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September 26, 1974

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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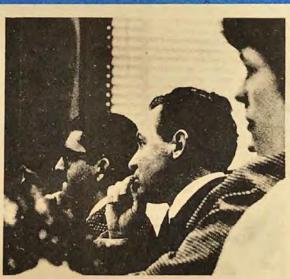
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Arkansas Baptist NEWSMAGAZINE

CONVENTION TRAINING CHURCH

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1974



I must say it

Charles H. Ashcraft/Executive Secretary

Enlightenments' inescapable implication

Education, like the gospel, is intended for everybody. It is good when extended for all but it becomes evil when confined to limited spaces. When it is available for some but denied to others it produces a situation where the enlightened ones become mores and the unenlightened are further reduced in their illiteracy. This results in the exploitation of the ignorant by the enlightened few.

Enlightenment, somewhat like the gospel and the grace of God, never comes to its true perspective until it becomes a universal commodity within the reach of all. Enlightenment is meant to be dispersed, never hoarded.

That person who knows to do good and doesn't is the negation of education, the gospel, the grace of God, enlightenment, wisdom and common decency. The principle of enlightenment, like that of the gospel and the grace of God is to pass along to all others the endowments received by the more fortunate ones.

Some of the characteristics of enlightenment are noted. Enlightenment makes its own decisions. It dictates its own schedule. It sets its own standards. It passes its own judgment. It exacts its own behavior. It determines its own course.

It makes its own indictments. It issues and pays its own traffic citations. It rises or falls on its inborn nature to permeate the adjacent environment.

Anything less than this carries us back into the dark ages when even God's grace was sparingly portioned out to the select few considered worthy to have it. Those dark years saw the majority of citizens held in ignorance, poverty and subservience, making it appear that God's grace could be afforded only by a few, never the masses.

In any nation, in any age, whether democratic or not, the potential of rebellion, insurrection, anarchy and despotism grows in relation to the degree of illiteracy. Self-defense itself would be a consideration urging us to educate the masses.

In a recent insurrection in one province of another country all professional people were slain by illiterate resurgents. This can happen on a larger scale unless we take time to tutor the masses. Enlightenment's inescapable implication is "He that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him and all his kind, it is sin."

It is sin indeed and carries with it not only God's disfavor but the deepest contempt of the illiterate masses. We will educate the masses or they will in the end annihilate us. (James 4:17)

I must say it!

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Arkansas Baptist

VOL. 73 SEPTEMBER 26, 1974 NO. 38

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The editor's page

The role of associations

Liverett Sneed



We, as Baptists, have always prided ourselves on our independence. We maintain that every congregation is autonomous. We believe that a church in its faith and practice is responsible to no one except God. There is a sense, however, in which every local fellowship is interdependent on others. This need of one church for another is, perhaps, best demonstrated in the local association.

Since each congregation is a democracy, this carries with it a number of implications: a voluntary membership, each person with equal privilege and a self-governing body. This, obviously, makes it impossible for any other church or outsider to control the affairs of a local congregation. However, a single church can not accomplish all the demands for world missions. What is the answer? Baptists have wisely chosen the association and convention to meet these needs.

Time has proven the wisdom of this decision, for through associations and conventions the churches are able to accomplish the charge of the great commission, yet without jeopardy to their local autonomy.

Each unit of Baptist life (local church, association, state convention, and SBC) utilizes the same principles.

The association is the closest structure to the local church. This means that it is accessible. Due to its proximity it can assist in meeting many of the needs of the local congregation. Often when needs exist in a particular church the association can provide resources

to meet it. This help may come in the form of counseling, leadership training, and sometimes as monetary gifts or loans.

The association, also, provides opportunity for fellowship. Historically, the association emphasized Biblical doctrines. This emphasis on fellowshipping around the Word of God has provided much unity in Baptist life.

Through the association churches have been inspired to reach new heights. This has been accomplished in many ways. Congregations see the victories of other churches. They learn the methods that are working for others. Hence, strength is derived from this contact.

The role of the association has been greatly refined and enhanced in recent years. Of the most important is the coordination of the work by well-qualified associational superintendents of missions. They assist in unifying the work of the churches. They help congregations in their search for a pastor. These God-called men function in almost every area of need imaginable. For example, they serve as preachers, evangelists, counsellors, etc. They operate camps, assemblies, and hold chairs of religion.

Our annual associational meetings will convene next month. To learn more about the important work of the association and our mission program throughout the world, we should make plans now to attend. Above all, let's pray for the work of our associations. Prayer is an

area in which we are most interdependent.

Guest editorial

Economy demands higher salary for ministers

The pastor needs a raise! A big raise. It should be no less than 15 percent. Unusual action is demanded by unusual economic conditions. The government's cost of living index shows an increase of 12 percent in the past year. Few churches are adequately prepared for that. The result has been an actual reduction in the minister's buying power since 1973. That should be restored.

An intelligent effort should be made also to adjust salaries to anticipated cost increases during the next year. The 15 percent figure is conservative. If no more than this is given a provision should be made for a mid-year salary review. Some authorities say the cost of living will rise by as much as 25 percent. The basic necessities of the average family—food, clothing, fuel, medical care—have increased in cost by close to 25 percent since last fall and will experience comparable rises in the months ahead.

What applies to the pastor goes also for all members of the church staff. Ministerial associates, secretarial and maintenance personnel should have a substantial salary increase to keep pace with the cost of living.

Merit raises are another matter. They are almost forgotten in the effort to keep salaries within the range of respectable buying power. The minister or other staff

member who does outstanding work and whose dedication is exceptional deserves a raise in addition to a cost of living adjustment. A shelf of church and associational records in the editor's office indicates that in almost every pastor or other staff change during the past year the new person came at higher salary than the former staff member was receiving. This points to a basic weakness in the financial structure of many churches. It says some are using the pastor and staff in order to erect buildings and meet other obligations. It indicates also that some ministers are forced to change churches in order to provide for their families.

Some church leaders develop a strange pattern of logic when faced with budget matters. They feel good about adopting ambitious mission goals, but they begrudge anything more than a token increase in staff salaries. We would not pit one cause against another. Mission support is essential. Devaluation of the dollar makes it mandatory, for example, that the work of the Foreign Mission Board have much more money this year than ever before. But adequate compensation must be given also to those who serve at home.

A majority of South Carolina Baptist churches begin

(Continued on page 4)



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant / President, OBU

Christian obligations concerning inflation

Unless my phone rang while I was out, it seems reasonably certain that I have not been called to the White House to give advice on what to do about the problems of inflation. This is no serious blow to my ego because, quite frankly, I am afraid I don't have the answer. I suspect it is a highly complicated problem that is affected by the actions of many nations and not just our own.

Even so, I wonder if we middle class Christian Americans are really aware of the hardship and suffering that inflation brings to people with lower and limited incomes. I am indebted to a recent newspaper column by Carl Rowan for reminding me that inflation hits the poor the hardest. He cited the kinds of food usually purchased by lower income families (beans, margarine, sugar, etc.) as the ones with the sharpest price increase at the grocery stores. Quality foods and delicacies (steak, fruits, etc.) had not increased so sharply. Rowan reminded us that food requires a much higher share of the low income family's paycheck than it does for middle income and higher income families.

In recent years spokesmen for the poor, and for consumers generally, have been very vocal in making their needs known through demonstrations, lawsuits, and testimony before appropriate legislative bodies. We seldom hear from many people, however, such as retired and elderly persons on fixed income, who have too much pride to complain or speak out about the dwindling value of their financial resources. When the electric bill of a retired elderly couple doubles from \$30 to \$60, something has to give. Necessities can be delayed for a while, but some kind of help must come

soon

It was against this kind of backdrop of financial pressure on the poor that I read the disturbing news story of the entertainment costs of the recent Southern Governors Conference in Austin, Texas. If the news report is correct, the cost of housing, food, and entertainment for the conference was \$240,000, including three special dinner parties. The "cheapest" of the three cost \$35,000 for a dinner party on the shores of Austin's Lake Travis, with music from three live bands, hot trays of prime rib, fried veal and French crepes. The most expensive meal was the "state dinner," with 650 guests enjoying lobster Parisienne, endive and watercress salad, frosted grapes with marc la burgonge sorbet, beef Wellington, artichokes, fiddle heads and flaming baked Alaska.

I really should not single out the Southern Governors and take this kind of "cheap shot" at their extravagance in a time of real financial hardship for many. All too often I am equally guilty of being insensitive to the needs of those I pass along the road to Jericho in my comfortable automobile.

All of us would do well to ponder the story told about French Queen Marie Antoinette (probably told falsely, but truly believed by the people.) When she asked an official why the Parisians were angry, he replied, "Because they have no bread." The Queen is alleged to have said, "Then let them eat cake."

Although the motive of love should take precedence over the motive of fear, it is worth remembering that Marie Antoinette was later beheaded on the guillotine during the French Revolution.

Higher salary

(From page 3)

the budget year in the fall. Finance and budget committees have in many instances already begun their work. The giving record of most of the state's churches is up considerably (See May 9 and June 6 issues). Even so, increased operating costs will cause some budget worries. In any such case salaries should be a priority item. So should operating equipment, literature, supplies. Mission support should not suffer.

The answer to the church's financial need is a better stewardship record. But with whatever it has, it must provide adequately for the pastor and staff. This is essential in being a church.—John Roberts in the "Baptist Courier" of South Carolina.

ife and liberty Campaign

by R. Wilbur Herring



Dr. Herring

Could it be that Psalms 74, 75 and 76 are prophetic in nature? I would like to point out some very interesting facts about these three Psalms.

In Psalms 74 the psalmist is complaining that God is silent and inactive. The singer

sits in the midst of national chaos and pours out his heart to God for help. In spite of the dark day the psalmist sings praises to God for what he will yet do with the nation. This year, 1974, appears to be a year of national chaos and major problems.

In Psalms 75 we find God speaking and active while he still holds in his hand the cup of judgment. It now appears as if there is going to be relief from the forces of evil. Therefore, the singer has a new song with greater hope and praises to God.

In Psalms 76 we find that God is the God of victory. The entire national life gathers around God and celebrates the great victory due to the work of God. God is now known to the whole nation and there is a great revival of praise and thanksgiving to God. Such a God deserves new allegiance to be rendered by the people and all fear is cast out because no weapon can be formed against the trusting people of God.

Could this be the two years of preparation, 1974 and 1975, with a great victory and the nation rallying around our God in 1976? so may it be.

Dr. Herring, pastor of Central Church, Jonesboro, is General Chairman of the '76 Life and Liberty Campaign.

Reception 50 years late

A Little Rock couple finally had their wedding reception—50 years after their vows. Bernice M. Graves and Ruby Cameron were married March 5, 1924, by a justice of the peace at Pleasant Hill, near Alexander. They had no festivities of any kind until two Sunday School classes at Crystal Hill Church gave them a reception—half a century late.

