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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1950-1954

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**December 21, 1950**

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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# ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 49

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, DECEMBER 21, 1950

NUMBER 50



—Religious News Service Photo

"May you know the companionship of the Christ of Christmas" is our Sincere Christmas Greeting to our many thousands of friends.

The Editor and Staff Members

NORTH LITTLE ROCK  
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## "That The World May Know"

By M. THERON RANKIN

Some months ago, while reading the life of Karl Marx, I found myself asking, Why was it that Christians of that day let an atheist stand out as the passionate champion of the miserable people of the world? As I have traveled in the areas of the world where the masses of miserable people live today, the hungry people, those who have so little of the good things of life, I find myself asking, Why is it that Christians have allowed these people to believe that atheistic Communists are their champions? That it is the Communist and not the Christian who is leading the struggle for their good?



A Christian was talking with a man in Burma before the Communists secured control of that country. The man was somewhat typical of the great masses of people in the world who are economically and politically depressed. The Christian was pointing out the evils of communism to him. The man, though not a Communist himself, brushed aside all the reasoning of the Christian by the simple statement, "But they are on our side."

One cannot travel about the world today without feeling the powerful upsurge of the "have not" peoples. It is like the tide of the ocean that is irresistibly coming in. It cannot be stopped; and we wouldn't stop it if we could. In past years these people unconsciously accepted the idea that fate had fixed their lots where they were. We thought of them en masse: the peasants, the coolies, the Asiatics, the Africans, the heathen. But now they have become aware of the fact that they are people, basically just like other people. They think of themselves now as persons, and aspire to the same kind of things that other people aspire to achieve and have; people who have within themselves the same kind of hungers and hopes for life that others have. Means of intercommunication, made possible by modern inventions, have revealed to them the things that other people and nations have acquired. Now, they are on the move to acquire the same kind of things for themselves. And as they move, they have somehow come to believe that the Communist "is on our side."

### Their Deception Our Responsibility

Why haven't we Christians convinced them that we are on their side? Why is it that our nations, which are called "Christian," have failed to convince them that they are on their side? For several hundreds of years we held the right of way in the Orient, India and Africa, where most of these people live. How and why have we failed?

In defense of ourselves we recall the fact that Jesus refused to turn stones into bread with which to feed the people in order to get them to follow Him. We remember that the multitudes flocked around Him when He fed them with a few fish and loaves of bread, and that they left Him when He told them about the bread of life. We know that the Communists are exploiting the human hun-

gers of millions of people today; that they are capturing their allegiance with promises of the fulfillment of hopes which turn out to be bonds of exploitation.

But this defense, although true, does not dispose of the disturbing questions that turn themselves over and over in my mind and heart. Why haven't we convinced them that we are on their side? What have we done to convince them? How far have we gone? How much have we actually undertaken to do in their behalf? How far ought we to go? How much is it worth?

Communists have gone all out to convince these people that they are on their side. In their purpose to exploit and direct the awakening human hungers of these vast peoples of the world, they know that they are aiming to harness the most powerful force in the life of the world. They know that a movement propelled by this powerful current will be irresistible. They plan to ride it into world power. No price is too great for them to pay.

### How Can They Know That Jesus Loves Them?

I am compelled to believe that as Christians we do not comprehend the terrible importance of this situation. God has committed to us the means of fulfilling the hunger and hope of these masses of people. We have the messages of abundant life which alone can satisfy their hunger. We can be the agencies for directing for its true purpose the most powerful force in the life of the world. We have reason for doing this that are a thousandfold more important and worthwhile than the Communists have for what they are doing. And yet, it is precisely because the Communists have done so much more to be convincing than we have that they have succeeded in their objectives where we have failed.

If one is inclined to doubt that statement, let him compare the extent of our effort to win the world to Christ with the effort of the Communists to gain control of the world. Let him try to imagine the effect that Christians would have, if we were prepared to go as far to make Christ known to the world as Communists have gone to make known their "way of life."

I was in Nigeria a few weeks ago where I saw multitudes of these seeking people. I felt the vacancy of their lives and the surge of their aspirations. They hunger and thirst for what they do not have. As I stood one day in a market place, with the crowds of people moving about the trading centers, I thought, Jesus is on their side, and they don't know it. He went all the way in love and life in their behalf.

How far will we go to let these people know that Jesus is on their side? How much is it worth?

—The Commission.

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### Reasons for a Family Altar

It will sweeten home life and enrich home relationship as nothing else can do.

It will resolve all misunderstanding and relieve all frictions that may enter the home.

It will hold our boys and girls to the Christian ideal and determine their lasting welfare.

It will send us forth to our work for the day, in school, home, office, store, and factory, true to do our best and determined in what we do to glorify God.

## The Holy Spirit and Jesus

A Devotion by the Editor

"... And he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him."

It must have been a memorable scene never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it! A young man with an unusual light in His countenance came to John on the bank of the Jordan and requested baptism. And those who were near by heard the conversation that ensued. John hesitated saying, "I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest Thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness... And Jesus, when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon Him. And lo, a voice from heaven saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:14-17).

Such a scene was never before witnessed, and has never been witnessed since. Jesus having risen from the baptismal waters stood in the river. A form like that of a dove descended and rested upon Him as if crowning Him for His kingly mission. And a voice was heard to say, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

So when Jesus inaugurated His ministry by the act of baptism, the Father spoke His approval and the Holy Spirit came as His constant companion.

Therefore, the three persons of the Godhead are engaged in the work of human redemption. And this appearance of the three in either visible or audible presence is triple evidence of the divine purpose in the mission of Jesus.

"And when they were departed, behold the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

"When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

"And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

"Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men." Matthew 2:13-17

## ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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## From The Editor's Desk

### The Continuing Christmas Story

"Why should He love me so?" I do not know. There is no explanation of the love of God for sinful men, which is within the compass of finite minds to fully grasp.

We read of God's wonderful love for human kind as expressed in the life and ministry and death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. We yield ourselves to that love and lo, we know it is true. Explain it? We cannot. Rationalize it? No. Reduce it to logical deductions? Impossible. The love of God in Christ Jesus is an experience of the soul. And experience is the only method by which we can know His love.

I have just read again The Story; that is, three excerpts from the story—the birth, the crucifixion, and the resurrection of Jesus. For His birth cannot be understood apart from His crucifixion and His resurrection.

#### The Bethlehem Scene

At this season of the year we turn our thoughts to the babe in Bethlehem's manger—the manger which has been glorified by its divine occupant. We think of Mary, the child's mother, and Joseph. We visualize the shepherds on the Judean hills and the angelic choir as it

makes the announcement of the birth of the Son of God to the humble shepherds. And then the chorus, "Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men." We think of the star and the wise men from the East at their journey's end, paying homage to the new born King.

We sing our Christmas carols. We recite poetry which the bards have produced to try to put into language something of the significance of the event. We read the story again. It has been dramatized and we try to reproduce it to stir the imagination of children and adults as well. We preach sermons and offer our prayers.

This routine has been going on year after year for centuries and still The Story is new. It never grows old. It charms us and thrills us and awes us. Those who take the time to ponder the events which produced Christmas never cease to wonder at its glory and its mystery.

#### Life and Death

But Christmas is followed by Easter. And between these two dates, more properly events, there is a life and death process which is unequalled in the history of human kind.

We see the babe grow into childhood, into boyhood, into young manhood. We observe Him in the home, and at work, until finally He launches His public career.

We follow Him up and down the highways and along the village streets, into the market places, into the synagogues, into the temple, and into the homes of the people. We hear Him teaching the multitudes. We see Him as He turns His attention to a single individual. He speaks the words of healing and the lame walk, the blind see, the deaf hear, the fevered brow is cooled, and the leper is cleansed.

"Thy sins be forgiven thee," He says, and the sin blackened soul is cleansed and free. Men and women who had never known anything but a life of sin and who didn't know that there was any better life for them awakened to an experience of forgiveness and cleansing they had never dreamed possible.

But for all this ministry of mercy and love and forgiveness His reward was a cross upon which He was nailed. Look from the manger to Calvary today, for only so can you know the significance of that manger scene. Visualize the babe in the manger and then look at

the man on the Cross. It's the same person. What has He done? He has loved men and women, boys and girls. He has healed their bodies. He has forgiven their sins. He has cleansed their souls. That is the crime for which He is dying on Calvary's Cross.

Hear Him say, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." And when He had suffered the full measure of a slow tortuous death for the sins of the world He again addressed His father, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." It was not from the height of His popularity that He committed His spirit back to God, but from the height of Calvary and from the Cross upon which He died.

#### The Empty Tomb

Kind hands took the body and wrapped it in linen cloths and laid it in a tomb. But who can entomb the Son of God, the Savior of men? Look again on the third day and there discover the linen cloths lying exactly where the body of Jesus lay. But the body is not there. Why look for the living among the dead? "He is not here, He is risen."

Once more we see Him walking the streets of the cities and the villages, entering into the homes, speaking His blessings upon those who love Him, and commissioning His followers to preach His gospel in all the world.

#### Look Again

Once again visualize the babe in the manger and from that scene look at the risen Christ, bearing in His person the marks of death for you and for me.

Surely if we review this story and visualize these scenes and then think of the marvelous love which produced it all, we will not be able to desecrate this Christmas season with fleshly and worldly excesses which bear no kinship to the spirit of Christmas.

If we understand and appreciate the true Christmas spirit we will be better Christians during the year to come. We will love Him more. We will serve Him more faithfully. We

### A Juvenile In The White House

President Truman's letter to the critic, Paul Hume of the *Washington Post*, who didn't put a very high valuation on Margaret Truman's singing, reveals in the President a juvenile intelligence and juvenile emotional immaturity.

This is not the first intemperate outburst of the President's. It is only the latest in a succession of such outbursts.

#### Confusion and Uncertainty

Such indiscretion on the part of the highest official of the land can only create bewilderment, confusion, and uncertainty in our national administration and a lack of confidence and fear on the part of the electorate.

Such juvenile intelligence and emotional immaturity as displayed by the President are wholly incapable of dealing with the vital and dangerous national and international issues of this critical period in the history of the world. It was inevitable that a man of the President's limited abilities would surround himself with advisors who in the main are but little more capable than himself. This situation has made it practically impossible for the real statesmen and men of ability in the administration and in the congress to exert much influence on the policies of our nation both in its own national affairs and in international relations.

Perhaps there would be no point in saying all this were it not for the purpose of calling our people to prayer. We need to pray a prayer of repentance for our personal, our social, our economic, our national sins. The great prophets and statesmen of the Old Testament frequently confessed the sins of their people, their nation, and asked God to forgive. They did not always ask that the punishment for the national sins be withheld or withdrawn but they did ask that the people might come back to God in repentance and trust in Him. Surely we need to pray such a prayer today.

