:32

Focal Passages: 2 Samuel 1:2-4, 17, 19; 2:1-4a, 8-9, 11

Second Samuel records the establishment of David as king and the subsequent miseries which were brought into his life when he became self-willed.

First Chronicles 29:29 suggests that the events of David's 40-year kingdom were recorded by Samuel, Nathan, and Gad. The events in the book cover the approximate years 1070-970 B.C.

In 1 Samuel 31, the defeat and death of Saul and Jonathan are recorded. The time had come for David to become the earthly leader of God's people. Difficulties had to be overcome, however, which only could be accomplished by the power of God.



Plank

When an Amalekite came to David from the battlefield near Mt. Gilboa to relate that the Philistines had killed King Saul and his son Jonathan, David did not rejoice. A lesser man would have been glad upon the passing of an enemy, but this man, who was after God's heart, was made sad. He practiced Proverbs 24:17: "Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth."

In 2 Samuel 1:18-27, David expressed concern that the Lord's anointed leader had been killed and the glory of the Lord had been dimmed. Three times he expressed the theme "how are the mighty fallen" (19, 25, 27). Saul and Jonathan were mighty in opposing Israel's foes. As David honored Saul, the king, and Jonathan, his friend, he exhibited the love which only God can create within a person's life.

It was necessary for David to make a decision concerning his future actions, so he turned to God in prayer. The Lord told him to take his family to Hebron, an ancient city 20 miles south of Jerusalem (see Genesis 13:18; 23:2). There, many people acknowledged David's greatness and he was anointed king over Judah (the tribe of David's descendants). Abner, the commander of Saul's army, made Saul's son, Ishbosheth, the king over Israel. The capital of Israel was across the Jordan at Mahanaim.

During the next seven and a half years, David sought the friendship of the people at Jabesh-gilead because of their loyalty

to Saul and because upon his death they had honored his memory. The new king of Judah wisely realized the loyalty of these people would mean much as he sought to win ultimately the allegiance of the tribes in Israel.

God's people were to have one man ruling over them. However, the nation was divided into two kingdoms during this time period. Because the nation was divided, succeeding events often were characterized by sorrow and tragedy. Today, when the Lord does not rule in the hearts of His people, the result is unhappiness, frustration, and spiritual unrest.

For more than seven years David waited upon the leading of the Lord. He could look back at the recent years and express the eloquent words found in Psalm 37:1-5.

In the basic passage from 2 Samuel, the following truths can be discovered:

It is never right to tell an untruth. The Amalekite who told David of Saul's death reported he had killed the wounded king at Saul's request. This was not the way it happened according to 1 Samuel 31: 3-4. The Amalekite was killed by one of David's men, which reveals that perverting truth will never bring favor.

God had a plan for David's life. Through prayer David sought to discover it. Before traveling to Hebron, he practiced Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." Our lives would be more blessed by God if we sought more of His will.

David did not speak evil of Saul even though he might have had reason to do so. He found something good in the life of the king even though Saul had made himself David's enemy. Godly people are always gracious in their dispositions and in their words concerning others.

The willingness to wait upon the Lord is a characteristic absent from the lives of many Christians. The prayer of David during the years at Hebron must have been for the kingdom to be united. During this time he allowed God to work in the midst of a difficult situation. Some believers feel the Lord must demonstrate His greatness whenever the Christian prays the first prayer.

Let us increasingly realize the Lord is working in every situation for the good as we love Him and seek to do His will. Wherever God has placed us, let us strive to be faithful knowing that our Lord has not forgotten the needs of His kingdom.

UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

Lesson for April 4

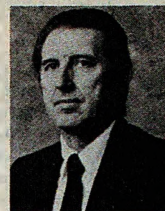
Christ hears human cries

By Robert O. Byrd, professor of religion
Belmont College, NashvilleBasic Passage: Mark 7:31-37; 10:46-52
Focal Passage: Mark 7:32-37; 10:46-52

Jesus had been out of Galilee in the Gentile area to its north and northwest. Along with His companions, He made a somewhat "round about" journey which brought them to the region called Decapolis, dominated by ten Greek cities.

This, too, was a largely non-Jewish area.