Letter to the editor_ WIN is tops with her

Note: The following letter was written to Jesse Reed, secretary of evangelism of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Dear Bro. Reed: I read your article on the Lay Evangelism School in the August 1 issue and said "Praise the Lord that First Church, Nashville, took advantage of this course and the opportunity it presented to witness."

We had only recently moved to Nashville from Dallas in January, 1973, when my children and I visited First Church. I had grown up in another denomination but was not a Christian and I included this information when I filled out the visitor card. Never before had I done this at any church I visited.

The next Thursday night, which was very cold and rainy, someone knocked on our door. I couldn't imagine who would be out on a night like that. Well, the "who" was Bro. John Holston, my beloved pastor, and Bro. Bob Holley. It was the last night of the Lay Evangelism School—witnessing night! They explained to us about the school and then shared with us the booklet "How to Have a Full and Meaningful Life." How can I tell you what came over me? The realization that what I wanted, needed, couldn't live without, had just been shown to me in a simple message. I knew, I knew!

Bro. Holston told me as he and Bro. Holley were leaving (putting on raincoats, getting umbrellas) that they had a terrible time finding my home but that the Holy Spirit had urged them to keep trying. I knew that had to be true.

The next Sunday when I walked the aisle and grasped Bro. Holston's hand, I don't know who had the biggest smile—he or I. I knew he had been aware of that presence too, the Thursday night before. He wasn't surprised when he saw me coming down that aisle, just joyful.

In closing I'd like to urge every church that possibly can to fit the Lay Evangelism School into their schedule. Someone is waiting for that witness, that concern, that sharing of his love—even a seed to be planted in the heart. Believe me, it can change a life. Thank God, it did mine!—Margaret Turnbow, Nashville, Ark

P.S. Two months ago my oldest son who is nine, walked that aisle himself.





W. Dawson King has been honored by First Church, Little Rock, in the naming of the church's educational building for him. Dr. King, who has served as associate pastor for 14 years, also has been a pastor, missionary, and denominational worker. A portrait of Dr. King and his wife, the former Ruth Pye, was unveiled Sunday, Aug. 25. It will be hung in the building.



Lakeshore Drive Church, Little Rock, celebrated the paying off of indebtedness on their Childrens Building in the morning service, Sunday, Sept. 8. The church is now free of debt on a \$60,000 loan made in 1959. Burning the note on the loan were (left) Jim Threet, chairman of the finance committee; Jerry Wilcox, pastor; and Leo Watts, chairman of deacons.

Paintings illustrate layman's messages

M.T. Greenfield, a layman of First Church, Batesville, uses original paintings in a most unique ministry. These paintings, which he commissioned, illustrate Biblical themes and messages from everyday life. When he speaks in a church the painting is displayed to assist in the communication of particular truths.

Greenfield says that the idea for the picture ministry dates back to his childhood. "When I was only six or seven years old," he recalls, "I was very impressed by the little lesson cards handed out in our Sunday School.

Greenfield's first religious experience occurred one day while he and his twin brother were playing on a farm creek, "While I was looking into the little stream," he remembers, "an image appeared which gave me complete understanding of the picture on the Sunday School lesson card from the previous Sunday."

Although Greenfield believes tht he had several encounters with the Holy Spirit, he did not become a Christian until he was about 40 years old.

After uniting with First Church, Batesville, he thought, at first, he was called to be a preacher of the gospel, but later it became clear that his ministry was to be different -- one based on the use of scriptural paintings.

Greenfield contacted several artists, but was unable to find one that would work with him. He was almost ready to give up when he saw a painting by Earl Grandstaff in a Clebourne County

grocery store. "I knew that my search was over, when I saw those pictures. I rushed out of the store and headed for Concord to locate Grandstaff."

The artist agreed to do the paintings using sketches made by Greenfield on pieces of cardboard. The first painting "The Rapture," was inspired by a dream, Others include "The Twenty-third Psalm," "Happiness," "The Church," "Judgment," "Humbleness," and "Peace in Christ."

One painting which Greenfield prizes especially is entitled "In the Garden." This painting was commissioned especially for his wife, Marie, now deceased.

Although Greenfield's ministry is only about three years old, he has had numerous speaking engagements in Arkansas and Louisiana. "The oil paintings I use to illustrate my message," Greenfield observes, "help the people to understand my message and make a lasting impression with them."

On one occasion after Greenfield had spoken, a 94-year old man came making a profession of faith. The man said "Your painting has enabled me at last to understand the plan of salvation."

Several people have tried to purchase the paintings from Greenfield. But he says that they are not for sale at any price. He plans to use them only in connection with his ministry.

One thing currently disturbs Greenfield. His artist friend has stopped painting due to poor health. He is now seeking someone else to assist him in this important part of his ministry,

His pastor, Robert A. Parker, says of Greenfield's ministry "His is a most unusual and unique method of presentation of the gospel. I would highly recommend Brother Greenfield's ministry to our churches."

Pulaski Heights Church begins lecture series



Hays

Pulaski Heights
Church, Little Rock,
will hold the first of
its annual Brooks
Hays Lecture Series
Sept. 29, through
Oct. 2. The lectures
will be held at 7:30
p.m., Sunday
through Tuesday.
On Wednesday they
will convene at 7
p.m. Topics to be

discussed will include: The Dimensions of Hope, Peaks and Pitfalls of Politics, Moral Implications of Watergate, and Looking at the World Through Church Windows. Brooks Hays is to be the 1974 speaker.

The church recently voted to establish the Brooks Hays Lecture Series as an annual event. The purpose of the lectures will be to emphasize a constructive Christian approach to the moral issues which confront us and to consider the human issues from the viewpoint of Biblical faith.

Hays is a native of Russellville and served in the United States Congress for 16 years, representing Arkansas' Fifth Congressional District. In 1951, he became a member of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and was later named chairman of the Commission. He served as president of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1957 to 1959.



M.T. Greenfield shows some of the paintings he has commissioned to illustrate his messages. (Photo courtesy of the "Batesville Guard")

Deaths

Notice of the death of an Arkansas Southern Baptist will be published in this column if the information is received in our office no later than 14 days after the date of death.

J.D. (Jeppie) Jacks, 78, Magnolia, died Sept. 10. He was a deacon at Village Church.

Edsel P. Lusby, 50, Magnolia, died Sept. 7. He had served as pastor of churches at Turner (Arkansas Valley) and Lawson (Liberty Association.)



Homecoming, dedication, and revival drew church members and friends to inspect the new facilities.

Dermott church has new building

The Bellaire Church, near Dermott, dedicated a new fellowship and educational building Sept. 1. The new facility of 3,040 square feet consists of a large, fully-equipped kitchen, a dining hall that will seat more than 100 people, a pantry, yard and table storage, a janitor's closet, and two restrooms. The kitchen is equipped with two dishwashers, a refrigerator, a double-oven range, a serving island, and a counter top stove. The building, erected at a cost of \$34,000, has a suspended ceiling, recessed, nonshadow lights, and central heat and air.

The facility was the culmination of several months of planning. The plans for the construction were presented in January of this year. The excellent response of the church is indicated by the fact that about \$19,000 has already been paid on the new building.

The dedicatory message for the occasion was brought by Fred Garvin, director of Associational missions for Delta Association. In his message, based on Phil. 2:1-5, he emphasized the

importance of fellowship and Christian education. He pointed out that fellowship had always been an important ingredient for the followship there can be nothing accomplished!" Garvin pointed out that some of the ingredients of fellowship are caring for other Christians, unity, and recognition of the lordship of Christ.

The occasion, also marked the end of a revival meeting. Jack Parchman was the evangelist and Earl Verser led the music.

The church also held its first homecoming on this same day. A number of friends from various locations were present for the special day.

Pastor Eddie Simpson said "We acknowledge with deep gratitude the dedication of our people which have made this new facility possible. This fellowship and educational building should enlarge our ability to serve Christ and our community. The facility should be a constant reminder to the world outside that there was once a group of believers who sought to serve their Lord."

News briefs

Open Door Church, Rogers, will hold a dedication service for their new building Oct. 6. The church is located at 2400 West Oak Street. The new auditorium will seat 450 people.

☐Marrable Hill Church, El Dorado, held its 22nd anniversary Sept. 8. Editor J. Everett Sneed was the speaker for the occasion. Pastor Walter J. Gilbreath states that the church has made the anniversary and homecoming an annual event.

□Park Place Church, Hot Springs. licensed to the minis licensed Gary A. Smith to the ministry and Jess Williams. I Sept. 1. He is a graduate of Hot Springs high school and both High School, Arkansas Polytechnic Quachita University.

College, Russellville, and is now a second-year theology student at Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. He formerly was employed as a teacher at Lakeside High School, Hot Springs. His previous church service includes president of the Arkansas Tech BSU, and summer youth director of Park Place Church, Hot Springs, for two years. He is married to the former Sandy Jackson of Hot Springs. They have one son, Drew, age one.

First Church, Booneville has licensed to the ministry Richard Basinger and Jess Williams. Both are seniors in high school and both plan to attend Ouachita University.

Panama missionaries reside at Ouachita

ARKADELPHIA-Rev. and Mrs. Alex F. Garner are the new missionary residence couple at Ouachita University.

A native of Ft. Smith, Garner was graduated from Ouachita College in 1948 and received his B.D. degree from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., in 1952. He and his wife had been missionaries to Argentina since 1953.

Mrs. Charleta Beindorf Garner is a native of Dover, Ark., and received her B.A. degree from Ouachita in 1945. She received her M.R.E. degree from Southwestern Seminary.

Garner will not be teaching during his six-month stay at Ouachita, but he will be available for various Baptist mission conferences and promotions. He will also consel students who are considering missions as a career.

Rev. and Mrs. Garner will be stationed in Panama after their furlough at OBU is completed. They have three children: Roger, Cynthia and Rebecca; all are attending Arkadelphia schools.

The Missionary Residence Program is a joint effort between OBU and First Church of Dermott, and is designed to provide a residence for furloughing missionaries. In 1971, the Dermott church gave \$8,000 to the University to remodel a house owned by the school; the missionaries stay in this house while in Arkadelphia.

Appointments of resident missionaries are made by OBU President Dr. Daniel R. Grant. Dr. Robert Stagg is chairman of the Missionary Residence Committee.

Annuity information available at convention

The Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board will be represented at the Arkansas Baptist State Convention this year by Harold S. Bailey, vice president, development-churches. The convention meets Nov. 19-21 at Little Rock.

The Annuity Board representative from Dallas will present the Board's ministry in his report to the convention. The Annuity Board provides retirement protection coverage to nearly 40,000 pastors and other church-related vocational employes in Southern Baptist churches and denominational agencies.

The Board also provides hospitalization, life, and disability insurance protection for pastors and other church staff members.

As his schedule permits, the Board's representative will be available to handle individual inquiries about the Annuity Board ministry.

In addition to the Dallas-based representative, T.K. Rucker, the Board's state representative in Arkansas, will also be on hand to provide information and counsel.