#### Our Last Resort

We need to pray for our national leaders. They are weak men like all the rest of us. They are confused and bewildered. They don't know what to do and they don't know where they are leading our nation. According to our form of government we can't change our national leaders now. Perhaps if we had the opportunity to change them we wouldn't. It appears that we have reached our last resort: prayer.

Let us pray that God will guide the decisions of our national leaders by His own infinite wisdom and that He may countermand their impulsive and emotional decisions which have already caused so much confusion and uncertainty and that He may guide the destiny of our nation and the nations of the world to accomplish His purposes of redeeming grace among men.

Friends, let us pray.

will trust Him more implicitly.

"Why should He love me so?" Let that question so fasten itself in your consciousness that you will never again be able to forget it.

# Kingdom Progress

## Church Centered Missions

By DR. C. W. CALDWELL

Arkansas's first Church centered Mission Conference was held in the First Baptist Church of Little Rock, December 7-8 under the sponsorship of the Department of Missions of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

In spite of the cold weather with ice and snow, approximately one hundred pastors and missionaries attended. All were high in their praise of the value of the conference and expressed a desire that it become an annual meeting.

Guest speakers were Dr. S. F. Dowis, Superintendent of Cooperative Missions of the Home Mission Board, and A. L. Lowther, Superintendent of Missions in Oklahoma City. Both gave inspirational messages and led round-table conferences on every phase of local mission work.

A number of testimonies were given by pastors and laymen in regard to mission stations which their churches have sponsored. Pastor J. D. Tolleson and Deacon Swift of Immanuel Church, El Dorado, gave the history of the mission sponsored by their church. It has had marvelous growth and is now in a splendid building with a full time pastor.

Pastor Harvey Elledge told of the many

mission stations established by the Baring Cross Church. Some of those mentioned were: Levy, Pike Avenue, Rose City, Amboy, and Camp Robinson. As these missions have been established and have grown into churches, the Baring Cross Church, itself, has had phenomenal growth.

Dr. John Miller spoke of his experience in the mission work of the Immanuel Church, Little Rock and of the First Church, Camden. Pastor Lloyd A. Sparkman told of Moscow Mission which is sponsored by the South Side Church of Pine Bluff and is located fifteen miles out in the country. It was the testimony of all of these men that from the time the churches began to sponsor missions, the financial burdens of their churches began to be lifted and the Lord's blessings seemed to be upon the churches in an unusual manner.

Friday morning most of the time was devoted to round-table discussions of mission committees, proper steps in organizing a mission, financing the work, and organizing the mission into a church.

The conference was brought to a climactic close with a great message from the beloved pastor of the First Church, Camden, Dr. T. L. Harris.

### B. B. Sawyer in Revival At First, Russellville

Dr. Braxton B. Sawyer, pastor of Immanuel Church, Fort Smith, assisted Pastor W. E. Speed, First Church, Russellville, in a revival meeting in October. There were over thirty additions to the church.

Dr. Sawyer is on the field again after his automobile accident a short while ago. Dr. John D. Freeman, executive secretary of the Baptist Foundation, supplied his pulpit while Dr. Sawyer was in the hospital.

### H. H. Zimmerman in Revival At Piney Church

The Piney Church of Central Association, Edward Anderson, pastor, had H. H. Zimmerman of Arkadelphia in a revival meeting, December 3 to 10. Reg Baber was in charge of the musical program.

There were 22 by baptism and three by letter. Evangelist Zimmerman was pastor of the First Church, Albuquerque, New Mexico, for seven years. He also served as missionary to Brazil for seven years.

### Raymond Johnson Ordained To Gospel Ministry

Raymond E. Johnson was ordained by the Prosperity Church, near Fordyce, to the full gospel ministry on Sunday, December 3. A. P. Elliff was moderator and R. K. Hunt, clerk.

G. W. Smith, Monette, delivered the ordination sermon and used as his text Philipians 3:13-14. J. T. Elliff, Fordyce, questioned the candidate and Dr. J. G. Cothran, First Church, Arkadelphia, delivered the charge. John E. Hargett presented the Bible and R. E. Lewis offered the ordination prayer.

There were 18 pastors and deacons on the council and 14 churches represented. Mr. Johnson is a student in Ouachita College.

### Roscoe Griffin Called To First, Monticello

First Church, Monticello, called as pastor N. Roscoe Griffin, a native of Alabama and a graduate of Howard College. He was doing graduate work at Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, which he interrupted to accept the pastorate at Monticello.

Brother Griffin has held various pastorates in Alabama and for a period of time after his graduation from college was the associate pastor of the First Baptist Church, Mobile, Alabama. He has recently been pastor of the Valley View Baptist Church in Texas. Pastor Griffin is married and has three sons.

### Melton in Revival Meetings

First Church, Lake Park, Tyler, Texas, had J. H. Melton in a revival meeting from September 24 to October 8 in which there were 15 additions by baptism, and 12 by letter.

Also Evangelist Melton was in a meeting at the Granada Church of the Brethren, Wetmore, Kansas, October 9 to October 22. There were 25 additions to the church.

October 23 to November 5 Evangelist Melton was in a revival meeting at the Crystal Hill Church, Little Rock, Ralph Boyette, pastor. There were 17 additions by baptism and six by letter.

### Second, El Dorado Has Successful Youth Revival

Johnny Jackson and Ralph Smith, students in Ouachita College, conducted services in a youth revival at Second Church, El Dorado, Jesse S. Reed, pastor, October 22-29. As a result of this meeting there were 12 additions to the church, six of these by baptism.

Said Pastor Reed: "The church in general was revived and our young people challenged to live a more consecrated life for the Lord."

## Announcement!

Mrs. Bettye Sullivan, 1300 East Washington, North Little Rock, has published at her own expense a history of First Church, North Little Rock.

It is an attractive volume abundantly illustrated and well written. There are doubtless many people throughout the state now serving in other churches who were once members of this historic First Church of North Little Rock and would be glad to know that they may secure a copy of this history from Mrs. Sullivan.

The price of the book is \$1 and may be secured from Mrs. Sullivan at the above address.

### First, Hamburg Has Dr. Noel Taylor in Revival

Dr. Noel M. Taylor, Executive Secretary of the Illinois Baptist State Association, concluded a stewardship revival December 3 in the First Church, Hamburg, whose pastor is Lowell F. Matheney, a native of Illinois.

Definite results of this revival have been recorded as follows: For the past year the average tithes and offerings of the church have been \$480.77 per Sunday. The goal for demonstration day was \$849.99. The tithes and offerings on the closing Sunday of the stewardship revival totaled \$1,212.08.

Prior to the stewardship revival the church reported 175 tithers; on the closing day of the stewardship revival 225 had pledged to tithe.

Pastor Matheney has been with the Hamburg Church about eighteen months during which time there have been more than 250 additions to the church, almost 200 of these have been by baptism.

The Sunday School attendance has increased from an average of about 285 to 375. The annual budget of the church has grown from \$22,000 to more than \$28,000. During this time a Brotherhood has been organized. A mission has been started and recently became a full time church with more than eighty members. Plans are now under way for the construction of a new auditorium that will give the church the facilities for handling a Sunday School attendance of more than 600.

### Missionary Carl Clark Organizes Church in El Dorado

Missionary Carl A. Clark, Liberty Association, is in the process of organizing a church in the north east section of El Dorado. A lot and building were donated and plans are now underway for the church building.

On Sunday morning, December 3, there were 61 present and on Sunday evening the attendance was 82. In a recent revival there were 40 additions.

### Bailey Hill, Fort Smith Has Ottis Denney in Revival

The Bailey Hill Church, Fort Smith, A. G. Escott, pastor, had Evangelistic Ottis Denney in a revival meeting November 26 to December 3. Ralph Denney, a brother of Evangelist Denney, was in charge of the song services.

Thirty persons came for baptism, five by letter, and ten young people submitted themselves for special service to the Lord.

## Education Director Goes To Albuquerque, New Mexico

By B. V. FERGUSON

Miss Irene Jones, Educational Director of First Church, Fort Smith, has resigned this position and has joined the educational staff of the First Church, Albuquerque, New Mexico beginning January 1. Miss Irene is recognized as one of the finest Sunday School and Training Union workers in the South. She has proved herself through the years as worthy of any and all confidence entrusted to her. She is one of the most loyal, efficient, talented, and beloved workers I have ever known. We regret to lose her from the church in Fort Smith, from the work in Arkansas and this section of the South, but we predict for her a happy future and progressive work with the Albuquerque church.

Under her direction the educational work at First Church, Fort Smith, has continued to grow and advance. During the past year the church finished a new educational building and enlarged its work. Fifteen new departments were organized in the Sunday School and seven new departments in the Training Union. The organizations were well set up and organized and the work carried forward in a splendid way, even with the pastor sick and off the field.

At the time of her resignation, plans were under way which would have made it possible for First Church, Fort Smith, to lead the state in all organizations within a short while, but Miss Irene felt that God was leading elsewhere.

With her go our prayers, our interest, and our love in her new field of endeavors.

## Needs In Italy

(Excerpts from a letter from  
DR. AND MRS. DEWEY MOORE)

October days in Rome are the most beautiful. During the day it is still warm enough to go without a jacket, but the evenings bring a chill with them which reminds us that winter is on the way and with it hunger, cold, and influenza — the offspring of misery and want.

There is still much need and hunger of body and soul in Italy. In the three years since our return, you have done much to relieve this suffering through your generous parcels of food, clothing, and money which has paid for medicines, food, Bibles, and tracts. Your Italian Baptist friends appreciate this generosity.

There is an increasing number of calls for preachers, workers and helpers. We wish we could always answer with the necessary assistance. As time goes on, the lack of trained workers becomes more and more evident; but our consolation lies in the fact that there are now two schools training men and women for Christian service in Italy.

The Italian Baptist Orphanage is already filled to capacity. There are close to 100 boys and girls already living in the G. B. Taylor Boys' Dormitory and the G. B. Fraser Girls' Dormitory. Shoes and sweaters, used but still good, are a special need at the Orphanage not now for both boys and girls. The ages range from four to sixteen. Surely in your church or in your home there must be many pairs of worn shoes still good which could be sent in a well-packed parcel to the Baptist Orphanage, Via delle Spighe 4, Centocelle (Roma), Italy.

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A grateful thought toward heaven is of itself a prayer.

## R. G. Lee Conducts Home Life Page

By JOE W. BURTON, Editor, Home Life

Family questions will be answered in *Home Life*, beginning in January, by Dr. R. G. Lee, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis.