The two stories in this lesson illustrate Jesus' response to persons on the basis of their need and His love, without regard to incidental factors such as whether they were socially acceptable.



Byrd

Christ responds to those who cry out for others

From the viewpoint of many of Jesus' countrymen, the man who was deaf and had a speech impediment represented a "lost cause." In the first place, he was the resident of a non-Jewish area and probably was a Gentile. Because of his deafness and speech impediment, it would be difficult to communicate accurately with him and to understand his words. The word used to describe his problem literally meant "to speak with difficulty." It was used in the ancient Greek translation of the Old Testament in Isaiah 35:6. There God's help is anticipated for His people who will find that "the tongue of the dumb shall sing for joy."

Notice that many people exerted the energy to bring their friends to Jesus (see Mark 2:3). Could anyone do anything better for a friend than bring that friend to Jesus? These friends also urged Jesus to do what He could for the deaf man. The word "besought" is actually in a tense that suggests they continued beseeching Jesus on behalf of their friend. Their interest was not just a passing fancy.

Jesus chose to heal this man privately. His methods may seem unusual to us, but they probably served to provide the deaf mute with some understanding of what was occurring as well as stirring faith and hope within him. Jesus'

primary concern was consistently directed toward those in need. This shows that God also chooses to work secretly in some instances.

Verse 34 describes Jesus looking up prayerfully and sighing or groaning in sympathy for the deaf man. The sigh or groan may also be evidence of the great energy Jesus expended to respond to the needs He encountered. This story should challenge Christians to bring those in need to Jesus in every way — through prayer, worship, and witness.

Christ responds to those who cry out on their own behalf

The story of Bartimaeus should be interpreted in light of the narrative which just precedes it. That account described James and John as coming to Jesus to say, "We want You to do for us whatever we ask" (10:35). Jesus then gave them their opportunity by asking, "What do you want Me to do for you?" (10:36). Their response was self-righteous, self-centered, and self-serving, "Grant us to sit, one . . . and one" (10:37).

Verse 46 depicts Jesus and His company arriving in Jericho, the oldest known continuously inhabited location. During the life of Jesus, it was a fine community. A major road runs from Jericho to Jerusalem. For Jesus to pass through this town on the way to Jerusalem was perfectly normal.

The blind man called Jesus "Son of David" which is a rarely used designation for Him. The notion that the Messiah would be an heir of David was based on 2 Samuel 7:12ff. Perhaps, as Bartimaeus sat begging beside the road, he had dreamed of Jesus coming along and what he would do to attract the attention of the Healer. He may even have practiced what he would ask, if he could get anything he wanted. The talk along the roadway brought to the blind man the unbelievable message that Jesus was passing that way. His mind was made up. Perhaps Bartimaeus could not even stop himself.

"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" He yelled it out and would not stop. This was his chance. At first the people around him tried to quiet him. When Jesus noticed him, the mood of the multitude shifted and they began to support and encourage him. Notice that Jesus asked James and John, "What do you want Me to do for you?" Bartimaeus would not ask for status, security, or privilege as had the two disciples. His request grew out of his need. "Master, let me receive my sight." Jesus heard his cry for help and responded to his need, and he "received his sight" (10:52).

Our prayers as Christians ought to focus on the needs of others.

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LIFE AND WORK SERIES
Lesson for April 4

The resurrection of Christ

By Larry M. Taylor, pastor
First Baptist Church, Jefferson City

Basic Passage: 1 Corinthians 15:1-19
Focal Passages: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, 12-19

The Easter message is both the most inspiring and the most difficult part of the New Testament to comprehend. Here we stand before mystery and miracle.

The resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith. A dead Jesus might have inspired one generation of believers, but hardly 20 centuries of Christian followers.

Our faith rises or falls with the living Christ.

Human life knows three kinds of experiences. There are common experiences which everyone has, such as eating. There are unusual experiences restricted to a few people, such as climbing Mt. Everest. Then there are unique experiences which are one of a kind. The resurrection of Christ is the latter kind of experience. There is no other true parallel to it in history.