Doctrinally speaking The deity of Christ

by Ralph W. Davis (13th in a series)



Davis

From the days of the early Christians until now people have worshiped and reverenced Jesus Christ as divine. Thomas addressed him as "My Lord and my God," and Jesus accepted his address. Jesus said, "He that hath seen me hath seen the

Father" (John 14:9), and "I and the Father are one." (John 10:30) His enemies condemned him because he claimed to be the Son of God. (John 19:7)

The pre-existence of Jesus is evidence of his deity. John says that he was in the beginning with God. (John 1:1) In John 8:58 Jesus says, "Before Abraham was born, I am." In John 17:5 he says to his Father, "Glorify thou me with the glory which I had with thee before the world was." In Phillipians 2:6 Paul says that Christ existed in the form of God and on

an equality with God. Peter says that he was "foreordained before the foundation of the world." (1 Peter 1:20) In Ephesians 3:11 we see that the work of Christ was in the mind, plan, and purpose of God even before time and the world began.

The virgin birth (or miraculous conception) of Jesus is evidence of his deity. In both Matthew (1:18, 20) and Luke (1:31-35) we find that Jesus was miraculously conceived without a human father through the power of the Holy Spirit. "Some set the accounts aside as of no religious value. But the virgin birth fits into the account of the sinless life. Luke 1:35 indicates that there was a connection between the holiness of Jesus fact that Mary was overshadowed by the power of the Most High. Would not his origin in such an act of the Holy Spirit help us to understand how, of all men, his is the only exception to the fact that men live under the dominion of sin?" (Conner, A System of Christian Doctrine, p. 135) E.Y. Mullins also states that "the superhuman origin

of Christ is in complete harmony with the great features of the life which followed." (The Christian Religion in Its Doctrinal Expression, p. 42.)

His sinless life is evidence of his deity. He differed from all other men in that he was sinless. He challenged men to convict him of sin. (John 8:46) He announced that his blood was to be shed for the remission of sins. (Matt. 26:28) He forgave sins. (Mark 2:5) He never confessed sin and never prayed for forgiveness. "Will you not have to say that he is either sinless or he is such a moral pervert that he does not know his own moral condition?" (Conner, p. 133)

The resurrection is evidence of his deity. When his enemies asked for a sign of his deity, he answered, "Destroy this Temple, and in three days I will raise it up." (John 2:19)

Unless Christ is God, he cannot offer an infinite atonement for us, nor bring about a real union between us and the Father.

Next week: Jesus and Christ



Because of the efforts of Tri-County Association to raise \$1,000 and to guarantee support, Geofrey Mucoki's wife and child may soon be able to join him as he studies in the United States. Mucoki (right) is a student at Ouachita University and is a product of SBC mission work in Kenya, where he was pastor of a mission church. The fund-raising idea originated with Mrs. Robert Tucker (left) and donations came from out-of-state as well as Tri-County churches. After raising the \$1,000, which Associational Missionary Tucker is giving Mucoki, the association must have pledges for support before the Mucoki family can enter the United States.

News about missionaries

Dr. and Mrs. Merrill D. Moore Jr., missionaries to Gaza on furlough, may be addressed at 1208 Hester, Jonesboro, Ark. 72401. Born in Selma, Ala., Dr. Moore lived in Newport, Murfreesboro and Nashville, Tenn., while growing up. The former Patricia Pitchford, she was born in Hartshorne, Okla. and spent her childhood in Ada and Fittstown, Okla., and Rodeo, Calif. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1946, he was completing a four-year surgical residency at Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, Tenn.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Tope, missionaries to Kenya, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 203 S. Beckwith, Malden, Mo. 63863). Tope was born in Catron, Mo., and grew up in Parkin, Ark. Mrs. Tope, the former LaVerne Warnecke of Missouri, was born in St. Louis and grew up in Sikeston. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1959, he was pastor of First Baptist Church, Belton, Tex.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Edwin Engstrom, missionary associates, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Box 576, MCCPO, Makati, Rizal, Philippines D-708). He is a native of Little Rock, Ark.; she is the former Jeannette Faus of Monte Vista, 'Colo. Before they were employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1967, he was a forest ranger, Kaibab National Forest, Williams, Ariz.

National Geographic publication features Arkansan John Finn

John Finn, superintendent of missions, Boone-Newton Association, was featured in the National Geographic Society, publication *Life in Rural America*. The publication accurately portrays the activities of Baptists in rural Arkansas. Among the pictures which appear in this section of the book are included a group of people attending a revival meeting in which Missionary Finn was the evangelist, a Vacation Bible School, and a rural baptismal service.

The 208-page book with more than 150 full color photographs is the first of the

1974-75 books from the Special Publications Division headed by Robert L. Breeden. It will be followed by Undersea Treasures, America's Beginnings, and The Pacific Crest Trail.

Life in Rural America, as with other educational publications of the non-profit society, is not distributed commercially. Copies may be ordered from the National Geographic Society, Department 100, Washington, D.C. 20036, for \$4.75 each, including postage and handling.



There is a need for additional tutors to work on a one-to-one basis teaching adult non-readers in the central Arkansas area. Census figures from 1970 indicate that 21,478 persons above the age of 25 in Pulaski County alone cannot read. The Literacy Council of Pulaski County has scheduled two workshops to train volunteers in the use of the Laubach method. These will be at the St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 1000 N. Mississippi in Little Rock.

The first workshop will be from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Oct. 9 and 10. Participants should bring a sack lunch. The second workshop will be from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. on Oct. 14, 15 and 16. It will be necessary to attend a complete 10-hour workshop to receive certification as a tutor. Suggested materials will be available at the workshops and will cost \$8.50 per person.

Mrs. John Harp of North Little Rock and Mrs. Donald Reaves of Jacksonville, both of whom have been certified as Master Tutor Trainers by the National Affiliation for Literacy Advance, will be teaching these workshops. For more information concerning this contact Mrs. Dale Booth, Chairman of the Literacy Council, at 664-5419 or call 666-0234.

Church has lay witness

The Martindale Church, Little Rock, recently conducted a lay witness. People from the German Town Church, German Town, Tenn., led in the endeavor. The program began on a Saturday as the visitors assisted the men of the church in visiting. This was followed by an all-church potluck supper and an hour and one-half testimony service. The visitors taught the youth and adult Sunday School classes and gave their testimonies during the regular morning worship service. There were two saved and 14 rededications.

Pastor Joel E. Moody highly commends this group. He said "Our church is still feeling the spirit of the Lord in our midst as a result of this effort."



BRITISH VISITOR-A.S. Clement (center), general secretary of the British Missionary Society, was greeted by officials of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board during a recent visit to board headquarters in Richmond, Va. Baker J. Cauthen (left), executive secretary of the board, and W.O. Vaught Jr., president of the board, welcomed Clement who stopped in Richmond en route to the meeting of the Baptist World Alliance executive committee in Louisville, Ky.

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Immanuel's campaign success story

by W.O. Vaught Jr.
Pastor, Immanuel Church, Little Rock

The other day as I was standing by this display of our Ouachita-Southern Campaign here at Immanuel, and realized that we were reaching toward the goal we had set in this campaign for our church, I was almost astounded. If three years ago someone had told me that our people would reach this goal of \$250,000 for this college campaign, I would not have believed it. But the goal is now in sight, and I have been thinking back over the road we have come and have been able to see the factors which have made this achievement possible.

Publicity

At the outset of this campaign, through our Immanuel Record and through the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, this campaign was outlined and explained very carefully to our people. Many meetings were held in which specific information concerning the need for undergirding our Baptist Colleges was given to the people. The college presidents and their musical groups visited our church and spoke to our people concerning the needs they were facing. Through this type of publicity we were able to lay this campaign on the minds and hearts of our people. At very conspicuous places in our building, we placed this display board which you see pictured here with this article. Each month the figures were changed, showing the progress that was made month by month as we reached toward this goal

The offering envelopes

In our offering envelopes used by our people for making their weekly offerings, we have a special green envelope similar to the one pictured here in this article. This envelope appears every month in the package of envelopes. As one of our members uses a box of envelopes for making church contributions each month, he will be confronted with this special envelope to be used for the Ouachita-Southern Campaign.

Many of our people made pledges to this campaign and they have used these special envelopes for making their college offering. But hundreds of our people did not make a pledge, however, they have used these special envelopes quite faithfully and each month several thousands of dollars came in along with our other contributions. This has convinced me that our people want to

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of monthly features reporting on the raising of funds for the campaign and the ways the money is being u_ed by the two schools.

support our Christian colleges and they will do so if we tell them about the need and if we keep envelopes in their hands in which they can make their gifts.

It stimulates other giving

Some of us wondered if this college campaign would cut into our regular church contributions or if this campaign would hurt the Co-operative Program. I must admit that this gave me great concern when this campaign was launched. But to our great delight we discovered that this campaign not only did not take away from our other regular contributions, but greatly stimulated giving in every other area of our work. I think it should be an inspiration to all Arkansas Baptists and to all Southern Baptists that right while this college campaign has been in progress here in our state, local contributions and contributions to the Cooperative Program have climbed higher and higher, and at present Arkansas is at the very top in the nation in our percentage increase giving through the Cooperative Program. I am convinced that there is a connection between the two, and it has been a delight to me to see that our people will support our Baptist Colleges and at the same time continue their faithful support of our whole worldwide program of missions.

A permanent practice

As we move on toward the completion of this Ouachita-Southern Campaign, I believe our people have decided that they are going to continue their rate of giving to Christian Education. We must do so! The needs and demands of Christian Education makes this an imperative for all of our churches and all of our people. Right at this time when the churches are writing their budgets for the ensuing year, I would urge them to make a worthy place for Christian Education in 1975 contributions. One visit to our two Baptist Colleges in Arkansas will be enough to persuade you that this campaign has been a glorious success. We can't turn back now. The future is as bright as our faith.

Pastor W.O. Vaught is proud of the church's progress toward their campaign goal as illustrated by this display.





Special envelopes in boxes with regular ones are one of the factors to which Dr. Vaught attributes the success.

Annuity

Protection in case of disability

Disability is becoming an increasingly important matter in the life of the minister. We are having more and more men, for one reason or another, forced into disability. We are grateful that the Annuity Board has this protection in our basic Protection Plan A. One does not have to take a medical examination to enter the program. All that is required is that one shall be able to stay on the payroll one full year before he is eligible for the disability protection. The protection is for life or as long as one is disabled. There is a six-month waiting period after application is made before you receive your first check. Usually the Annuity Board asks your employer to continue your salary for this six months until vour disability check starts.

Qualifying for disability benefit

1. A member is considered "totally disabled" during the first 24 months if he is unable, because of disease or injury, to work at his regular occupation. After the first 24 months, he is considered "totally disabled" only if unable to work at any reasonable occupation for which he would be fitted on the basis for education, training, or experience.

2 Applications for disability benefit must be made on the forms furnished by

the Annuity Board in Dallas.

3. Application for disability benefit must be approved by applicant's employer or, in case of pastors, by the Executive Secretary of this state Baptist Convention.