Dr. Lee succeeds Dr. Jeff D. Ray, who has conducted the page of Questions and Answers since the magazine's origin. Dr. Ray, now ninety, completes four years of service to *Home Life* readers with the December issue.

For many years Dr. Lee has dealt personally with real issues of daily living in pastorates in his native South Carolina, in New Orleans, and since 1927 at Bellevue.

Always in his private and public ministry he has helped resolve family tension in the spirit of Christian compassion. He has been firm in his advocacy of the teachings of the Bible and yet tender always in dealing with human weakness. The same devotion to God's work tempered by a compassionate heart will mark his help to parents and children in his page each month in *Home Life*.

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## Colgate Award to Industrialist For Service to Christian Education

William G. Creamer, retired Brooklyn industrialist and philanthropist, was presented in Brooklyn with the Russell Colgate Distinguished Service Citation for his outstanding service to Christian education, the church and community.

Mrs. Russell Colgate, widow of the founder of Colgate University, made the annual presentation.

Mr. Creamer, who has long been prominent in Brooklyn industry, has been director of the Brooklyn Federation of Churches for the past thirty years. He is vice-president of the Brooklyn-Queens Y. M. C. A., as well as member of the national board and the international committee of the "Y."

Dr. Alfred Grant Walton, minister of the Flatbush-Tompkins Congregational church, was the principal speaker at the dinner ceremonies. He stressed the importance of religious education in these trying times.

"In this atomic age," he told the several hundred guests, "when man has at his disposal powers such as civilization has never known before, there must be moral controls to dominate his conduct.

"This country has emphasized secular education, but it has lagged in religious education . . . The power of Communism makes it apparent how destructive a philosophy of life may be when it is without God and controlling moral sanctions."

—Religious News Service.

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## A Dog's Howl Or a Soul's Cry

By ANDREW M. HALL

I read the other day in a current book that the people in our country in one year spent twice as much for dog food as for missions. Sixty million dollars worth of dog food may be a worthy expenditure, but it occurred to me that actually we have been twice as concerned about a dog's howl as a soul's cry.

Then, too, in Jesus' day Fido was more economical. He ate the crumbs which fell from the tables.

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The Church is filled with willing people—some willing to work, and others willing to let them.

## Wellborn to Hold Baptist Hour Rallies

Charles Wellborn, Baptist Hour speaker for the first six months of 1951, will be holding meetings with Dr. John Wimbish at the Calvary Baptist Church in New York City, December 31 through January 7.

During January and February Mr. Wellborn will be available for Baptist Hour rallies, for week-end Youth Revivals, and for some speaking engagements in Evangelistic Conferences. He will continue through February in his present faculty position at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, but the University has agreed to give him a leave of absence during March, April, May and June so he may give his full time to the Baptist Hour during these months.

The theme for the first quarter of the 1951 Baptist Hour will be "This is God's Hour." Subjects for the four weeks in January will be "Two Minutes Till Midnight," "The Next Voice You Hear," "In God We Trust," and "Crossroads."

It is expected that close to 200 stations will be carrying the Baptist Hour when the new series is begun on January 7. Regular weekly transcriptions of the services will be available without cost to any stations desiring the broadcasts, and other outlets will be added all along, according to Dr. S. F. Lowe, Director of the Radio Commission.

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## Threatened Strike Averted After Principals Pray

Union and management representatives and federal mediators prayed together in a church in Toledo, for Divine guidance in settling a threatened strike of Ohio Fuel Gas Company employees. A strike would imperil gas service to 93,000 domestic and commercial consumers.

A settlement of the critical situation was reached the day after the services at St. Mark's Episcopal church and only hours before a strike deadline set by the 212 CIO Utility Workers Union members.

James McElroy, rector of St. Mark's and chairman of a mediation panel of the Labor-management-Citizens Committee, indicated that accord came quickly after the issue, involving demands for higher pay, was brought in such an unusual manner to the attention of the public.

The settlement terms included a compromise between gas firm employees and management. Unionists had asked a \$2 a day boost in pay and settled for half that much.

—Religious News Service.

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## Aid Denied Church

Columbia Community Presbyterian church has been denied financial aid by the State Park Commission for rebuilding, on its site in Columbia Historic State Park, its edifice which burned to the ground last June.

Park commissioners advised the church to appeal to its national organization for aid in erecting a replica of the original structure. Commissioner Charles Casch of Yucaipa said: "We can't build on property we don't own, and we can't support church activities under the Constitution."

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In this, the holiday season, we feel the true spirit of giving to others. We have within each of us, a truly precious gift . . . the gift of safe traffic conduct, upon which so many lives depend.—Arkansas Safety Council.

# ★ ★ ★ Christian Horizons ★ ★ ★

By Religious News Service

## Former Actress Plays Best Role As Minister's Wife

A country school teacher who became a Broadway actress is playing the best role of her career in Gardner, Massachusetts—that of a minister's wife and mother of two children.

She is Mrs. Benjamin Bradford—wife of the pastor of First Congregational church, who gave up a newspaper career to enter the ministry.

Mrs. Bradford, the former Joan Stone, once played the ingenue role in "Life With Father." She stayed in the role for 18 months, until she met Ben Bradford, who was then a reporter for the drama department of the New York Times.

After they were married, in 1946, Mr. Bradford went into the Army, and when he came out, he began studying for the ministry.

"His two years at Union Seminary, in New York, gave us both time to think," Mrs. Bradford relates. "I had to decide on whether to give up my career, and Ben had to face the conflict of leaving a newspaper career for his new and all-encompassing interest—the ministry."

Does she ever think of acting now?

"Certainly," said the minister's wife. "Just recently I had a fine acting role when our church group presented 'Our Town.'"

## Graham to Aid Baptist Evangelism Campaign

Evangelist Billy Graham will give Texas Baptists ten days of his time next month to help them reach an all-time goal of 250,000 new members in one year.

Dr. C. Wade Freeman, evangelism superintendent of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, said that Dr. Graham was invited to help because Texas Baptist leaders realized they would need some assistance in achieving their record goal.

Dr. Freeman said the evangelist was astounded at the goal, but promised to help because "Texas has the greatest spirit of revival in America."

Dr. Graham will participate in a series of regional "inspiration and information" meetings over the state.

The goal of 250,000 new members for next year is about five times greater than the number ever added to the rolls in any past year. Baptists affiliated with the Texas Convention already number about 1,000,000.

## Over 3,000 Decisions in Baltimore In Great Methodist Revival

About 10,000 persons attended a mass meeting in Baltimore which climaxed a ten-day Methodist Evangelistic Advance campaign in this area. The crowd, which filled the 5th Regiment Armory, was described as the largest ever attending a Methodist event in Baltimore in recent years.

Incomplete figures showed that the drive had netted some 3,100 new members—1,800 converts who affiliated with a church for the first time, and 1,300 lapsed members who renewed their profession of faith. Many of the 3,100 religious decisions resulted from visits of 800 two-man teams of laymen and clergy who were trained in the techniques

of personal evangelism during the campaign.

Dr. Albert P. Shirkey, pastor of the Mount Vernon Place Methodist church, Washington, D. C., told the rally that "the darker the world becomes, the more brilliant Jesus becomes."

Participating in a processional were 200 girls in white dresses carrying American and Christian flags, 600 men and women choir members in red, blue, brown and black cassocks, and 175 ministers. A huge blue platform backdrop was emblazoned with the words, "The Passion . . . Christ . . . The Power."

## Lumber Boat Wrecked Church Built of Salvaged Lumber

The little Oregon fishing village of Charleston, Oregon, near the entrance to Coos Bay, will soon have a new church, because of a shipwreck there six years ago.

It was early in 1944 that the lumber schooner George Olson hit the rocks near the north jetty while outward bound and drifted back into the bay to ground on Guano rock. The deckload of lumber was jettisoned and salvaged.

After two attempts to salvage the ship, she was towed across the bar and cast loose north of the entrance, to drift ashore a mile north of the bar. Storms did their work on the hull, and it broke up to spill the lumber from her holds onto the beach.

Then the Charleston residents went to work. John Porter had been conducting services in the school gym, and he saw in the lumber "cast on the waters" a chance to obtain material for the start of a church.

It took the people about a year to work the timbers across the sand spit to the bay. From here they were rafted and towed over to Charleston, where construction started.

The structure was framed and exterior building paper and roof applied. Then it was partly finished inside to allow the holding of services.

## Texas Baptists Plan Short Wave Broadcasts

Texas Baptists will begin a series of short wave broadcasts on December 10 designed to promote religion and peace over the world.

The broadcasts will be over WRUL, powerful station in Boston that beams its international broadcasts from several transmitters. The same station is one of several used by the Department of State for its Voice of America programs.

Sponsoring the religious series will be the radio and public relations department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Said Dr. R. Alton Reed, director of the department:

"The only hope in the world is Christ. We want to give the message of Christ. If we can get the people of the world to turn to Christ then there will not be the belligerency and war mongering we have today."

Dr. Reed emphasized that the series had no connection with the Department of State. He pointed out that seventy-five per cent of WRUL's time is taken by the State Department and the remainder is managed by World Wide Broadcasting Corp., private firm that owns the station.

# A Smile or Two

Bride: "I have a confession to make, dear: I can't cook."

Groom: "Don't let it worry you, sweet. I write poetry for a living. There won't be anything to cook."

"You have told me about some of your worst prisoners," said the reporter interviewing the veteran prison warden. "Now tell me about some of the more genteel fellows. Who, for instance, was the most polite criminal you ever had here?"

"I think," replied the warden, "that it was Genteel Joe."

"He was really polite, eh?"

"Yes," replied the warden. "When he escaped he left a note for me reading: 'I hope you will pardon me for the liberty I am taking!'"

The young student was being taken to task for having exceeded his leave by two days.

Professor: "Well, what have you to say for yourself?"

Student: "I am awfully sorry. I really couldn't get back before. I was detained by most important business."

Professor: "So you wanted two more days of grace, did you?"

Student: "No, sir—of Gladys."

The warden of a large prison was escorting a party of five M. P.'s through the institution. They passed through a room where two women were busy sewing. As they went out of this room one of the M. P.'s said, "My, what hard-looking women! What are they in for?"

With ice in his voice the warden replied, "They are here because they have no other home. This is our private living room, and they are my wife and mother-in-law."

P. O. Clerk: Madam, you've put too much postage on this letter.

Lady: Heavens! I hope it won't go too far.

Salesman: "Boy, I want to see someone around here with a little authority."

Office Boy: "Well, I have about as little as anyone. What is it you want?"

A lunatic walked up to the new superintendent.

"We like you much better than the last fellow," he said.