The earliest resurrection account we have in the New Testament is from Paul here in 1 Corinthians 15. We do not know all the background in Corinth for Paul's words in 1 Corinthians about the resurrection. Apparently some there were denying the resurrection of the dead. We know there were Gnostic tendencies in the early church, and the Gnostics despised the flesh and denied the resurrection.

The Greeks also did not believe in the resurrection of the body. They did believe in the immortality of the soul, but those are two different ideas. On the whole, the Greeks believed the soul was the true essence of a person and that it was trapped in the body. At death the soul was liberated. When Paul preached the resurrection in Athens (Acts 17), some of the Athenian philosophers mocked him. The Greeks had no interest in resurrection.

It is not surprising, therefore, that there were some questions about the resurrection in the church at Corinth, located about 55 miles from Athens. Paul devotes all of chapter 15 to explaining the meaning of the resurrection. Paul does not claim to have had a revelation on this subject. Instead, he calls the basic information about the resurrection of Jesus "what I also received" (v. 3). The gospel of the living Christ did not begin with Paul. If 1 Corinthians was written about A.D. 55, the gospel had already been circulating by word of mouth about 25 years.

In verses 3-5, Paul recalls four items in the Christian story about the resurrection of Christ. Each of these items is introduced by the word "that." This is the first time in Scripture that we see all four of the parts of the resurrection gospel mentioned in one place.

The first item Paul had both received and delivered was "that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures." The gospel in the New Testament is always historical fact plus interpreta-

tion. Paul gives both fact — "that Christ died" — and interpretation — "for our sins." Only faith can perceive that Jesus died for our sins. History can only show the more basic stark fact "that He died."

Interestingly, Paul does not elaborate how Jesus' death can cover our sins. We have no clear or full doctrine of atonement explained here. Neither does Paul say which Scriptures are fulfilled in Jesus' death.

The second item in the Christian preaching about Jesus was "that He was buried" (v. 4). We have no evidence that anyone in the early church ever doubted Jesus' death.

The third part of the gospel about Jesus' resurrection was "that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures" (v. 4). No one observed the resurrection. It is recorded but never narrated in the New Testament. Two kinds of evidence occur in the New Testament to support belief in the resurrection: the empty tomb account and the various appearances of Jesus. Paul now turns to the latter kind of evidence.

The fourth item in what Paul had preached to the Corinthians concerning Jesus was "that He was seen" (v. 5). Paul mentions six post-resurrection appearances of Jesus, three of them to individuals and three to groups. The appearance to all the 12 disciples is reported in all the gospels except Mark. We have no record of the appearance to the 500 brethren in the gospels. Neither do we have a record of the appearance to James in one of our New Testament gospels, although it is recorded in the non-canonical "Gospel According to the Hebrews."

Paul leaves no room for doubt about the significance of Jesus' resurrection. He mentions six consequences of denying the resurrection of the dead, which seems to have been what was happening in Corinth.

First, if the resurrection from the dead is denied then Christ is not risen (v. 13). Second, our preaching and faith are vain (v. 14). Third, our witness to the resurrection is false (v. 15). Fourth, we are yet in our sins (v. 17). Fifth, the dead have perished (v. 18). Sixth, we are miserable and without ultimate hope (v. 19).

It is a typical and excellent piece of Pauline reasoning about the faith.

Tennessee youth win BSSB contest

NASHVILLE — Two Tennessee youth were among 40 winners in the 1982 creative arts competition sponsored by Event, a monthly youth magazine published by the Sunday School Board.

Lynne Ann Slade, 17, a member of Calvary Baptist Church, Oak Ridge, received honorable mention for her essay "Running to Win."

Tammy Carol Dicken, 16, of First Baptist Church, Sparta, received honorable mention for her poem, "Special One," and her song, "My Granddaddy's Hands."

More than 800 junior and senior high youth submitted original prose, poetry, art, and music in the competition. The

winning entries will be published in the November 1982 issue of Event.

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Baptists reach out to Brazil's capital

By Erich Bridges

BRASILIA, Brazil (BP) — Baptists arrived before the beginning, when Brazil's magnificent capital was little more than an airstrip in the wilderness.

They number more than 5,000 in Brasilia and the surrounding federal district, and they intend to grow.