 All applicants for disability benefit must be examined by the Medical Doctor listed in American Medical Directory and report of examination sent to the Annuity Board by examining Doctor; such report to be made on forms approved by the Medical Examiner of the Annuity Board. The Annuity Board reserves the right to choose the examining doctor and to require a re-examination at any time during the period of disability. (The Annuity Board will pay examination fee for any re-examination called for by the Board.)

 Applications for disability benefit, together with examining doctor's reports, must be submitted to the Annuity Board's Medical Examiner and his written

report obtained.

6. Disability shall be determined by the judgment of the Board upon recommendation of the Disability Underwriting Committee. Disability retirement date shall be the first of the sixth month following the month that it is established that the member became disabled. However, no disability benefit will be dated earlier than six months prior to the date the Board is notified of the disability.

7. The church or employer is expected to pay the member's salary and dues

during the six months period.

8. All disability benefits are to be calculated by the Actuarial Department of the Annuity Board and approved by the Director of Disability for the Board.

For further information, or forms to apply for disability benefit, you may contact the Annuity Board, SBC, 511 North Akard, Dallas, Tex. 75201.—T.K.

Rucker, Annuity Secretary.



We need the Cooperative Program today because it provides the best known way for Southern Baptists to obey the Great Commission of Jesus Christ. We cannot go into all the world alone and preach the gospel, but we can obey Jesus' Commission by giving and praying together.

The Cooperative Program tells us that the whole of our mission program is more important than any of its parts. It indicates that those parts are more significant when properly related to one another. In the Cooperative Program Southern Baptists support a well-rounded missions program.

Because of the Cooperative Program our denomination is able to do longrange planning. Seminaries, colleges, hospitals, agencies, and institutions can plan their work because they are promised continued support from

Southern Baptists.

By pooling our mission funds through the Cooperative Program, administrative costs are kept down. Overspending and indebtedness are more easily controlled. Before the Cooperative Program was begun, mission boards, schools, and other agencies did not know what to expect in the way of income. Because of the Cooperative Program, today, agencies know at least a year in advance approximately what income they may expect.

Yes, we need the Cooperative Program. The demands of our worldwide mission program grow greater each day as the spiritual needs of the world grow. We gain strength as our churches unite in prayer and join in giving together through the Cooperative Program.—Roy F. Lewis, Secretary of Stewardship-

Cooperative Program.

'Read the Bible through'—confused?

For the past three years the Sunday School department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention has promoted a "read the Bible through in a year" project. We have had a good response. Many people have read the Bible more in this period than ever before. Many have read the book from cover to cover for the first time in their lives. We have many letters from individuals thanking us for the emphasis.

Our suggestion has been that an individual start on Jan. 1 and read three chapters a day and five on Sunday. This will take one through the Bible by late December. In the department's monthly newsletter, we post where readers should be if they are "up-to-date" in the state reading schedule.

This fall a new promotion of "Read the Bible Through" is being promoted by the Sunday School department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn. Materials including posters, bookmarks, stickers, and certificates are available from the Materials Service Department, Nashville. A free leaflet which includes an order form is available from our department. We encourage you to write for it.

One point of confusion is apparent. Our state reading plan will phase out this December. The new plan starts this October. There is a full quarter overlap of the two plans. This causes confusion to readers of the two promotion plans.

If a church has participated in the current state plan suggestion, continue and complete it. If a church has not participated in the 1974 plan, it would be a good thing to start with the new S.B.C. plan this October.

It's good to read the Bible. Right on with Daily Bible Reading. Read it through. You'll be glad you did.-Lawson Hatfield, Sunday School Department.

WANTED

100 Men to witness in Korea; 50 Men to witness in Taiwan (wives invited), all attending First World Conference of Baptist Men, Hong Kong, November 26-30, 1974. Write: Brotherhood Commission, SBD, 1548 Poplar Avenue, Memphis Tenn. 38104.



The 1974-75 CHURCH: the Sunday Night Place emphasis will be launched as churches observe Lift Off Month during October. This is to be the second year of major emphasis on strengthening the Sunday night program of our churches. The scope of this emphasis is broadened to include the total Sunday night program. It is an effort to:

• Enlarge and enrich the Church Training Program

• Enlarge and enrich the Sunday evening congregational experience through innovative methods involving inspirational music, Bible preaching, and Christian fellowship.

The 1974-75 Church Guide contains suggestions and plans for strengthening the total Sunday night program. The emphasis is to begin in October and will continue with follow-up projects scheduled for November, 1974-August, 1975. Churches that have not made plans for launching the emphasis in October can easily adapt the schedule and use January as Lift Off Month. Additional copies of the Church Guide are available from the State Church Training Department.

The purposes of CHURCH: the Sunday Night Place are:

•To lead church members to love their church, and to find joy and fulfillment in visible support of it on Sunday night;

 To help build the church, and to lead church workers to a deeper commitment to the total church program;

To bring about a new awareness about worship, training, and fellowship;

•To bring about increased participation in worship, training, and fellowship.

Major emphasis for 1974-75

For worship

- Variety in Worship at the Sunday Night Place
- Great Nights of Decision
- Simultaneous Church Ordinances Celebration
- Hymn singing: the Sunday Night Sound
- Choral singing: a Witness to Share

For training

- SEE (Special Enlistment Effort)
- Church Spectacular
- Youth Week
- Leadership Training
- Doctrinal Emphasis Week
- High Attendance Nights

For fellowship

- All-Church Fellowships
- Talent Celebrations

Church Training Convention '74

Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock, will be the site Oct. 24 of the annual Church Training Convention sponsored by the Church Training Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. The convention program will provide both inspiration and training for pastors and church staff members, associational leaders, church training leaders and church library workers.

The program which will begin at 10:00 a.m. will adjourn at 4:00 p.m. Conference leaders for the convention include the following persons from the Baptist Sunday School Board: Preschool, Alma Mae Scarborough; Children, Dan Fowler; Youth, Hugh Willoby; Adult, Bruce Powers; General Officers, Wert Campbell; and Library Workers, John Hack. A conference for Associational Leaders will be led by Robert Holley and Gerald Jackson of the Arkansas Church Training Department.

A special feature of the convention will be a Church Training Fair which will depict, through sight and sound, all phases of the church training program. Exhibits will present the program and materials for every age division of the program. training Age-division consultants will be present at each exhibit to give assistance and answer questions. Free leadership materials will be made available in exhibits at the Fair. Materials which will enable any church to prepare and conduct a similar Fair will be made available without cost.

The Fair, located in the Recreation Room, will be open from 9:00 until 10:00 a.m., from 12:30 until 2:00 p.m. and following the afternoon session. There will also be a Church Recreation exhibit provided by the Church Recreation Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. The Baptist Book Store exhibit will feature a complete supply of all church training materials including the CHURCH: the Sunday Night Place promotional materials.

C:SNP Materials

Churches that have not secured the CHURCH: the Sunday Night Place materials should order them as soon as possible. A complete listing of these materials and order forms may be found in the Church Guide on pages 45-47. The Theme posters, bulletin inserts, recordings, post cards, stencils, and other promotional materials may be ordered from the Baptist Book Store or from the Materials Services Department at the Sunday School Board.

Plan now for Brotherhood program

Planning is the secret to a successful program of Brotherhood work. This, of course, includes Baptist Men and Royal Ambassadors.

Brotherhood officers should have plans for the New Year completed. If not,

then time is growing short.

The Brotherhood director, elected by the Church, is responsible for leading the program of missionary education for men and boys. His major responsibility is the enlistment of a Baptist Men's president, and a Royal Ambassador leader.

The president of Baptist Men takes the lead in enlisting the other officers for the organization. The Baptist Men officers include the vice president, secretary, mission study leader, and mission activities leader. Mission activities project leaders may be elected as needed

The Royal Ambassador leader and his committee seek out and enlist the counselors and assistants to provide leadership for the chapters needed to provide for all Royal Ambassadors.

Royal Ambassadors is comprised of Crusaders and Pioneers. Crusaders is for boys, grades 1-6. Pioneers is for boys, grades 7-12. For best results, Crusaders should be in two sections. Crusader 1, for grades 1-3, and Crusader 2, for grades 4-6.

Pioneers should be divided also. Pioneer 1, for grades 7-9, and Pioneer 2, for grades 10-12. In rare instances, a combination chapter of Pioneers may be

worked out.

Free helps for organizing a full Brotherhood Program, including Baptist Men and Royal Ambassadors, are available from the Brotherhood Department, P.O. Box 550, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.

Call on us for assistance. It will be our privilege to assist in any way possible.

Associational Brotherhood Officers should plan to attend one of the eight district meetings in October. All men are invited to the meetings for information and inspiration. - C.H. Seaton, Director

Child Care Some children need help to live up to potential

"Children are our most valuable resource."-Hubert Hoover. potential possibilities of any child are the most intriguing and stimulating in all of creation."-Ray Wilbur. Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. He placed his hand on them and left" (Matthew 19:14-15.)

Potential is a dynamic word. It refers "to that which is possible." It refers to something we cannot see or touch, but rather it is something that we feel.

Society calls many of the children with whom we work emotionally disturbed. Emotions are feelings. Our children have feeling needs. Due to their experiences in their developmental years they are upset, disturbed, and hurt a lot inside. So often these hurt feelings express themselves in striking out, delinquent behavior, and lack of trust in others and themselves. Whatever you call it, until they can be guided to feel better about themselves, receive consistent love and acceptance, and face things as they actually are, they are disturbed. They are less of a boy or a girl than they can be. Faced with these needs, we must recognize the potential possibilities of every young life.

We work at helping them feel that they are worthy as persons so that they can get over their feeling disturbances. We work hard at meeting the "feeling needs" of children. Knowing how essential the quality of trust is to happiness and personal well-being, our staff is constantly working to help our young people re-establish their faith in people and themselves. Everyone needs to trust someone, and to believe in his own worth as an individual. To make this trust complete and abundant, one needs to place their trust in God.

With God, all things are possible. He understands our feelings and is the author of our potential possibilities .-Johnny G. Biggs, Executive Director, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services.

Baptist Hymnal', 1975 Edition

will live to serve a witnessing people; and, it's coming in March of 1975!

Baptist Hymnal (1975 Edition) was compiled by a committee of 68 Southern Baptists. They came from all areas of Southern Baptist life, including churches large and small. This hymnal is designed for the man in the pew. It is a book for great congregational singing through the '70s, into the '80s, and on into the '90s.

This new hymn book comes at a time when many Baptists are wanting to bring back some treasured useable hymns not Music Secretary.

It was born to serve a singing people; it available in our present hymnals. It also comes when many are searching for new hymns that witness of God at work in the world today. The time is right for the coming of Baptist Hymnal (1975 Edition.)