The new superintendent beamed.

"Why?" he asked.

"Oh, you seem more like one of us."

Teacher: "Johnny, take this sentence: 'I led the cow from the pasture.' What mood?"

Johnny: "The cow, ma'am."

"Oh, Nell, I saw Sue yesterday and we had the loveliest confidential chat together."

"I thought so. She wouldn't speak to me today."

Old Lady—"And what is your name, my good man?"

Convict—"999."

Old Lady—"Oh, but that's not your name."

Convict—"Naw, that's only me pen name."

The clergyman returned a purse to a woman who had left it in her seat. He warned her of carelessness thus:

"You must remember that there are some in the congregation so simple that they might consider finding your purse an answer to prayer!"

## Death Claims R. E. Dudley Editor, Baptist Standard



Roy Elliott Dudley

Roy Elliott Dudley, 59, executive editor of the Baptist Standard, died late Saturday night, December 9, at Baylor hospital in Dallas. He was ill only from 6:30 that morning.

A well-known writer among Southern Baptists, he was probably best known for two widely-reprinted columns which he wrote, "Deacon's Viewpoint," and "Reconnaissance." He reported for the Baptists of Texas the last six Conventions of Southern Baptists and the last World Alliance meeting, besides the many meetings and conventions in Texas.

Brother Dudley was one of the greatest laymen I have known," said Dr. Marshall Craig of Gaston Avenue church at the funeral services Monday, December 11.

## News From Our Seminaries

### Southwestern Registers 1,435 For Fall Semester

Registrations at Southwestern Seminary show a total of 1,435. This is an increase of 71 over last fall's enrollment of 1,364.

These students, coming from 39 states, the District of Columbia, and seven foreign countries British West Indies, Canal Zone, China, Colombia, Hawaii, Italy, and Scotland, constitute by far the largest enrollment in the Seminary's 43 years' history. Of the above number 851 were matriculated the first day of registration, the largest number ever to be enrolled in one day.

A breakdown of the enrolment shows 845 registered in the School of Theology, 524 in the School of Religious Education, and 123 in the School of Sacred Music. Fifty-seven of the number are enrolled for degrees in two schools.

### O. T. Binkley Elected Southeastern President

Dr. O. T. Binkley, professor of Christian ethics and sociology, in Southern Seminary has been elected the first president of Southeastern Seminary. If he accepts he will reside at Wake Forest, North Carolina, where the seminary is expected to open next September.

### Degrees Awarded by Southern

Southern Seminary, Louisville, awarded degrees to eight men at convocation opening the winter term, November 21: Henry Jackson Flanders Jr., formerly of Little Rock, and now of Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina; Stanley R. Hahn, formerly of Charleston, South Carolina, and now pastor of First Church, Walterboro, South Carolina; Elroy Lamb, formerly of Frankfort, Kentucky, now pastor of First Church, Paris,

Kentucky; and Oliver LaFayette Walker, formerly of Birmingham, Alabama, now of Stetson University, DeLand, Florida, the Th.D. degree.

Louis Llewellyn McGee, Richmond, Virginia; Jesse H. Newton, Jackson, Tennessee; and Marvin E. Tate Jr., Washington, Arkansas; the B. D. degree.

Isadore Childers, Magnolia, Kentucky, the Th.B. degree.

Twenty new students enrolling for the winter term have increased the enrolment to 973. In addition, 43 men and women are enrolled in the School of Church Music.

### Golden Gate Students and Faculty Doing Great Mission Work

The ever-growing influence of Golden Gate Seminary in the San Francisco Bay area and other regions of California was seen recently in a statistical mission report for the Fall of 1950. The more than 200 students and faculty members are now serving in a population area exceeding 5,000,000. The report reveals that 40 students are church pastors, 36 are working in missions, and 28 are serving in churches in an education or music capacity; 75 other students work with language groups, city rescue missions, college student work, and state mission work.

Arkansas is well represented at Golden Gate in Berkeley, California; members of the Arkansas Club are as follows: Charles C. Bowen, president; Glenn Wood, vice president; Mark Fite, press agent; Mrs. Mark Fite, Dr. A. J. Hyatt, Dr. D. W. Deere, Eugene Greenfield, James Benham, Will Edd Langford, Dr. F. G. Dodson, Robert Elmore Jr. Faculty members from Arkansas are Walter F. Bisbee, Finis Card, and James Swafford. This group would like to encourage other young Arkansans to "go West."

## News From Baptist Press

### Total S. B. C. Gifts Pass Ten Million

Combined Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program and designated gifts have gone past the ten million-dollar mark for the second time in history. The first time was in 1946 in connection with the relief and rehabilitation offering. The announcement was made by Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary, Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

Gifts totaled \$10,045,590 at the end of the days work on December 7.

In the first seven days of December, Foreign Missions Advance received \$153,927, a total of all Southern Convention Cooperative Program receipts over the current total and capital needs budgets of \$6,657,000. The Convention passed from the capital needs budget into the Foreign Mission Advance on November 30.

At the end of November's business, Cooperative Program receipts were 15.17 per cent higher than in 1949; designations were 3.57 per cent higher and total gifts 11.14 per cent higher.

	Cooperative Program	Designated	Total
Total Gifts for			
November	\$ 649,530.73	\$ 78,820.51	\$ 728,351.24
1950 to Date	6,675,718.18	3,196,687.47	9,872,405.65
1949 to Date	5,796,333.12	3,036,372.73	8,832,705.85
Increase	879,385.06	110,314.74	989,699.80

### Education Commission Elects New Secretary

The Southern Baptist Convention Education Commission elected an executive secretary. He is Dr. Richard Orin Cornett, 37, vice-president of Oklahoma Baptist University.

Dr. Cornett is a layman and has majored in physics. A native Oklahoman and a graduate of O. B. U., he received his Ph.D. from the University of Texas in 1939. The author of several textbooks in physics and mathematics, he lectured at Harvard University from 1942-45 on electronics.

He will have offices in Nashville, Tennessee, beginning February 1.

### Illinois Baptists Buy Headquarters Lot

Illinois Southern Baptists moved a step forward toward permanent headquarters building when the board of directors voted to purchase for \$16,000 an 85x165 ft. property on West Main Street of Carbondale. Funds available, after payment of lot, on new construction amount to \$40,000.

The property joins the parsonage and church building of the First Baptist Church (American) and is across the street from the post office.

The board voted to make a survey of present and future anticipated needs before plans are drawn.

## God Calls Baptists To Prayer

By DUKE K. MCCALL

Many lines of providence have called Southern Baptists to a renewed emphasis upon prayer. Wisely the Sunday School Board has set aside the first week of January, 1951, for Bible study. The spirit of God led to the selection of prayer as the theme for that study.

Independently the S. B. C. Committee on Relations with Other Religious Bodies and the S. B. C. Executive Committee carried to the Chicago Convention a recommendation that our people be called to a week of study of some great Bible doctrine.

From still another direction, the Department of Evangelism of the Home Mission Board is working on the plans for the simultaneous revivals in the 18,000 churches east of the Mississippi in April, 1951. The plans are tested and tried. They will work to produce a great revival if there is spiritual power flowing through them. The one thing needful is a renewed emphasis upon prayer as the channel of God's power.

The newspaper headlines have created an awareness in the hearts of all people of our weakness and of our need of power beyond our own. We are ready to pray.

I hope every Southern Baptist pastor will call aside his people for a week of study of prayer. Dr. Robert G. Lee, in his masterful and matchless way, has prepared a guide for the study. Significantly the title is **The Bible and Prayer.**



## A Stranger Called My Name

By DR. DUKE K. McCALL

Cold chills have run up and down my spine ever since the man on the streetcar in Istanbul, Turkey, called my name. Perhaps I should explain that he had never seen me before. Certainly I had never seen him.

I had followed the popular but illegal Turkish custom of jumping on the steps of a moving streetcar. That maneuver saved walking a fourth of a mile to the nearest car stop. It also eliminated the possibility of being trampled in the crowd waiting to get on at a regular stop. The car was already so crowded I could only get space for one foot and one hand.

An officious man in civilian dress ordered me to get in the car. That was as simple as putting one more sardine in a can. He then lectured me about Turkish laws against riding on the step of a streetcar. I grinned with normal American disrespect for a lecture by a fellow civilian.

At that point he drew himself up and said, "Your name is McCall." When I looked only slightly startled he added, "You entered the country last Wednesday."

That was my first brush with the secret police systems so common to these lands. I am remembering the reams of forms I have filled out. I have given my birthday and where I was born so many times I had thought about changing the answers just to get a little variety. From now on I have a new respect for the forms and will copy the answers very carefully from my passport.

What is that passport worth? I could easily sell it for \$2,000. Actually I would charge about \$2,000 to let a stranger hold it in his hand.

### United States Passport Greatest Privilege

I want to remember that the next time I feel like fussing about the responsibilities and costs of being an American citizen. Being able to hold a United States passport is about the greatest privilege in this world.

Along with that should go some comment about the privilege of being a Christian. I do not want to sound superficial or forced, but the fact is that citizenship in the kingdom of God is the only citizenship worth more than what an American passport means. The thousands of men and women who live in strange lands as missionaries illustrate that.

Anyway, when some judgment angel calls my name and starts reciting my record on earth—I sure hope none of my friends will be listening—I want to be able to say something like this: "Keep talking, Friend, and at the end of the list you will come to the note that despite my shortcomings I have long since accepted citizenship in the kingdom of God." Whatever colored passports are issued for heaven, I am going to pull it out and walk right in.

I went around to St. Sophia. I do not know whether to call it a church, a mosque, or a museum. It has been all three in that order. Originally it was the main Christian church to which the emperors belonged. The city of Istanbul is old Constantinople, named for Constantine the emperor who first accepted Christianity in 312 A. D. A couple of centuries later Vladimir, the ruler of Russia, decided to find the best religion for his people. He had representatives of various religions come to see him. He then sent a commission to visit the headquarters of each one.

When the commission came to what is now Istanbul, the patriarch of the Greek Orthodox Church celebrated a gorgeous high mass

in St. Sophia Church. The members of the commission from Russia watched in awe.

Over their heads arched dome upon dome of that great church. The top dome, I am told, is the largest in the world with the dome of the capitol building in Washington placing fourth. I paced off the diameter of the dome from the markings on the floor. I figure it is two steps more than the distance from home plate to second base, almost 100 feet.



Each of the domes in St. Sophia is covered with genuine silver and gold mosaics. When the Turks made a Mohammedan mosque out of it, they painted over these beautiful pictures. Now that it is a museum the paint is being removed and some of the glory is restored.