Almost 40 Baptist churches minister in Brasilia and six satellite cities, home for well over a million people. Another million are expected before the end of the decade.

To evangelize the greater federal district in the 1980s, Baptists — with help from Southern Baptist missionaries — aim to reach three levels of society: (1) the affluent class of government officials, diplomats, lawyers, and military

leaders, (2) middle-level Brazilian officials and business people living in the "superblocks" (row upon row of multi-story apartments), and (3) the hundreds of thousands of workers and poor people crowding the satellite cities.

In exclusive subdivisions and estates, the affluent are not easy to contact, but 1,000-member Memorial Baptist Church hopes to attract them with beautiful facilities, preaching by Eber Vasconcelos (long-time pastor and national convention leader), and person-to-person contact. Lawyers bring colleagues. Government managers invite fellow workers.

In the swelling "superblocks," Third Baptist Church has emerged as the fastest growing congregation in the district convention. "We got 3,000 new

neighbors in one week," recalls Raymond Kolb, former missionary pastor of the church. "That's how fast the new apartments go up and fill up."

In the apartment buildings near the church, the current pastor, young, aggressive Julio de Macedo, has launched "block fellowships" — Bible study and fellowship groups designed to help church members reach their neighbors.

Meanwhile, missionaries Ed and Roberta Farris concentrate on Taguatinga (pop., 600,000), by far the largest of the satellite cities. Newcomers from every part of Brazil still arrive daily, huddling in shacks or under bridges, waiting for low-cost government housing. "They come here looking for a new start, like a lot of people went after the Gold Rush in the United States," Farris says.

Canaan Baptist Church, where Farris is pastor, overflows with Sunday worshippers. So do other churches in the satellite cities — an encouraging sign, since population in the satellites is more than double that of Brasilia itself.

To take advantage of growth throughout the federal district, however, Farris stresses the need for more trained leaders and followers. Only eight churches in the convention employ full-time pastors; others rely on bivocational and lay leaders.

Brazilians hold most leadership positions now, but missionaries still provide important support. Though Kolb uses Brasilia as a base for overseeing mission work throughout Brazil, he and his wife, Ann, have helped several local churches grow. Bob May teaches at the Baptist Theological Seminary of Brasilia. Tommy Bridges is an evangelist and camp director.

Southern Baptist missionaries were there before the beginning. Missionary James Musgrave and three Brazilian pastors knelt at the site of the planned capital in 1956, praying that Christ would be lifted up throughout the new city. Musgrave returned to help organize First Baptist Church in a shed, and later became pastor of Memorial church.

When Kolb first landed his mission plane in Brasilia in 1958, the city consisted of an airstrip, a wooden shed for an air terminal, and three or four half-finished buildings. A ragtag army of construction workers commuted from a nearby settlement of shanties and saloons.

Located on an empty plain of scrub brush in Brazil's interior, the spot was so isolated that even asphalt for the roads had to be flown in.

Today the city springs from the earth like a mirage, filled with ultra modern government buildings, office towers,



VETERANS AND A ROOKIE — Missionaries Raymond and Ann Kolb show the sights of downtown Brasilia to Susan Farrar, missionary journeyman from South Carolina. In the background stands a monument to the pioneer workmen who raised the new capital out of Brazil's central wilderness.

shopping malls, plazas, cathedrals, military complexes, hotels, and "superblocks," surrounded by parks, expressways, and an extensive man-made lake.

As Brasilia consolidates its position as the national seat of power and the population center of central Brazil, room for Baptist growth is virtually unlimited.

"The church signifies the kingdom of God in this city," says Julio de Macedo. "We are the little flower in the cement. We will bloom."

—Adapted from *Commission* magazine.

Foundation

Jesus had a will

By Jonas L. Stewart

In Hebrews 9:17 we read "a testament (will) is a force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth."

In other words, until the testator dies, a will is not worth the paper upon which it is written. However, when a will is properly drawn, properly executed, and properly probated, all the authority of the State of Tennessee is behind that will to see that it is carried out exactly as it is written.

The will of Jesus is included in the New Testament. It was properly drawn, signed in His own blood, and probated in the courts of heaven. Therefore all the power of the Kingdom of God is present to see that it is carried out in detail.