> The purchase of new hymnals represents a considerable investment and requires some advance budget planning in most instances. Now is the time to plan for sufficient funds. Publication date is March 15, 1975, but orders are being accepted now by your Baptist Book Store.-Ervin Keathley, Church

Doctor communicates love

The parents of a little nine-year-old girl rushed through the doors that read "Emergency Only" seconds after they arrived at the Baptist Medical Center. The child had an accident while riding her bicycle that resulted in a large gash revealing the bone of her upper arm. The pain was severe, the sight of the wound almost unbearable, and the hurried movements of the doctors and nurses very confusing, the child frightened because of her condition and partly because of the anguish in the mother's and father's expressions as they quietly prayed. This is the frightening time for any person, child or adult. While the family waited in the emergency room, big brother tried to tease his little sister, then he tried to make her be brave, and mother tried to explain to her exactly what the doctor would have to do, as best she could.

Through her tears, the girl saw the doctor appear at the door of the small

room where she lay. This only made the crying worse. The doctor walked over to the side of the bed and, without speaking to anyone in the room, lifted his hand and spelled "hi" in the language of signs. His next unspoken words were, "pain stop, shot, sew." The crying stopped immediately. The faces of the child and family were as bright as the morning sun. A sigh of relief was heard, and a calm came over the child instantly.

The little girl, Debbie Parrish, is deaf. The doctor, Ivan Frye, staff physician at the Baptist Medical Center, could speak her language. It made all the difference in the world. Debbie's reply was simply, "Smart doctor!"

Thank you, God, for professional people who care enough to learn to communicate with deaf people through the language of signs. Truly, this is a. communication of Christian love. "Smart doctor!" - Robert Parrish, Director of Deaf Ministries

Church Furniture for Sale 24 pine pews 11' long Medium stain, handmade Durable, very good condition Mandeville Baptist Church Rt. 12, Box 496 Texarkana, Ar. 75501 Ph: (501) 773-5058

The Southern accent

Lawrence A. Tucker

Making it easy



Tucke

"When you were with him it was easy to believe in God." A pastor had that to say about a crippled, bed-ridden member who had not stood alone for 15 years. What a tributel Can't you see the picture? Here was a pastor, tired and down in the dumps,

frustrated and weary from the little botherments in the daily work, or faced with a problem whose solution seemed to lie a little beyond him. He called in the home of this survivor of the Bataan death march. Instead of ministering he was ministered to. A power that was good radiated from the invalid to lift up the fallen spirit of his pastor. "When you were with him, it was easy to believe in God!"

Heaven knows that young students face many situations when it is not easy to believe in God, or man either, for that matter. This is a time of great doubt. Our waste baskets hold so many discarded virtues, broken vows, abandoned ideals and forsaken dreams. It is mod to feel that, in this age at least, man does live by bread alone. Get the dollar. That's what counts most. Get an education. That's the best way to get the dollar. Is this all that life is about?

Here at Southern Baptist College we seek the kind of faculty and staff - and largely find them, too - who wish to do more. This quality about many of our fine professors doesn't fit a blank on an application form. When we stand a man or woman before a class we want them to be the kind of a person about whom it can be said, "When he teaches me it is easy to believe in God."

Our concept of education as the pursuit of all truth carries with it the implication that God stands as a part of every quest for true learning. So in music or science, history or religion, athletics or what not, we continually seek the leader who through his discipline and through his Christian character allows God to meet his students in creditable and attractive realness. Then they can follow Him into all of life with the kind of life that makes it easy for another to believe in God.

We're trying to do this at Southern. Isn't this something you might want to be part of?

Foreign Board hears report on Mozambique

RICHMOND (BP)--A guardedly optimistic report on the future of Baptist work and the status of missionaries in politically-troubled Mozambique marked the September meeting of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board here.

The board also appropriated \$44,164 for relief efforts in Bangladesh and Upper Volta and heard a report from Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary, on the board's role in channeling relief funds.

Davis Saunders, the board's area secretary for Eastern and Southern Africa, sharing the contents of a wire just received from Bud Fray, missionary in the area, characterized the situation in Mozambique as "tense and troubled."

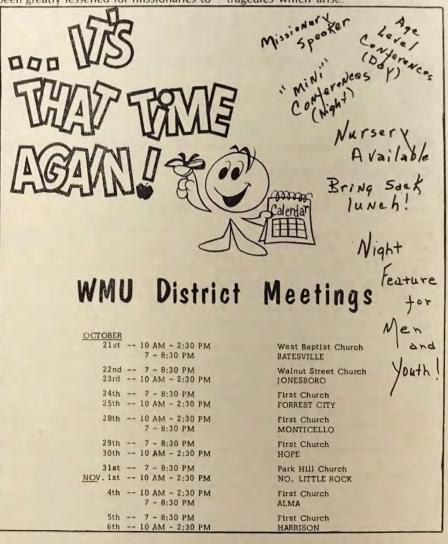
However, earlier reports are more encouraging. Quoting Ernest Harvey, missionary to Mozambique, Saunders indicated missionaries are continuing their work with "much more freedom than ever experienced by Protestant missionaries in Mozambique."

"Doors are wide open for missionaries," Saunders continued quoting Harvey. "Within the last three weeks, immigration requirements have been greatly lessened for missionaries to enter. If we just had missionaries who were ready to come now!"

Saunders reported that soon after the revolution in Portugal, First Baptist Church of Lourenzo Marques held the first open air service in its 25-year history. The Portuguese Baptist leaders have requested three other Southern Baptist missionary couples to join the Harveys.

Of the relief funds appropriated, \$33,664 was designated to help Bangladesh recover from floods that recently engulfed two-thirds of the nation. The remaining \$10,500 went to Upper Volta for a well-digging project and a food distribution program in the West African country struggling to recover from several years of drought and famine.

"During the critical months of famine in Africa many churches have written asking if the Foreign Mission Board can handle relief funds," Cauthen said. "It is a joy to give assurance to Southern Baptists that the board has served as a channel for relief for many years. With mission work in 81 countries, we are in a position to minister first hand to the tragedies which arise."



Evangelist Bill Glass

conducts prison crusade

by Charles R. Richardson for Baptist Press

Prison walls and convicts have become rather commonplace to Bill Glass of Dallas, former Cleveland Browns' defensive end and one-time All-America player at Baylor University.

Today, instead of helping teammates win contests against grid opponents, Glass is exercising his faith in Jesus Christ by sharing the "good news" of the Bible among some of the nation's toughies behind bars.

Since the summer of 1972, Glass, who retired five years ago from professional football ranks, has conducted eight three-day "prison crusades" over the U.S. He has plans for others in addition to his city-wide efforts.

In eight prisons in six states (Texas, California, Wisconsin, Ohio, New Mexico, and Kentucky), more than 1,000 inmates, guards, psychologists and even two wardens have had life-changing experiences of Christ.

After Glass and his group leave a

prison, counselors in the area continue Bible study for at least seven weeks and sometimes longer.

"We have a good advance and good follow-up," Glass said.

They usually enter the prison on a Friday morning and end the crusade on Sunday. Careful publicity is distributed before the team arrives so the prison community will know about the program.

Counselors mingle with the prisoners and in instances visit them in solitary confinement.

What impresses the convicts, Glass says, is that people from outside of the prison walls care enough to come at their own expense.

One of the popular attractions of the crusade is the athletic clinic which usually begins at 9 a.m. on Saturdays and continues throughout the day.

"We always go to a football field or a recreation area. There are lots of people,

including convicts, who will go to a football field who won't go to a church or chapel,"-said the former All-Properformer.

Throughout the day, many of the sports personalities speak briefly and then Glass speaks briefly during the evening.

"I tell them something like this," Glass said. "Our objective is not to keep you out of trouble. Our objective is to give you something worthwhile to do with your life. Get you some real objectives."

Then, following the brief message, Glass said he tells the convicts that there are counselors among them. If they wish to talk about their relationship to Christ, "hang around" and talk with one of the counselors. Many do, he explained.

"Our objective is not to be self righteous, but to show them they can be forgiven. That's really the meaning we have in the message."

Glass' counselors come from many different backgrounds and most are attracted to the prison crusades after working the evangelist's citywide meetings.

"These people really know what they are doing. We have to select the best of our citywide counselors," said Glass.

Team members have included many outstanding sports figures as well as others with strong Christian commitments.

One of the biggest men literally is Paul Anderson, the 375-pounder, who is billed as "the world's strongest man."

Several of Glass' former National Football League teammates and opponents support him in the efforts. Treasurer of his association is J.R. Smith, a former All-Pro guard for Cleveland and the Dallas Cowboys, and another key board member is Raymond Berry, who was a Baltimore Colt All-Pro receiver.

Figures for the sports clinics and demonstrations have been led by former Milwaukee basketball player McCoy McLemore, former New York relief pitcher Steve Hamilton and Dallas Cowboy gridder John Niland, another All-

Two of the counselors at the Eddyville, Ky., prison included FBI Agent Dave Templeton of Madison, Wis., and 81year-old George Joslin of Indianapolis.

What Glass hopes to accomplish during his prison engagements is mirrored by the comment of one prisoner who found new life in Christ.

"Now, I'm free," he said, "With Jesus Christ, I'm freer than those guards who go home at night."



Woman's viewpoint

Iris O'Neal Bowen

Coming back down to earth

Our older friends have had many experiences that, shared with us, can teach us valuable lessons. Such an experience was shared with me lately, and I think it is worth passing on.

When my dad was high school age, he had to go away from home to continue his education. His father hoped he would become a lawyer, and he was working hard to become a great orator. Debates were the chief delights of those times and on one particular night a large crowd had gathered to hear the young participants present the two sides of the question under debate.

First, the "for" side was heard from, with the young man presenting his facts with ability and knowledge, after which he sat down to much applause. Then Walter O'Neal rose and, his shock of brown hair shining in the lamp light, he just put that fellow in the shade! His points, he thought, were downright good, and they were presented with the greatest oratory and gestures that Walter O'Neal had ever seen and heard!

When the debate was over, his side had won, as he had known it would.

"They climbed over the seats to get to me," was his humble observation. "My Papa, he had come all the way from home to hear the debate and he climbed over the benches to get to me, too!"

But when Walter O'Neal, the great orator, went home for a few days, his father got him up early his first morning there, and set him to plowing up some cotton fields. If he felt like he was a cut above cotton fields, he made no mention of it, but hitched up the mules and went to work.

However, the day grew warm and then hotter, and our hero began to grow tired, and he wondered why, if his dad was so proud of him, he would put such an obnoxious job on him. Finally, he told himself, "Walter O'Neal, you aren't anybody but plain old Walter O'Neal!" "You came down to earth, didn't you?" I

"Yes," he admitted, "I came down to earth!"

entured.

Missionaries know: 'you meet the nicest people on a Honda'

by Jim Newton

DOTHAN, Ala. (BP)—He stands only 5'4" and weighs only 115 pounds, but when Clyde Townsend, a motorcycle dealer from Dothan, Ala., mounts his 350 cc Honda, he is as big as any bruiser who ever rode a bike.

And when it comes to supporting missions, Clyde Townsend, a deacon and active member at Southside Baptist Church here, is one of the biggest men around.