What was the effect on Vladimir's commission? Russia is still mainly Greek Orthodox in religion. Here is a part of the commission's report: "When we stood in that temple we did not know whether we were in heaven or on earth. No man having tasted the sweet will choose the bitter; nor can we remain heathen anymore."

Even more powerful than a beautiful building is the influence of a life dedicated to God.

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### Why All This Confusion

By GEORGE C. MONROE, JR.

Within the last three weeks I have learned somewhat in detail of confusion in three of our churches. There are many more instances about which the information is sketchy. The magazines have recently carried stories of conflict in the public schools. All readers of international affairs know of the strife in the UN. There is an observable restlessness among the people.

What is the explanation of all this confusion? Few thoughtful persons would deny that in no small measure it is due to the fact that the prosperity and comfortableness and luxury of our existence have failed to call forth the self-discipline that is needed to enable one to stand up to the crisis.

On the human plane the aggressive cause is the deliberate effort of atheistic communism to sow confusion and discord in all relationships in all countries and groups outside their jurisdiction. Back of all this of course are the glaringly wicked stratagems of Satan.

Some of the difficulty is produced by agents of communism and of Satan's ideology who have made their way into positions of influence in various groups. Scarcely any other explanation is possible when one observes the same methods being used in these groups that are used by communistic agents in labor and

## New Year's Greeting From Baptist World Alliance

THE OPEN DOOR

To the members of our Baptist churches throughout the world:

Greetings in the name of our one Master and Lord.

With the wonderful spiritual fellowship of the Cleveland Congress fresh in our minds we face 1951 with confidence, knowing that all the years belong to God, and that if we are faithful in prayer and consecrated service His promises will not fail.

It is to God's Word that Baptists unflinchingly turn for guidance and help; we may well commend to one another a passage in Revelation 3:8. It was the word of God to the church in Philadelphia: "Behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it." Philadelphia, though set in a favorable commercial situation, lay in a district liable to volcanic eruptions, and the city itself was no stranger to earthquakes. Yet it was to such a church, menaced daily by earth-shaking forces which threatened to engulf the city in ruins, that the challenge of God came. Uncertainty, instability . . . yet at the same time opportunity, the opportunity of God's open door.

The Baptists of the world live in times no less uncertain. For many of our brethren, indeed, Christian witness is maintained only at great cost. In some areas our cherished convictions are in danger. In all areas men are in desperate need of the saving grace of the Gospel. To us, as to the ancient church in Philadelphia, comes the challenge. The door is open and God has opened it. It is for us to pass through, linking hands and hearts in the Faith, singing the great hymns of Christian experience, declaring the authentic Gospel of the Crucified and Risen Lord, willing to spend and be spent if only mankind will "crown Him Lord of all."

May our Heavenly Father crown the year with revival, sending down showers of blessings on all our churches. Let us all, in the quiet ways of personal life, keep very close to the Master. They who keep daily company with Christ discover a faith that enables them to meet the challenge of this day. "Rise up, O men of God!

Have done with lesser things,  
Give heart and mind and soul and strength  
To serve the King of kings.

"Lift high the Cross of Christ;  
Tread where His feet have trod;  
As brothers of the Son of Man  
Rise up, O men of God!"

F. Townley Lord, President  
Arnold T. Ohrn, General Secretary  
Walter O. Lewis, Associate Secretary  
Joel Sorenson, Youth Secretary

government; namely infiltration, sailing under false colors, organizing popular fronts and directing them, fomenting class conflict, name-calling, and double talk.

All the uneasiness, however, is not produced directly. Much of it comes from those who through frustration or being moved by misinformation unwittingly adopt the communistic or Satanic party line, and repeat

In such a day it behooves Christian people and particularly Baptist people to be open-eyed, level-headed, and strong-hearted, to be united in fellowship and service, and to become havens to which the confused and disillusioned people of the community and the world may gather to find that emotional and spiritual stability which will enable them to think clearly about God's place in their lives.

# Call To Prayer

By DUKE K. McCALL

Southern Baptists are called to make Sunday, December 31, a day of prayer.

Upon the reading of a memorial from the North Carolina Baptist Convention, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee and all of the state secretaries and editors present united in calling every one of the 27,285 churches and the 6,761,265 Southern Baptists to prayer.

The world situation forces us to our knees in repentance and petition. Our one hope in this hour is that God may hear the cry of His people and for the elect's sake intervene in the events of history to give us yet another chance to preach the gospel to the whole creation.

Southern Baptists must pray that God will keep open the doors for mission advance around the world. Already open doors in China, in India, and in Colombia, South America, have been closed by the turn of world events. Again, we must ask God to provide the opportunity as his people provide the means and the missionaries for the proclamation of the gospel around the world.

It is significant that the great evangelistic crusade east of the Mississippi River planned for April, 1951, has already created a Convention-wide emphasis on prayer and the study of prayer. It is fitting that we should make the last day of this year a day of united prayer for peace and for power that at home and around the world God's will may be done and multitudes may be saved.

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## Catholic vs. Protestant Doctrine

Continuing a timely series of articles "In Defense of our Protestant Heritage," the January issue of *The Converted Catholic Magazine* carries two illuminating features one on the Roman Catholic observance known as the Novena, and the other on Catholic vs. Protestant doctrines on "Forgiveness of Sin."

Few Protestants are aware of the amazing intricacies in the Roman Catholic teaching regarding sin. Rome teaches her adherents in substance, "Leave the question of your sins to us. We specialize in sin."

There are venial sins and mortal sins—sins that need not be confessed to a priest, others that must be confessed. The Catholic Church reserves the sole right on earth to determine what is sin, and the degree of that sin. Equally elaborate is the system of penances and "works of merit" by which Roman Catholics are assured they may lessen their time of punishment in purgatory.

These articles make clear the reason why the Roman Catholic Church handles the question of sin in this complex fashion. It is shown to be the key to the master pattern of control of souls in this world and the next. Protestants who would understand the secret of Rome's power should know what she teaches about sin.

An important and lucrative feature of Roman Catholic disciplinary practice is the Novena. To achieve the promised spiritual and temporal benefits of the Novena, the suppliant must attend an unbroken succession of nine special masses. If he breaks the series, he must start all over again, or forfeit the hoped-for benefits.

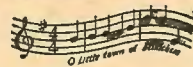
The Roman Catholic Church holds out the promise of certain spiritual and temporal benefits to those who accomplish the Novena. The suppliant must specify a particular desired benefit. It may be spiritual, such as the wish that he may get to heaven; or it may

# Southern Baptist Work In Manila

By JOHN A. ABERNATHY

Dear Friends:

By the time you receive this it will be Christmas; so here's wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Doubtless you have been wondering how we are getting along with the work in Manila. Until recently we had very little to report. When we arrived here there was nothing in the way of mission work established. Of course there were four Chinese churches sponsored by other denominations, self-supporting. It was like trying to carve something out of a solid stone wall. To be sure, there were over 150,000 Chinese in and around Manila with little being done spiritually for them. This



in itself was a great challenge. I was told this week that ninety per cent of all business in the Philippines is in the hands of Chinese. Certainly in Manila it is true. There are many rich merchants, traders, manufacturers, and other business establishments. Among these people are several millionaires. Only a small per cent are Christians.

## A Place to Worship

When we found that we would have to begin at the bottom, the question arose in our minds for a moment as to whether we had

be temporal, such as a petition for a husband or wife, or an apartment. Or again it may be the desire to enlist God's aid in some honorable project. Having made his choice and declared his "intention," the suppliant must persevere. Yet, having completed the Novena, the suppliant may not claim the promised benefit or feel any assurance that it will materialize, for such an attitude would be a mortal sin of presumption. Thus, as the article clearly shows, he is right where he started. Indeed, a study of the Novena is a short course of instruction in the basic strategy of Rome in controlling her adherents, and gives an insight into the workings of the Catholic mind that will help Protestants who are concerned for their Catholic friends and neighbors.

Copies of the January issue of the *Converted Catholic Magazine* may be obtained without charge while the supply lasts, from Christ's Mission, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, New York.

made a mistake in coming here. Then when we reviewed the immediate past, we realized that He had definitely led us and it was up to us to do our part. Consulting with the five other young missionaries already here a little ahead of us we decided the first thing to do would be to find a suitable place for a mission. Several places were offered for rent, but none were large enough nor in the right location. While we were waiting and praying we occupied much of the time walking the streets and visiting in the stores and homes of the Chinese. In this way we made many valuable contacts that have proved of inestimable value in securing the right kind of place, in other ways.

The end of October the right place was found. The entire second floor of a bank building; modern re-inforced concrete, steel sash, elevator, right in the heart of the Chinese part of Manila. We have room enough for 1,000 people, Sunday School and other group rooms. The owner repainted the walls and sanded the floors before we took over. With modern pews, lights, piano, and other furniture we have a lovely place of worship. The rent each month for the building is pretty high, but we feel as soon as we are able to organize a church the people will be able to build their own church and be practically self supporting from then on. The Lord directed us to a Mr. Hsu, a Chinese preacher who has been in the Philippines many years and who is of Baptist faith. He is a soul winner and deeply interested in the ongoing of this young project. He speaks Cantonese, Fukinese, Mandarian, and pretty good English.

## Revival Meeting

On November 12 we had our opening day, followed by a week of special evangelistic meetings. The local Chinese newspapers had given the meetings wide publicity and many personal invitations had been printed and distributed. It was good to be able to preach in Chinese again. From the first service large crowds came and during the week many confessed Christ as Lord and Savior. Now we are happy and busy in helping to project the new work in all its phases. A Sunday School has been organized and is already a going concern. During the meetings each evening before the sermon a movie was put on in the hall, introducing the theme of the sermon for the evening. This helped to draw crowds as well as to prepare the people for what followed. All the missionaries helped in the meetings. Most of them are teaching Sunday School classes, helping in the preaching and in Visual Aid work. Some weeks ago it was my privilege to be invited to hold a one week revival meeting at Baguio, where we have our first Chinese Baptist Church. Then last week I preached in a revival at Clarke Air Base to our U. S. military personnel. It was like an old fashioned revival back home. Many were saved and others rededicated their lives to Christ. Southern Baptist Chaplains, W. E. Ferguson and Ralph Hill, are there.

Letters and telegrams have come from Korea, Ours, with the home of the David Ahns, was burned to the ground; the Baptist Church was spared; Rev. Lee Chung-tuk, chairman of the convention had been martyred. We were urged to return as soon as possible and are now waiting reply to application to return. Pray for the work in Manila and for the suffering Koreans.