That will provides for everyone who abides by the terms therein specified. It states, "My God shall supply your every need" (Philippians 4:19). It was necessary for Jesus to die to make that provision a reality. It is in His will and no man can break it.

If Jesus was so generous with us in His will, does it not seem reasonable that we also remember Him in ours?

Your Tennessee Baptist Foundation exists to provide a trustee for those who would make a Christian will. For more information, write the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, P.O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027.

In California

Volunteers demonstrate love to mudslide victims

By Don Hepburn

MARIN COUNTY, Calif. (BP) — Why would anyone take a week off from work, forego a week's pay, then pay \$200 to fly halfway across the country, to spend five days working 10 and 12 hours without compensation digging mud from the homes of strangers?

Residents of exclusive Marin County, across the bay from San Francisco, wondered the same thing when 24 Southern Baptist pastors and laymen from Mississippi rolled up their sleeves for them after disastrous rains and mudslides.

To the Mississippians, as explained by Paul Hurdle of Holly Springs, the answer was simply "to come help people that were in need and to share a witness for Christ — to show these people what Christ means to us."

"Just by our being here, I believe, shows these people what Christ does mean in our individual lives," said Hurdle, a farmer.

Hurdle and his fellow Baptists were part of a continuing Southern Baptist relief effort to assist victims of a savage January storm which struck a 250-mile area north and south of San Francisco and caused an estimated \$280-million damage.

In all, 3,160 people were forced from their homes, 477 people were injured, and 31 died. The storm destroyed 231 homes and 25 businesses. Another 6,304 homes and 1,014 businesses were damaged. Two Southern Baptist churches also were damaged.

The Mississippi work team dug mud out of several homes and yards, dug and hauled debris out of homes, repaired several homes, helped build a retaining wall to hold a mountainside from sliding into a home, rebuilt a roof on a dormitory and helped rebuild a cabin at Cazadero Baptist Camp, and shared a Christian witness with several storm victims and their families.

The volunteers worked on a priority system, helping people first who were unable to live in their homes and senior citizens living on fixed incomes who were physically unable to do needed repair work.

"What we're finding is that people in Marin County probably all their lives have never needed anything and have always been in control of their lives because they had enough money to deal

with (the problem)," explained Harold Hendricks, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Fairfax, Calif.

"For one time in their lives they discovered they did have some needs. And we as Southern Baptists, for whatever reason, are able to step in at a crucial time and say, 'Here, we would like to help you because you are our neighbors and because we care.'"

According to published reports, \$172-million for personal and commercial property damage was uninsured because of disclaimer clauses in insurance policies restricting liability for damage due to earthquake, floods, or mudslides.

Consequently, the role of volunteers has been very significant in the lives of the people of Marin County during the past two months.

The work of all volunteers has been coordinated through the Red Cross, but under the direction of Bill Ryan, director of missions for the Redwood Empire Southern Baptist Association.

The action of the Baptist volunteers has made a profound impact upon many residents of Marin County, according to Hendricks.

"For someone to fly 2,000 miles from Mississippi, just because they love Jesus and because they love people, and even love people they don't even know, is changing their lives. They see something about Christianity that they have never seen before."

Challenge faces rural churches

ATLANTA (BP) — Middle class "refugees," fleeing the central cities, present major challenges to Southern Baptist churches, a researcher told a symposium at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Orrin D. Morris, director of the board's research division, told a group of rural Baptist leaders that the decades ahead will be characterized by flight from large cities by middle-class whites, blacks, Hispanics, and Asians.

The big city refugees present major challenges to Southern Baptist churches, Morris said, warning that rural churches must be prepared to deal with the former urbanites' resentment toward being "forced" from the cities, as well as with their disillusionment that rural America is not the "utopia" they had expected.

Morris told the symposium, assembled by the HMB's rural urban missions department, that few established churches will assimilate the metropolitan immigrants. He predicted, however, that middle-class flight will offer the greatest opportunities for new church growth in the rural areas.

He said that in the decade of the 1970s, rural areas grew by 15.4 percent, while metropolitan areas grew by only 9.1 percent and predicted the stream of big city "refugees" probably will increase during the 1980s.