Townsend has ridden a Honda through 10 countries on three continents, and everywhere he goes he tells Southern Baptist missionaries he and other laymen like him love them and pray for them daily.

So far, Townsend has given three motorcycles to missionaries to enable them to travel to remote regions they might otherwise be unable to reach with the gospel.

And he says he is just getting started. His goal is to give a motorcycle to every one of the 77 countries where Southern Baptists have missionaries.

God has been with him in sickness and in health, the modest Townsend says, and has led him to the place in life where he wants to give all he can to support Christ's work in the world.

Fifteen years ago, Townsend lay flat on his back suffering from tuberculosis. For nine months he lay in a hospital, struggling to recover.

He says he has had almost every imaginable kind of health problem and countless broken bones from motorcycle falls. He's had some narrow escapes from death and feels God has allowed him to live and blessed him financially so that he can give more in return to support missions.

Missions reallycame alive to Townsend four years ago when he decided to ride his Honda CB350 from his home in Dothan, Ala., all the way to the Panama Canal Zone and back.

During the two month, 9,500 mile trip he crossed borders of countries in Central America 26 times without trouble, knowing only one sentence in Spanish: "No hablo Espanol." (I do not speak Spanish.)

He made another trip last year to visit missionaries in the interior of Kenya and Tanzania in East Africa. A number of areas he rode through teemed with wild game, but he was careful to give lions and elephants and other large game a wide berth, since most have never seen a motorcycle.

In his adventures Townsend combines his great loves in life-his love for motorcycles and riding, his love for Christ and His Church and his love for missions.

"You know, when a layman likes me rides up on a motorcycle, meets a

missionary for the first time on the field where he serves, tells him that you love him and pray for him every day, that missionary really believes you mean it," Townsend remarked.

A jack of all trades, Townsend puts his love into action once he is on a mission field.

"Clyde can do anything," his pastor, Ken Harrison, said. "He can do carpentry work, he is a mechanic and even an electrician of sorts."

On a trip to Central America, he helped repair the roof and electrical wiring at the Baptist camp and the Spanish language institute in San Jose. In remote mountains on Honduras he did carpentry work and put a new roof on a On his second trip to church building. Ecuador, Townsend rode his cycle to Cuenca, where missionary Archie Jones started the first church in the city of 100,000. During the month he was there, Clyde helped break ground and begin construction on the new church building. He also did a lot of electrical wiring and mechanical repairs for the missionaries.

"Missionaries really have a problem about mechanical breakdowns overseas," Townsend observed. "They can't get parts, and if they can, there is no one to repair American-made equipment and appliances." In addition, the missionaries are so busy, and often do not have the skills, to do the repairs themselves.

Townsend still had time to fish for rainbow trout in the mountain streams of Ecuador and to spend time with the missionary kids.

"One of my strongest ministries," he said, "is in talking with and playing with the MKs, and taking them for rides on the Honda"

The trip to Africa last year was the highlight of Townsend's missionary experience as a layman. He went first to Nigeria to help his pastor lead a series of lay evangelism schools.

While his pastor taught the Nigerians in the classes on lay witnessing, Townsend handed out the materials and tracts, did his own personal witnessing and repaired broken appliances and equipment for the missionaries.

Going on the mission trips is just one part of Townsend's experience as a layman. Almost as vital is what he does when he returns home, his pastor said.

Missions has come alive to the people of Southside Baptist Church in the last four years, primarily because of the example and testimony of Clyde Townsend and his wife, his pastor said.

This summer the church is sending 16 young people and the Townsends to Leeward Island of Antiqua between the Atlantic and the Caribbean, on a singing, witnessing, puppet show, and Vacation

Bible School-conducting trip.

Two years ago, Mrs. Townsend went on a mission trip to seven countries in East Africa. It was her excitement on her return that inspired her husband to want to go there too.

"She is even more missions minded than I am, because she has studied missions through Woman's Missionary Union," Townsend explained.

In addition to going, doing, and praying, Townsend has led his church in missions giving.

"The Lord has blessed me financially and spiritually," he said. "He's given me far more than I'll ever be able to give His church and to missions. I'm just a common old boy who loves the Lord, and I want Him to get the credit, not me."

Townsend said he hoped other laymen would see the challenge of missions, and seek not only to increase their financial and prayer support, but to visit foreign mission fields through the Foreign Mission Board's short term missions projects coordinated by Eugene Grubbs, consultant on laymen overseas.

"If people just knew what a layman could do by going to a country overseas for just a few weeks to really help the missionaries there, they would respond," Townsend said.

Few laymen, however, can go the way Townsend does.

For it is a rare breed who is big enough to mount a motorcycle in freezing weather, tighten up a black leather jacket, and ride 9,500 miles round trip over rugged terrain—on a motorcycle!

Adapted from the August issue of "World Mission Journal."

Summer staff positions open at Glorieta

Every year, June thru Labor Day, Glorieta Baptist Conference Center is used by the various agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention for conferences, training and inspiration. Making the summer session possible is the Conference Center's summer staff.

Staff members have the opportunity to meet and work with people from all parts of the United States and many foreign countries. The Christian fellowship and the many life-long friendships which develop are some of the unique advantages of serving as a summer staff member.

Applications are now available for the 1975 Summer Staff Program. Applicants must be 17 years of age before Jan. 1, 1975; in good health and willing to work. Adults under 70 years of age are also considered for summer staff positions.

Interested parties should make requests for applications to: Personnel, Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, P.O. Box 8, Glorieta, N.M. 87535.

Black Baptists decry paternalism of whites

BUFFALO, N.Y. (BP)-The National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., meeting in annual session here, approved a resolution declaring that the relationship between the black Baptist body and the Southern Baptist Convention "cannot constructively be defined in terms of instructor and pupil, giver and receiver."

The resolution, written and presented by Joseph H. Jackson, president of the 6.3-million-member black Baptist body, was approved at a sparsely-attended morning session during the five-day gathering here.

Emmanuel McCall of Atlanta, black director-elect of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's department of cooperative ministries with National Baptists, reacting to the resolution, told Baptist Press:

church costs are rising.

but now, thanks to Ætna and the Southern Baptist Insurance Trust,* insurance isn't one of them.

That's because of a new program of property and liability insurance specially designed by Ætna Life & Casualty and recommended by the Southern Baptist Insurance Trust for your church. A program that offers the needed coverage to Southern Baptist churches that meet certain requirements—at a reduction in premiums. Coverage that includes not only the basics but options needed.

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accidents and how they might be avoided. Because as accidents are avoided, claims go down. And as claims go down, premiums usually follow. Plus a convenient payment plan and prompt claim service.

In all, a total package of property and liability insurance to provide Southern Baptist churches with the coverage they need—at savings. A total package specially designed by Ætna Life & Casualty. Just one more reason we're not your average insurance company.



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THE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

* Not affiliated with a state convention or the Southern Baptist Convention

"We ought to be honest in saying that there has been an instructor-pupil relationship in the past and a somewhat paternalistic approach. We have been open in admitting this. Our work with black Baptists started as a way helping slaves and people of color obtain religious instruction.

"But since 1968," McCall continued, "we have been moving from a paternalistic to fraternalistic stance and instead of trying to be a brother's keeper we have been trying to be our brother's brother and trying to help Southern Baptists move from being a keeper to

being a brother."

"I strongly recommend and urge that fellowship between our convention and all of the Baptist bodies and religious groups shall continue and even grow stronger as God directs," Jackson said. "But I reject any type of relationship with any Baptist body or religious group that ignores or tends to disrespect the autonomy, the independence, the freedom and the right of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., to govern itself and to determine its policies and programs."

Jackson, re-elected to his 22nd term as president of the nation's largest black religious body, quoted from a pamphlet produced by the SBC's Home Mission Board on cooperative ministries it conducts with National Baptists.

The pamphlet, citing historical development of work with black people, said, "When the Southern Baptist Convention was organized in 1845, one of its first projects was to establish a board of domestic missions (now the Home Mission Board). This agency was instructed to 'take all prudent measures for the religious instruction of the colored population."

"In any present working relationship with the National Baptist Convention USA," Jackson said, "our Southern Baptist brethren must take under consideration the many changes and many achievements that have taken place in the United States of America

since 1845

McCall said the resolution's reference to the SBC stance in 1845, was "quoted out of context because that same pamphlet contains the Home Mission Board's new philosophy on work with National Baptists which was formulated in 1972."

He said that philosophy stipulates that Southern Baptists work cooperatively with National Baptists, consult them on all projects related to their conventions and not look on them as an unequal mission field.

"The program philosophy that emerged from that meeting was shaped by the black people attending and the director-elect," McCall said. "Invitations were sent to all black conventions to send official representatives. Only the Progressive National Baptist Convention responded to the invitation."

Indiana chapels minister to travelers on land, sea

by Tim Nicholas

PORTAGE, Ind. (BP)-Two mobile homes in Portage, Ind., have gone into the Christian ministry; one at this Lake Michigan seaport, the other at a truck stop.

They serve as chapels for the Northwest Indiana Baptist Association in its ministry to travelers—on the seas and

over the highways.

Neither flaunt the name Baptist on their signs—the ministries are by Baptists, not for Baptists. And because of the nature of the ministries, both are essentially non-denominationally oriented.

How Baptists gained access to the port and the truck stop, according to Lt. Al Hartman, in charge of local security for the Indiana Port Authority, is that "Baptist people are a little more energetic."

Energy plus the wise handling of relationships by the man who supervises both ministries, Cass Vincent, has placed the Seaman's Center right on the road between the ships and the gate. "They play shortstop between the ships and the taverns," says Hartman.

Vincent-actually his name is Kaz Vincent-Pruszynski--is in charge of language and culture ministries for northeast Indiana for the Home Mission

Board.

A Polish American, born in Minneapolis, Vincent pulled personnel from the port into an advisory board for the Seaman's Center. Hartman is on the board, as is Tom Shafer, controller of the Indiana Port Commission, among others.

Shafer, a Presbyterian, says "Many people had been praying God would do

something like this."

The basic purpose of the Seaman's Center is "to show sailors what America is like other than dark nightclubs and bare" says Vincent

bars," says Vincent.

Baptist Churches alternate each month manning the center. One church makes health packets (toothbrush, soap...). A few churches of other denominations have indicated an interest.

Mrs. Violet Hartley, association Woman's Missionary Union president, also on the center's advisory board, held a shower to get furnishings for the center when it opened last year. She also helps recruit volunteers--70 cent are women. "They just have more time for it," says Mrs. Hartley.

Families invite the seamen into their homes for dinner and fellowship. The Americans and their guests of whatever

nationality sing hymns and songs of their homelands and often exchange photographs.

Vincent, who speaks several European languages, says one church took a group of Russians to a popcorn farm where they were given some popcorn to plant in Russia.