## Woman's Missionary Union

### Coronation Service of Mt. Zion Association



Miss Carolyn Trinkhaus  
Queen Regent of Girls' Auxiliary

Candlelight Coronation Service held Monday evening, November 27, in the auditorium of First Church, Jonesboro, honored Miss Gail Messersmith as Queen of Girls' Auxiliary and Miss Carolyn Trinkhaus as Queen Regent of Girls' Auxiliary. Both girls are members of Girls' Auxiliary at the Walnut Street Church, Jonesboro.

The W. M. U. of the First Church decorated the altar with palms and white candles in floor candelabra. A large basket of white mums and ferns was on the altar table. The service was attended by groups from churches in Mt. Zion Association. Mrs. Sam Messersmith, the Young People's Leader of the association, presided.

Preceding the coronation service, Miss Deloris Newsom lighted the candles after which "The Lord's Prayer," by Malotte, was sung by Mrs. Raymond Cart. Mrs. J. Hardy Little Jr. was organist. Mrs. Sam Messersmith presented the girls in questioning after which Miss Doris DeVault, State Young People's Secretary, delivered the charges. Ten girls were recognized as Maidens of Girls' Auxiliary; fifteen received recognition as Ladies-in-Waiting and two as Princesses. The Queen, Miss Gail Messersmith, had placed on her head a lovely gold crown. Miss Carolyn Trinkhaus received a beautiful green and white satin cape in recognition of the highest honor which a girl may attain in Forward Steps, Queen Regent. A reception followed the ceremony.

#### Annual Conference For Associational And District Leaders

January 9-10, 1951, are the dates designated for the annual conference, or workshop, for Dis-

trict and Associational W. M. U. officers. Those for whom special conferences have been planned are: District Presidents and Young People's Leaders, Associational Superintendents, Associate Superintendents, Young People's Leaders, Chairmen of Community Missions, Mission Study, and Stewardship.

Numbered among the conference leaders will be Mrs. F. E. Goodbar, Miss Doris DeVault, Mrs. Ralph Douglas, Mrs. R. H. Jones, Mrs. Ford Maggard, Miss Nancy Cooper, who will be assisted by many of the officers in attendance. Inspirational missionary messages will feature each of the four sessions.

Associations are urged to send their officers. This is an investment that will pay dividends in the form of enlarged vision and enhanced service.

The conference will open at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, January 9. Place of meeting will be announced next week.

#### Day of Prayer For Community Missions

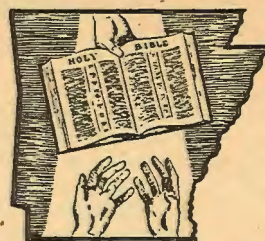
Suggested program material for the W. M. S. prepared by state Community Missions Chairman, Mrs. Ralph Douglas, Helena, for observance of the Day of Prayer for Community Missions, January 29, 1951, is being included in a package being sent to every W. M. U. president. Programs for young people's organizations are being sent to the Young People's Directors. Early in the new year this observance will bring before the organization the need of the local community and the responsibility of Christians to meet the needs. If the suggested date is not agreeable, please select another, but make observance a **must**.

During 1951 plans for development of personal witnesses will claim a major emphasis in W. M. U. Work. It is suggested that each W. M. S. and Y. W. A. devote the devotional period of one meeting each month to Community Missions. A booklet containing suggestions is being sent each W. M. S. and Y. W. A. The new series of books on Home Missions, suggested for study preceding the Week of Prayer for Home Missions, March 5-9, features the urban church serving its community.

With this emphasis and under the watchword "Ye shall be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8b) 1951 should be the greatest year in the history of our Union.

#### Report Forms Sent To Presidents and Young People's Directors

Because of other materials being sent to each organization,



## Department of MISSIONS

C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent

#### Evangelistic Conference

The Evangelistic Conference program will be mailed soon to every pastor. The place is South Side Church, Pine Bluff. The date is January 15-17. It is not a pastors' conference. It is for all who are interested in evangelism and can attend. Many churches should have a great caravan going for at least part of the Conference. The Brotherhoods over the state should make special efforts to get men to attend the night sessions if they cannot attend the entire time.

The Baptist people of Pine Bluff will furnish bed and breakfast for those desiring entertainment. Hotel and tourist court reservations will be made upon request.

#### Mission Conference

Two great Mission Conferences have been conducted this year under the sponsorship of this department; the Rural Church Conference last June, and the Church Centered Missions Conference, December 7-8.

The Rural Church Conference was the largest attended of any ever held by our Baptist people in the South. And, now, Dr. S. F. Dowis states that the recent Church Centered Conference was the second such Conference, on a state wide basis, to be held in the South, and was by far the best yet.

These facts humble us, and yet give us encouragement, for sometimes it seems that so little is being done in comparison to the needs.

#### Delbert Garrett Becomes Missionary

Word has reached this office that Delbert Garrett, pastor of

quarterly report forms for this one quarter will be distributed by State W. M. U. Headquarters rather than Associational Superintendents and Young People's Directors. They will be mailed to W. M. S. Presidents and Young People's Directors.

New report forms are being introduced for the first time. Each Missionary Society will receive forms as previously each quarter from the Associational Superintendent. Those for young people's organizations are in booklet form, containing a year's supply. Full instructions for reporting will accompany each mailing.

Lake Hamilton Church, has been elected missionary in Central Association. Congratulations to the association in securing this humble and capable servant of the Lord! The Lord's hand is upon him and he feels the definite call to the rural field and mission work.

He served for a number of years as pastor of Floral Church. While there he did a great work in completing a beautiful church building.

Welcome, Delbert, into our missionaries' fellowship!

#### R. A. Hill's Report

R. A. Hill, rural evangelist, gives a report of his work for this year which is as follows:

Revivals Held	16
Conversions	174
Baptisms	154
Additions by Letter	52
Restorations	8
Surrendered for Special Service	5
Rededications	220
(Many of these took up service again after years of inactivity)	
Miles Traveled	17,375
Sermons	260
Address	42
Funerals	7
Helped Churches	
Secure Pastors	6
Schools of Missions	2
Money Collected	\$768.71
Preachers Ordained (Assisted)	4
Deacons Ordained (Assisted)	7

Have showed the mission films no less than fifty times to individual churches and six times to associations. Have secured at least one hundred new tithers and have led six churches to increase their co-operative gifts.

He adds "This is not a good report on paper, but the things actually happening during these meetings cannot be put down on paper.

I have some time in January and February that I would like to use in promotional work. I have the original state mission film and one that I have filmed of my work. If you know of a church that would like this service, I could give them an appointment.

May God bless you and yours this coming year. My prayer is that Arkansas Baptists shall never retreat, but will win more to Christ year by year until He returns."

# Religious Education Department

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EDGAR WILLIAMSON, DIRECTOR

EDGAR WILLIAMSON

RALPH W. DAVIS

Sunday School Superintendent

Training Union Director

GEORGE H. HINK

DALE COWLING

Associate Sunday School Superintendent

Student Union Secretary

Mrs. B. W. NININGER, Church Music Director

## Merry Christmas - Happy New Year

God so loved . . . that He gave His Son.

We, the workers in the Religious Education Department, are grateful for every opportunity to serve given by the pastors, missionaries, and workers in the churches. We are grateful for the help given in promoting all phases of the work. During this year there has been an advance made in Sunday School and Training Union enrolment and in the Student Union and church music work. We are grateful for all who have had a share in the work.



We wish for all a real Merry Christmas and a bright, happy, and prosperous New Year.

Edgar Williamson

Mrs. Grace Hamilton

Ralph W. Davis

Mrs. Fredilene Snellings

Dale Cowling

Miss Neta Stewart

Mrs. B. W. Nininger

Miss Mary Catherine Hagan

### The Bible and Prayer January 1-5

Many of our Baptist churches will observe Bible Study Week, January 1-5. Dr. Lee's book, "The Bible and Prayer," will be used for Young People and Adults. It has been suggested that while the Young People and Adults are teaching Dr. Lee's book, that the Juniors use the Training Union study course book, "This Is My Bible," or "Bible Heroes," and that the Intermediates take the Training Union study course book, "Growing in Bible Knowledge." The Young People and Adults taking Dr. Lee's book may receive either Sunday School or Training Union credit. Applications for awards should be made on either the Sunday School or Training Union request for award blanks.

### East Zone Hymn-sing Central Association

Ray McClung, Associational Music Director, reports the following: "The East Zone Hymn-sing of Central Association was held last Sunday afternoon in the Calvary Church in Benton, with three of the thirteen churches represented and a total attendance of seventy-two. In view of this being the first one in this Zone which is made up of much weaker churches than the West Zone, I was pleased at the outcome. No special numbers were presented. Congregational singing was led by the Associational Director who stressed something of the difference between the hymn and the gospel song

### To All Training Union Directors

It would be well for every Training Union director to call a meeting soon of his Training Union executive committee, composed of the Training Union leadership and work out definite plans for the promotion of Arkansas Church Development Week, January 29-February 2. Six big central leadership schools will be held in the following six cities in Arkansas during that week: Little Rock, Jonesboro, Pine Bluff, Hot Springs, El Dorado, and Fort Smith. Churches that are located in one of the six associations where one of these schools will be held should make plans to have at least 75 per cent of their Training Union enrolment to attend. Churches that are located some distance from one of these schools should make plans for at least one car load of key Training Union workers to attend the school nearest them each night. In order to lighten the expense a different person could furnish a car each night. Let us make Arkansas Church Development Week count much for Training Union work in Arkansas!

and the place and usage of each in services of worship. All those present were pleased with this type program and pledged their support in making it grow in its usefulness."

The next meeting of this Zone will be on Sunday afternoon, March 5, 1951.

## January, 1951

### Emphasis: Bible Study

#### Denominational Emphasis

1. Cooperative Program
2. Student Life-Commitment Day, January 14
3. Church schools of missions
4. Theological Seminaries

#### In the Associations

1. Promote Bible Study Week, January 1-5
2. Locate places for new Sunday schools
3. Enlist the churches to take census on February 4
4. Select delegation for Ridgecrest and ask for reservations
5. Hold Sunday school workers meeting: Theme—"Use the Sunday School for Evangelism."

#### In the Churches

1. Observe Bible Study Week, January 1-5
2. Recheck enrolment and attendance quotas for classes
3. Use weekly officers and teachers' meeting to promote attendance and better teaching
4. Make plans for census to be taken February 4
5. Plan for the effective use of the Sunday School Builder.