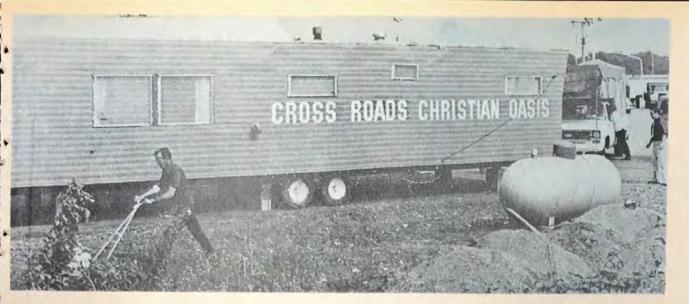
A clothing closet is maintained. "We gave most of our previous inventory to men on a Greek freighter to take home to their families," says Vincent.

"All some of these guys meet are longshoremen and Baptists," says Vincent. "We want to make sure they see average America."

Vincent's other chapel project, the Crossroads Christian Oasis, grew out of a dinner he and Lyndon Collings, former local associational superintendent of missions and now on the HMB's church extension staff, held for pulpitless preachers.

At the Seaman's Center, director Cass Vincent talks with Lt. Al Hartman of the Indiana Port Authority who is on the advisory board for the ministry.





Photos by Tim Nicholas

A volunteer cuts the grass at the Crossroads Christian Oasis in Portage, Ind., a ministry on a truck plaza where 60,000 truckers pass through each month.

Vincent mentioned at the dinner that one possibility of ministry would be to a particular truck stop in the area which served 60,000 truckers a month.

One man at the dinner drove trucks for a living and parked his rig at that very truck stop. Jim McKee, a member of First Southern Baptist Church in Portage, went to manager Ray Durilla, a Roman Catholic, who invited the Baptists into his 44-acre plaza to provide the ministry.

The association moved a vacant mobile home right beside the entrance to the plaza. Durilla provided the space and electricity without charge and a warning not to use pressure "witnessing" tactics on the truckers.

The chapel is a quiet place for truck drivers to go to relax, watch television or talk quietly over a cup of coffee waiting for servicing of their rigs-they know when it's open by the flashing lights above it. A citizens band (CB) radio is being installed in the window facing the entrance to the plaza so volunteers can transmit greetings to truckers-many of whom have CB radios in their cabs-as they drive in or out.

Getting volunteers for this chapel. though, has been a problem, say McKee and Vincent. The staff needs to be primarily men who can relate to the drivers. Few men in the area feel they have the time to spare; others seem

frightened at the prospect of possibly witnessing to a truck driver.

though, have few. given immeasurably. One pastor, Chuck Askins of Woodmar Baptist Church in Hammond, says he never drove a truck but is interested in truck driving. "I used to hang around truck stops like this," he

Driver Ed Bargery was recently "hooked" on ministry at the plaza. Bargery says he used to have a bad drinking problem and "the Lord made me so that a drink would just make me sick." Now Bargery feels he can relate to the problems his fellow truckers have.

Lolley recieves CLC's Distinguished Service Award

NASHVILLE (BP)-W. Randall Lolley, new president of Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., was presented the 1974 Distinguished Service Award of the Baptist Christian Life Southern Commission here

The commission's executive secretarytreasurer, Foy Valentine, presented the award on behalf of the commission

during its annual meeting.

The award went to Lolley "in recognition of unique and outstanding contributions to Southern Baptists in the area of applied Christianity." Citing his contributions as a pastor, the award plaque said Lolley "has stood forthrightly for the whole gospel of Jesus Christ, combining evangelistic zeal with consistent social action and motivating church members to responsible involvement in the community.

consistently stood as God's salt and light in the world, combining Christian witness and Christian works while leading church members to active participation in public affairs," the Plaque continued.

further commended "the commitment to serve the churches through a strong emphasis on both pastoral and prophetic dimensions of the Christian gospel" which Lolley brings to the Southeastern Seminary presidency he assumed Aug. 1.

Arthur B. Rutledge, executive director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, and Walker Knight, editor of Home Missions magazine, were joint recipients of the 1973 award.

Lolley, a native of Troy, Ala., is a graduate of Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., and earned bachelor of divinity and master of theology 'As a responsible citizen, he has degrees from Southeastern Seminary and

a doctor of theology degree from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth.

He served as pastor of First Church, Winston Salem, N.C., before assuming the Southwestern Seminary presidency. Before that he was associate pastor at Broadway Church, Ft. Worth, and held four student pastorates while in college and seminary.

> Bus for sale—41 passenger GMC Diesel in good condition. First Baptist Church, Sherman, Texas.

Call (214) 892-9121.

Lest We Forget: One Item Every Church Should Consider

By Darold H. Morgan



Budget time for your church is here again. Inflation hurts. No one needs to tell you that. You'll find inflation in every item of your church budget.

Crucial decisions must be made because the very life of your church depends on how you spend the tithes and offerings.

There is one budget item I want to comment on. This item concerns salary and benefits. As a former pastor, I know how your pastor and staff feel about it. Few will say anything, although they may be hurting. Rising costs makes paying bills hard on them too!

I would like to suggest that your church give substantial salary increases to each staff member to offset soaring prices.

Since 1967, inflation has just run wild. This year, the Government's Consumer Price Index has reflected increases of almost 10 per cent. Predictions are that this rate of inflation will continue.

Along with salary increases, please consider benefits too. If your church participates in the Protection Program offered by the Annuity Board, make sure the dues are based on 10 per cent of total compensation for all your staff. It will take this, Social Security and then some just to exist if the present rate of inflation continues.

If your church is not in the Protection

Program, it should be. Not only do you help the pastor, church staff and their families, but you answer in advance the question "what would our church do financially if our pastor is disabled, dies, or must retire?" The Protection Program provides retirement, disability, widow, child, education and temporary income benefits. And, there are insurance plans for life, disability, and medical coverage.

The Protection Program is a worthy way for you to say "thank you" to your staff for what they do in serving the Lord in your church.

We are ready to help you start a program of protection or upgrade an existing one that will challenge inflation.

For full details, write: Development Division (churches), Annuity Board, SBC, 511 North Akard Building, Dallas, Texas 75201; or contact the annuity secretary in your state convention office.

SERVING THOSE
WHO SERVE
THE LORD



September 29, 1974

Guiding a committed people

1 Sam. 12:13-18; 22-24



Wilhelm

God is the king, we are the people of this kingdom. He is our deliverer. provider, and protector. We are his people, and we will remember to worship, honor, and serve him. This sounds good, but it is very hard to practice. It deals

with matters man finds very difficult, that is, God's nature of grace, and our

response of faith.

Unfortunately, disobedience and unrest characterized Israel's years in the promised land. This passage is lifted out of a critical period in Israel's history. In this lesson, Israel changed from a theocracy to a monarchy. Failure to comply with God's plan for conquest and dominion had brought on confusion and despair for the loosely organized tribes. Through these years it had been difficult to function as a cohesive unit. Life required more courage than these spiritually weak people could muster because they had lost sight of spiritual principles upon which their nation had been found.

One reason God recorded this passage is that we might have more insight into his character. Many aspects of God's nature are touched on in these few verses, such as God's sovereignty, God's allowance for man's free-will, God's over his creation circumstances, and God's unchanging

expressions of grace.

Though some things change, some things never change. These people were his, for better or for worse. Because of his nature of grace, they would be the receivers of his divine revelations, and most of all would give birth to his son, lesus, who would really be the answer to their greatest desires. Jesus would come to be their sacrifice for sin as well as the Lord of their lives.

This lesson is broken into four thoughts: Israel's desire for selfdetermination, God's will for Israel, God's control of Israel's circumstances, and the grace relationship.

Desire for National self-determination (verse 13)

Man finds less than God's ideal when he pushes for his own thing. Man needs to come to the understanding that times change not because of God, but because of man. What God resists in one generation, he will in the next, and what

God blesses in one family, he will in the next, regardless of time.

Israel's immaturity focused on her sister nations rather than on her secure position in God. Psalm 106 is a beautiful recount of things that really should have been on their minds. In summary, it says the Lord our God is mighty, praise him. God our great king is just and righteous, his provision for his people are always abundant. Thoughts like these are not found in this section of 1 Samuel.

Samuel, God's annointed spokesman for their times, tried to explain what their self-will would bring. He attempted to tell them that what they already had in God for their King would be far better than anything any earthly king could give. But they wanted a king they could see with their eyes and hear with their ears. It is almost as if they were saying, "Look, Lord, you've been our king for all these years, you've had your chance, and look at the mess we're in. If we could only have a king like our sister nations, everything would be alright."

Their problem was not one of leadership (as they thought) but it was a problem of followship, as Samuel boldly pointed out. Because of their continual rebellion and laxness concerning spiritual things, the years in the promised land had been filled with turmoil and confusion. It was not God's fault, but theirs.

> God's will for Israel (verses 14, 15)

God's plan was for them to be a distinct people. Everything they did in their worship, their moral behavior, government, eating habits, and social organization gave unique evidence that

they were a special people.

Sadly enough, by this time they had begun to pattern after the surrounding nations. Because of this, Israel had gone through cycles of discipline. It can be easily traced out on each occasion as (a) forsaking God, (b) invasion and oppression, (c) repentance, (d) God's forgiveness and deliverance, and (e) rest for a time.

This pattern would continue, for they would not really change. The only way to change the future is to change the present. National strength and world peace are always found by honoring divine principles and spiritual concepts. Put God in his rightful place in life and nation, take his word as fact and live accordingly, and the nation's future is already decided. Israel's real need was not an earthly king, their real need was to follow God, their king. (Deut. 6:4, 5,

"Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord, and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.")

> God's control of Israel's circumstances (verses 16-18)

The events of these verses were given for two reasons, first for necessary discipline for their attitude, and second to illustrate God's power. God was saying, "I will spell it out for you in a way you can understand." Psalm 106:15 applies to them when it says, "And he gave them their request, but sent leanness unto their soul."

The result of the exercise of our freewill will not always be to our liking. Circumstances have a way of putting us in our place. God is God, and man is totally dependent on him. In one day, Israel's crops could be completely taken away. God has a way of allowing circumstances which will best get our attention. In their sin and immaturity Israel would naturally focus on these circumstances, and reason that death would be the next thing God would bring on them.

God was really trying to say to them, "I have all power, to take away, to give, to bless and to provide, I love you, and want to show you just how much, if you will only let me."

The grace relationship (verses 22-24)

The Lord was not about to forsake this people for God loves completely. Nothing man ever does is a surprise to God. He may be expecting more of us than we do sometimes, but his love is full and forever. God's great name is at stake, and he will bring mighty things to pass even in frail, weak, and earthy people.

If we want abundant living, God gives us the way. It is found in the covenant relationship of grace through faith. Our prayers as Christian people should always be for this regardless of the condition of the people for whom we are praying. Sameul said, "I will continue to pray for you and teach you the right way.

Do you remember the words of the hymn, "O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above."