### Reports from "M" Night

A complete report has not yet been received of all of the associations in Arkansas that observed "M" (Mobilization) Night. Reports have been received from the following associations:

Association	Churches	Pastors	Repre- sented	Pres- ent
Arkansas Valley	225	9	8	
Ashley County	130			
Bartholomew	117	8		
Big Creek	37	6		
Black River	155	14	6	
Caroline	165	14	7	
Central	173	15	9	
Concord	397	15	14	
Conway-Perry	71	7	3	
Current River	118	8	5	
Hope	405	20	17	
Liberty	1,122	26	22	
Little River	110	12	10	
Mississippi County	226		14	
Mount Zion	271	21	21	
Ouachita	66	7	5	
Pulaski County	550	30	18	
Red River	173	19	15	
Rocky Bayou	135	8	3	
Trinity	200	13	9	
Wash'gt'n-Madison	12	4	2	
Woodruff	72	5	5	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4,627</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>101</b>	

"M" Night for 1951 has been changed from December 3 to December 10. This change should be made on the denominational calendar that has already been sent to the churches.

### Coming Event

December 31—Student Night at Christmas

## Figures to Inspire

Sunday, December 10, 1950

	S.S.	T.U.	Adn.
Little Rock, Immanuel	1350	382	10
Including Missions	1545	516	5
Fort Smith, First	1109	400	5
Including Missions	1350	482	
Little Rock, First	907	502	2
Including Missions	1053	537	
El Dorado, First	896	228	4
Including Missions	944	269	6
North Little Rock, Baring Cross	846	385	5
Including Missions	972	465	
Little Rock, Second	815	157	6
Hot Springs, Second	770	212	
Fayetteville, First	672	244	2
Pine Bluff, South Side	613	212	4
Including Missions	637	250	
Pine Bluff, First	602	172	2
El Dorado, Immanuel	579	314	1
Including Missions	610	349	
Magnolia, Central	573	227	4
Including Missions	650		8
Crossett, First	560	206	
Camden, First	558	181	5
Including Missions	825	398	
Benton, First	533	124	
Paragould, First	511	230	1
Including Missions	737	375	
El Dorado, Second	512	262	
Little Rock, Gaines Street	500	281	2
Smackover, First	496	148	4
Little Rock, Baptist Tabernacle	487	158	5
Fordyce, First	485	185	1
Hope, First	477	124	3
McGehee, First	477	178	6
Including Missions	583	255	
Warren, First	465	112	
Stuttgart, First	463	246	2
Including Missions	516	281	
Forrest City, First	463	185	2
Including Missions	524	244	
Hot Springs, Park Place	449	156	1
Paris, First	445	169	
Including Mission	482		
Hot Springs, Central	444	157	
Conway, First	437	98	
Russellville, First	414	144	
Including Missions	470	175	
Fort Smith, Calvary	407	148	
Little Rock, South Highland	390	128	1
Springdale, First	388	208	1
Including Missions	479		
Siloam Springs, First	367	221	
Jonesboro, Walnut Street	365	123	5
Rogers, First	359	135	
Cullendale, First	351	225	1
North Little Rock, Park Hill	346	83	1
Searcy, First	337	110	
Hamburg, First	333	155	
Van Buren, First	332	159	
Including Missions	416		
El Dorado, West Side	325	120	3
Norphet, First	319	258	
Hot Springs, First	312	109	
Monticello, First	311	111	
Fort Smith, South Side	311	80	3
North Little Rock, First	294	113	1
Including Mission	319		
Pine Bluff, Second	294	144	1
Mena, First	262	84	1
Gentry	260	200	1
Bentonville, First	254	81	
Texarkana, Calvary	250	128	
Stamps, First	245	99	
Little Rock, Hebron	224	116	
Gurdon, Beech Street	204	80	
Springdale, Caudle Avenue	191	163	1
Douglasville	191	70	
Star City, First	182	64	
Jacksonville, First	178	115	4
Kelso Baptist	142	70	
Hot Springs, Grand Avenue	138	57	3
Strong	134	68	
Dardanelle, First	133		
Little Rock, Crystal Hill	110	85	
Fort Smith, North Side	103	55	2
Rose City, Calvary	91	50	
Oak Bowery, Faulkner County Association	85	55	
Little Rock, Bethel	58		
Monte Ne, First	54	62	



## Mine Forever

Hal D. Bennett

There are times when the students of the New Orleans Seminary and its practical activities department may weary in their mission activities on the city streets. The good they do often takes time to be realized.

The word "obligation" was mentioned in a Training Union program in one of the New Orleans churches.

"That reminds me of a great deal," a middle-aged man remarked as part of his discussion. The following approximates the rest of his testimony.

"From birth until a few years ago I belonged to a church of another faith. When my father died I was told that for \$1,000 he could be prayed out of purgatory. That was my obligation to the church. I raised and paid the money.

"A year later my wife died. Again I was told that my obligation was \$1,000, or her soul would

never rest in peace. I paid it, by the hardest.

"Not long after that my child died. This time I was told that the obligation would be only \$500 for the necessary masses.

"I refused to pay. I also left the church. One night months later I was downtown and heard a street preacher say that a person can be saved from his sin forever; that there is no such a place as purgatory mentioned in the Bible.

"I asked the speaker how much this would cost. 'Cost, man,' he said. 'Salvation is free!' And he showed me in the Bible where Jesus died for our sins. He died for me. I was shown that Jesus paid it all. All to him we owe.

"That did something for me that never had been done before. I saw it immediately, and accepted. Later I was directed to this church where I was to ask for membership.

"So now I have a greater obligation. Now I can say with the Apostle Paul, 'For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.'

"What I have now is mine forever, and it is something money cannot buy."

### Alcoholics Unanimous

About the year 1934 approximately 31 per cent of the people in the United States of America above the age of twenty were drinkers. By 1943 this rate had increased to 42 per cent of those over eighteen years of age, and by 1950 the rate had increased until 55 per cent of those over sixteen years of age are drinking.

By 1977, at the present rate, 85 per cent of the people of eighteen years and over will be heavy drinkers, and at the same rate of increase, between the years of

1990 and 2000 just about 100 per cent of the American people will be drinkers—alcoholics and near alcoholics.

At the present time there are between 3,500,000 and 4,000,000 drunkards, an increase of 200 per cent in 10 years. At that rate by the year 2000 we as a nation will be **Alcoholics Unanimous**. A fearful thought.

—The Clip Sheet.

### Water for Troops in Korea

Lieutenant Colonel M. C. Ellison of the Engineering Corps, writing to the *Washington Star*, says that the Corps of Engineers is charged with the responsibility of supplying portable water to troops in the field. His letter continues:

"Each division is supported by an organic combat engineer battalion equipped with four sets of water purification equipment with ample capacity for supplying portable water for a full division of soldiers. This equipment is so designed that water from polluted streams or wells may be converted to absolutely safe, palatable water at the rate of 35 gallons per minute for each of the four water purification sets; therefore, it is not necessary to transport drinking water from Japan or distill sea water to adequately supply our troops. The equipment in the hands of our engineers can be used to purify water from the many streams found throughout Korea.

"The Corps of Engineers conducts research and development to insure that our engineers are equipped with the best water purification equipment obtainable."

—The Clip Sheet.

Lord, teach us to pray . . .

# Prayer

## Is Our MOST URGENT NEED

Daily Prayer—in our homes, in our churches, in our businesses—is the way to certain power. You and your church are urged to join with thousands of Southern Baptist churches throughout the Convention in a study of Bible teachings about prayer the first week in January (or week of your choice).

### A Convention-wide Prayer Meeting

—is the fervently hoped-for result—a continuous prayer meeting that will fan the sparks of a spiritual awakening and spread the fires of evangelism as preparation is made for the Simultaneous Revival Crusade, March 25-April 8, 1951, east of the Mississippi River.

### The Bible and Prayer

By ROBERT G. LEE

—is the guide book for your January theme of study. This dynamic, teachable volume stays right with the Bible and helps us to understand better the supreme emphasis the Bible puts on prayer and the imperative necessity of prayer for Christian living and effective service. (Available at your Baptist Book Store for 60 cents.)

### A New Year—A New Power in Prayer!

Set the exact time for the week of study in your church • Select your teacher • Strive for maximum attendance—and *Pray*

PRAY for an Inspired Convention-wide Prayer Meeting

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SPRING SEMESTER

January 31, 1951

SUMMER SEMESTER

June 4, 1951

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# Baptist Brotherhood of Arkansas



NELSON F. TULL, *State Secretary*

219 Baptist Building

Little Rock, Arkansas

## Regional Tour A Success

At this writing the Brotherhood Department is in the middle of the first of a series of Regional Brotherhood tours. Good meetings have been held in North Little Rock, with Baring Cross Church; in McGehee, with First Church; and in Pine Bluff, with South Side Church. Attendance has been good and interest has been high.

The remaining meetings of the Tour are scheduled with First Church, West Memphis, and with First Church, Springdale.

Speakers for the first Brotherhood Regional Tour have been: Harold Anderson of Heber Springs, acting State Brotherhood President; Lloyd A. Sparkman, pastor of South Side Church, Pine Bluff; and Clifford A. Holcomb, Brotherhood Music Secretary of the Florida Baptist State Convention. Each of these men has done an excellent job of work during the Tour.

The emphasis for the series of meetings has been, "God's Work." We have been convinced by Harold Anderson, that "God's Work Is Work"; by Lloyd A. Sparkman, that "God's Work Is Comprehended in the Great Commission"; and by Clifford A. Holcomb, that "God's Work Waits on Man."

The very personnel of the Tour reflects what Brotherhood work is: "Preachers and Laymen Working Together at the Tasks of the Kingdom of God."

The second Regional Brotherhood Tour is scheduled for February 12-16, at which time Dr. A. S. Newman, Brotherhood Secretary of Louisiana will be the out-of-state speaker.

### Brotherhood Guide-Book Selling Fast!

The Brotherhood Guide-Book, written by George Schroeder with the collaboration of the State Brotherhood Secretaries, is being well received over the Southland. We understand that the first printing was quickly exhausted because of the demand for an authoritative book containing the latest thinking about Brotherhood organization, methodology, and work.

The Guide-Book is available at the Baptist Book Store in Little Rock, or from the Brotherhood Department. Prices are: cloth binding \$1.25, plus tax; paper binding, 75 cents, plus tax.

The Brotherhood Department heartily recommends the use of the Brotherhood Guide-Book. A copy of this book ought to be in the hands of every pastor and of every Brotherhood man. The book

is an eye-opener concerning what Brotherhood is and what Brotherhood does; and is a safe guide from the very beginning of a Brotherhood organization, on through to active and continuing effective service on the part of the consecrated men of a church or of an association.

Order your copy now!

### Looking Toward 1951

The new year is approaching, and nearly every Christian hopes to make of it the best year of them all. And down in our hearts we know that the only way to make 1951 the best year of our lives is to come closer to the Lord in loving, obedient service; in do-

ing continuously the very work which he has commissioned us to do. Somehow, Christian being waits on Christian doing. We can never be what we ought to be as Christians, unless (and until) we do exactly what the Lord has commanded us to do.