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Sept. 29, 1974

Life and Work Lesson,

A life out of control

Mark 5:1-15



Peoples

It is not my purpose to dwell or deal with demons from this scripture today or to give reasons for the man's possession of the unclean spirits. But, to present Jesus dealing and delivering such a man.

The man

Mark, the gospel artist, paints for us a sad picture. Sorrow mounts in our soul that a man could ever meet such doom, but what a shock! When the face is completed, we see that it is not just a wild man of Gadara, but a reflection of our own lives.

1. He was separated. A sad day it was when the family could no longer contain him. First, it was his job: no longer could he work in the fields. Then, it was the cries in the night that the little family couldn't hush. The older son could no longer bind him to the trees of the yard. The neighbors tried to help, but to no avail. That sad day the citizens of the town carried him to the crying caves of Gadarea and the family touched their Dad for the last time. No return: forever separated: what a picture of sin separating.

2. He was bound (v. 4), The chains of hell had bound him long before the citizens' chains strapped his body.

3. He was uncontrollable. (v 4b) "Neither could any man tame him." When sin possesses us, chains of reasoning and fetters of friends will not hold us. A tongue tuned to the harps of hell can not be bound by hands of hundreds. It is like wildfire-out of control-set to destroy all that be in its

4. He was without rest. Sin is open all night (v 5a) "—always, night and day." Sin gives no "coffee breaks": offers no lounge of rest. And, your shift is never over. Satan plants no trees: offers not a shade: digs no wells and bubbles no brooks. "Night and Day," never closing. I once sat with a lady who had gone nine days without physical sleep. She was in shock from a car accident. Two people sat by her side day and night to prevent her from tearing the straps from her arms. I tell you, sin is shocking and restless.

The master

"Jesus came over unto the other side of the sea"-Jesus, the captain of the sea of seas, heard the cry from the distant shore. The winds of need guided his boat unto the harbor of help. You just can't help but feel that there was not only the cry of Gadarea of the wild man, but, the sobbing soul of a fatherless family back home. Jesus has crossed over to the sinking shores of Gadarea many times to rescue a life of a defeated man because of the cries of a praying family.

What a sight to see, the devil coming out of the man and entering the swine-Two thousands hogs rushing down the hillside (even the devil disturbs a filthy hog and causes him to rush to death) into the sea of death.

But I'll show you a greater and more exciting sight. See this wild man now sitting at Jesus' feet resting and clothed.

The mission

It is Jesus' mission to rescue every life out of control, to cross over the lime stone caves of Gadarea. It may be across the street or down the block. Run to Him. If there be two voices crying from the same lips, as was true of this man, cry on! He will discern the voice.

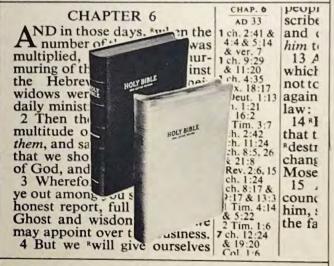
The mission of the man? Now he wanted to sail with Jesus. (v. 18) "No," Jesus instructs, "go home to thy friends, and tell—" What a sight beyond all

sights! Witness the town as "Legion" enters again. Fear gripped the people as fearful children left playgrounds to hide behind locked doors. The word came like news of a destructive storm. I can imagine that even barking dogs rushed for cover. "Legion is back."

Ah, but listen the news is soon reversed. No chains to rattle bleeding arms, no cursing words from vile lips. His shouts of anger have been changed to whispers of love, and cursing lips to songs of praise. This long ago story of a restored soul can be told afresh by the lips of a mother, a wife, or a child who has welcomed the boat of Jesus to the caves of Gadarea where a loved one lives. A cursing man becomes a loving father at the feet of Jesus. A rebel teenager is transformed from a life of drugs and damnation to praising the Lord in a Youth Choir. Christ is in the business of taming the untamable, controlling the uncontrollable, crossing over to the other

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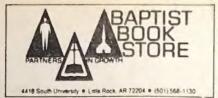


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Attendance report

ditions

	Sept.	15, 1975		
	Church	Sunday School	Church	Ch
	Alexander, First Alpena	72	51	
	Berryville	81	22	
	First	164	70	
	Freeman Heights Rock Springs	130 92	41 50	
	Booneville, First	247	219	
	Concord, First Conway, Second Crossett, Mt. Olive	86 236	35 95	
	Crossett, Mt. Olive	405	217	
	El Dorado, Trinity	139	46	
	Forrest City, First Ft. Smith	602		
	First	1207	353	
	Grand Avenue Moffett Mission	764 27	279	
	Northside	100	70	
	Temple	173	79	
	Trinity Windsor	154 657	43 176	
	Garfield, First	76	35	
	Gentry, First Grandview	207 84	78 49	
	Hampton, First	140	73	
	Hardy, First	120	49	
	Harrison Eagle Heights	328	155	
	Woodland Heights	80	44	
•	Helena, First Hope	234	79	
	Calvary	181	83	
	First	407	111	
	Hot Springs Grand Avenue	405	175	
	Leonard Street	99	67	
	Park Place Hughes, First	389 188	103 79	
	Jacksonville,	100	/4	
	Jacksonville, Marshall Road	261	88	
17	Jonesboro, Nettleton Kingston, First	248 59	99 37	
	Lavaca, First	322	119	
	Lexa Little Rock	163	71	
	Cross Roads	110	78	
	Crystal Hill	117	56	
	Geyer Springs Life Line	748 583	218 145	
	Martindale	114	54	
	Shady Grove Sunset Lane	77 231	56 107	
	Woodlawn	116	50	
	Magnolia, Central Melbourne, Belview	666 98	173	
	Monticello	90	80	
	First	277	87	
	Second Murfreesboro, First	292 116	88 50	
	North Little Rock			
	Levy Park Hill	428 775	134 66	
	Paragould, First	458	102	
	Paris, First	425	113	
bo.	Pine Bluff East Side	191	117	
	First	622	101	
	Green Meadows Second	57 130	38	
	South Side	648	60 129	
	Tucker	13	12	
	Oppelo Watson Chapel	20 344	143	
	Prairie Grove, First	173	63	
	Rogers, Immanuel Russellville	550	121	
	First	516		
	Second	125	69	
	Springdale Berry Street	111	46	
	Elmdale	332	103	
	First Oak Grove	1111	20	
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When a girl applies for admission to the top Eastern colleges, a questionnaire is sent to her parents. A father in one of Boston's suburbs, filling out one of these blanks, came to the question, "Is she a leader?" He hesitated, then wrote cautiously, "I am not sure about this, but I know she is an excellent follower."

A few weeks later he received the following letter from the president of the college: "As our freshman group next fall is to contain several hundred leaders, we congratulate ourselves that your daughter will also be a member of the class. We shall be assured of one good follower."—American Opinion

When God measures a man, he puts the tape around the heart, not the head.

America used to be owned by the Indian who hunted and fished so much that he didn't have time to work and worry. Then it was taken over by the superior white man who works and worries so much that he doesn't have time to hunt and fish.

Joe Garagiola spends so much time away from home doing so many TV shows that one day he walked into the house and his daughter said, "Mother, here's Daddy!" Mrs. Garagiola asked, "What channel?"

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Black Baptists asked to help SBC win world

by Baptist Press

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Southern Baptist Convention President Jaroy Weber extended expressions of cooperation to two black Baptist bodies meeting in annual session and challenged them to work with the SBC to try to "win America to Christ."

Addressing the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., meeting in Buffalo, N.Y., and the Progressive National Baptist Convention, meeting in Cleveland, Weber offered "the hand of Southern Baptists to you to join in a spirit of cooperation to accomplish the purpose of God Our objective is the same, that is, to win the world to Christ and make disciples out of all who have

Meeting simultaneously in Nashville, Tenn, was a third black Baptist group, the National Baptist Convention of America.

Weber, pastor of First Church, Lubbock, Tex., told the black Baptists he believes that they could be more effective in reaching certain cultures than Southern Baptists in some parts of the world

The SBC president expressed the opinion that the Baptists groups could learn from each other. "With an open Bible and an open mind we stand ready to learn from you and others who are committed to evangelizing the world.

"I personally believe that the election of our vice president, Charles King, will help us to achieve some of your glorious spirit of joy and happiness, "Weber told the groups. King, elected second vicepresident of the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas this year, was the first black person to be elected a Southern Baptist Convention office.

"I've come to challenge you to join us in trying to win America to Christ...This burden should commit us to a new priority which would give us an opportunity to see God's work in an unusual way in the area of evangelism,"

In its 94th annual session, the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., the second largest Baptist group in the world, after Southern Baptists, re-elected Joseph H. Jackson, pastor of Olivet Baptist Church, Chicago, to his 22nd term as president. Over 20,000 persons attended the Buffalo convention.

Jackson told the group, which has 6.3 million membership and 30,000 churches, that "Negro Americans should reject the 'cult of revenge' in which people think, plan and work to get revenge on those who were once oppressors of the weak.

"We should not allow ourselves to be used by those who are members of movements to divide, weaken and destroy our democracy. We must reject members of our race who advocate a return to segregation and discrimination taken a stand against and have intergration.

"I believe America cannot exist half segregated and half integrated

Some 4,000 persons attended the 13th annual session of the Progressive National Convention, which has 600,000

Featured speaker at the convention was Jesse L. Jackson of Chicago, founder of People United to Save Humanity

The 32-yar-old minister stressed that the church should be the organization through which social change occurs for

He claimed that the black church is the most stable organization to administer many programs funded by the federal government, and that it should play a key role in administering the food stamp program, should provide direction on how to spend revenue sharing funds and should be the prime administrator of money to build housing for the poor.

In Nashville, the National Baptist Convention of America re-elected James Carl Sams of Jacksonville, Fla., as president for an eighth term.

W.A. Jones, a pastor and professor from Brooklyn, in the pre-convention pastor's conference, said, "Racism would come to a screeching halt and war and poverty would cease if enough of us (black preachers) had the courage to preach the gospel."

Delivering his punch line, Jones said, "The American nation has gone through serious times since it has come from the time that George Washington could not tell a lie to the time when Richard Nixon could not tell the truth.

Sams, in his presidential address, said of America's racial problems, "Black is not more beautiful than brown or white. If you buy a car you don't sweat over the color, you raise the hood to see if a motor is there and if it is working and if it is working you can ride.

"Likewise, if you have education, intelligence and a pure heart you can ride over prejudice, evil and jealousy."

But Sams, reports W.A. Reed, religion news editor of the Nashville Tennessean, "either startled or delighted local fundamentalists of the Nashville Bible Belt area when he assured his audience they were the sons of the Biblical Ham.

"He said: 'Noah had three sons and was a missionary Baptist preacher. His sons were Japeth, a Caucasian; Ham, a Negro; and Shem, a Jew, and we have come to Nashville from Noah's Ark.'

"A few moments later," Reed continued, "with no mention of Red or Brown or Yellow men, Sams said man was created from dust and 'God breathed

Mrs. R.L. Mathis, president of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, was among speakers at the convention, attended by some 10,000 black Baptists. (BP)