Effective Christian work is the result of obedience to the Lord's command. It will be well for every Christian prayerfully to study anew Matthew 28:18-20, in the back-ground of past service to the Lord, and with the anewed purpose of making 1951 count more for the Lord and His program than any previous year of life.

War clouds are gathering fast; and the future is dark indeed except to those who have that "blessed hope." If we expect ever to render effective service to our Lord, NOW is the time!

May God grant that during 1951 His people shall be drawn very close to Him. May we love Him more, serve Him more; and give all that we are and have over into His hands, that He may mold us into the pattern of His own will.

The crises that are ahead for America and the world are even now coming upon us. May God ready His people for what is ahead!

### Merry Christmas!

The Brotherhood Department wishes you a very happy Christmas season. May the very joys of those who welcomed Christ to this earth in the long, long ago, be yours in the days ahead. And may our prayer also be, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

000

If one would approximate the example of his Lord he must add to his own burdens and his shared burdens the cross of a world lost in sin, in open rebellion, heedless, and bent upon its own destruction. This cross, loaded with compassion, inspires all missionary effort—personal and co-operative. The Christian begins to glimpse something of the spirit that took Jesus to Calvary; Paul's longing to know the fellowship of the sufferings of his Lord becomes understandable; he has lost himself in his passion for others.—John L. Hill, *The Baptist Training Union Magazine*.

## THOUSAND \$1,000 CLUB

Something New!

Very Simple!

Greatly Needed!

ONE THOUSAND units of \$1,000 each will create an endowment fund of ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

ONE MILLION DOLLARS, wisely invested, will earn enough interest to enable 100 or more worthy youths to go to college or professional school, there to prepare for the largest service.

ONE HUNDRED TRAINED YOUTHS will go into the upset, distraught world of tomorrow and help stay the hand of Satan and the ravages of sin.

### WHO SHOULD JOIN?

Everyone who is interested in projecting his or her life beyond the grave should have part in this great venture. It is for each to decide how much to invest in it.

1. Any individual who will invest \$1,000 for the future can become a full member; of course he may buy any number of units.

2. Anyone can buy a unit on the "installment plan"—that is by paying so much per month, quarter or year, until the full unit of \$1,000 is paid in.

3. Any two may buy a "Joint Membership"—membership paid for by the two people.

4. Group Membership . . . one made up of a class, union, Brotherhood, Missionary Society, church, association—in fact of any kind of group that will raise either in cash or by installments the \$1,000.

### HOW JOIN?

Simply decide to do so! Then write for application blank showing:

1. How many units you wish to buy.

2. How you wish to make payment.

3. To what school you wish the interest to be paid. (If none is designated, the Arkansas Baptist Convention will direct the use of the interest earned.)

Send application with check for the initial payment. Your "Memorial Account" will be opened in our books, the money will be invested, and the earnings will be used each year to help some worthy young person earn some of the expenses needed if education beyond high school is to be had.

WORTHY WORK? What could be more worthwhile? And it will go on working for you through many years to come. Send your initial payment before January 1, 1951, and the income tax will not be taken from that part of your income, if under 15 per cent of the total. WRITE

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HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS

# The Savior Is Born

By MRS. HOMER D. MYERS

*This discussion is based on the International Uniform Sunday School Lesson Outlines, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education and used by permission.*

Great events stand out and apart in the human mind. Momentous happenings stir the emotions. Hearts rejoice and souls are thrilled when righteousness triumphs over evil. D-Day in World War II was a day of great consequence—but V-J Day was the day that spelled victory over evil, at least temporarily.

Some of us can remember Armistice Day in World War I. The news that the war had ended reached many towns at two or three o'clock in the morning. People went wild with joy; whistles blew, guns boomed, people paraded the dark streets beating tin pans or buckets; they felt compelled to manifest their emotional delight in some outward manner.

Thinking further along this line, we study with deep appreciation the life and adventures of Christopher Columbus. In retrospect we can see the leadership of God in that daring event that opened the American continent to the world; it was a momentous day in history when America was discovered; it meant freedom for many who had never known any real liberty. It meant freedom for so many future generations.

So certain days have become symbols of great events in our history. July 4 is a symbol of independence; and whether Jesus was actually born on December 25 or not, the day has become associated with salvation and spiritual freedom in the human mind, as the birthdate of our Redeemer.

## Promise Fulfilled

For many centuries the prophets in Israel promised the world a Messiah, a King and Redeemer. Many times He was depicted as a King on a throne, as an adult being; but a few of the prophecies described Him as a baby and a child. But listen to Isaiah: "Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." "Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Again, the prophet Micah foretold the place of His birth: "But thou, Bethlehem, Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall HE come forth unto me that is TO BE RULER IN ISRAEL."

The world was going its busy way, no doubt, when the greatest

## Sunday School Lesson for

December 24, 1950

Luke 2:1-16

event in history up to that hour, came to pass. Caesar Augustus had ordered an enrolment of all the people in his vast domain. Carpenter Joseph, living in Nazareth, found it necessary to traverse what was then a great distance, 80 miles, to Bethlehem for his enrolment because that was the birthplace of his forefathers and he, being of the lineage of David, had to go to the city of David for the occasion. All things were working for the fulfillment of scripture even the decree from Caesar that the whole world be enrolled for taxation. There was nothing else for Joseph to do but to take Mary, his wife, and go to Bethlehem.

## Cradled in a Manger

It is an old and familiar story how they arrived in the crowded village only to find there were no vacancies in the way of room or shelter. The very best the couple could do was to camp in a deserted stable, which was probably in a cave at the edge of the little town. So it was in this unusually humble surroundings that the Lord Jesus Christ came into the world; how odd in the human mind, but how like the Father we know, to manifest Himself to the human race robed in the body of a tiny, newborn baby, in the lowliest environment, that would be so humiliating to the ego of human beings. No palace of cedar with gold veneering such as was the customary birthplace for royalty in that day; no beautiful nursery done up in pink and blue greeted the earth's Redeemer. Were these delicacies that mean so much to modern parents too effeminate for the rugged personality that was to endure so very much for the sons of Adam! His first covering was strips of cloth wrapped around His little body, and He was first cradled in a feeding trough for animals: a manger.

## His Glory Revealed

But let us look away from the first dismal surroundings of the Christ child to the revelation of His glories elsewhere in the same country. God honored another humble occasion, a group of shepherds with the most unique announcement the world has ever known, with the presence of an angelic chorus and with a flood of light of heavenly glory, they were the first ones to know of the great Redeemer's birth as He made His debut among men. "And

there were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them."

Here was, no doubt, a group of faithful children of God; some who must have yearned for the coming Messiah. It is highly possible that they were sitting in a group, discussing some of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God. Suddenly, in the darkness of the night, a glorious light illumined their presence, and an angel appeared in their midst. Their reaction was the same that ours would be: they were filled with fear and amazement. But the angel calmed their fears with the announcement that he brought good news, he had glad tidings of great joy for them, news that would also effect all people, "For unto you is born a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." When did this happen? "This day." "Where?" "In the city of David," which they knew to mean, Bethlehem.

The Jews were sticklers for signs, they wanted definite proof for everything they heard, so the angel gave them two signs: "Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling cloths." They would also find the babe—"lying in a manger." If they found a babe dressed in any other manner or cradled any place else, it would not be the Savior. This seems to indicate that swaddling clothes and a manger-cradle were not the usual customs of their day.

## Heavenly Enthusiasm

Following this announcement, a heavenly choir was heard, ringing out the praises of God in the night air on the Judean hillside, singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." The Prince of Peace was born! Sinful man may not be able to comprehend and appreciate the fact, but the heavenly host could not refrain from shouting their praises of the glad tidings to the earth. Like a group of people in a burst of applause over some happy occasion on earth, the hosts of heaven had to manifest their enthusiasm over the happy event, the momentous happening of that hour when, earth's redemption was nearer completion than at any time previous in its existence.

The emphasis of the angel's messages was that the Savior had been born. The greatest King this world will ever know had been

born also, but the emphasis was not placed there. A descendant of the famous king David, the house of royalty, had been born, but the emphasis was not placed there. Thee "good tidings" which the angel bore was that the Savior was born.

## Peace Will Win

The Redeemer had arrived at last! And He would bring peace to the earth. The inhabitants of this earth have never known peace. Peace has always been a prized and coveted possession. We have heard war cries, and have endured war, until many would choose peace at any price. Mankind has proved his inability to negotiate and maintain peace. Our peace and the peace of the world is dependent upon the Prince of Peace. God has promised us peace through the work and person of His Son, and He must keep that promise. The angels sang with joy because they knew the time would come when peace and tranquility shall reign supreme over all this earth.

So what could be more appropriate for Christian people, in this dark hour, when another great conflict between nations seems inevitable, than to refresh our minds by rehearsing the wonderful, miraculous birth of our Lord, and reminding ourselves that God has promised us peace at last, upon the earth; but the only peace this world will ever know must be through that person who was born nearly two thousand years ago, in the city of David, the Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

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## More Supposition . . .

We have been trying in the last two issues of the **ARKANSAS BAPTIST** to show our preacher brethren, who are not members of the Ministers Retirement Plan, the wisdom of belonging to the plan through articles written on supposition. Today, we present another — This time on the **WIDOWS SUPPLEMENTAL ANNUITY PLAN**.

Suppose you are a pastor and married. Suppose you, like most Baptist preachers, have not been able to create a large estate, not even enough to protect your wife and children from want for life's necessities in case you should die — what do you suppose she would do? Would you want her to beg, or "move in" on the relatives for a living? Of course you wouldn't and it will not happen with just a little planning on your part NOW, coupled with what may seem some sacrifice at the moment. YOU need to be in the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan for her sake.

The objective of the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan is to establish a uniform program throughout the Southern Baptist Convention to provide annuities for the **WIDOWS OF MEMBERS OF A MINISTERS RETIREMENT PLAN** of a state Convention of the Southern Baptist Convention, administered by the Relief and Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, where such members die before entering upon age retirement annuity or who die while receiving a disability annuity provided under a Ministers Retirement Plan.

For HER sake, think with us brethren! Concerning the cost — the contributions are based on the following percentages of salary basis according to age; up to 59, inclusive — 1½ per cent; 60 to 69, inclusive — 2 per cent; 70 and up — 2½ per cent. Now, in addition to the contribution you make, your convention matches it with a like amount and both contributions are based upon the salary basis upon which the member is paying contributions under the Ministers Retirement Plan.

Now you are interested in the benefits of the plan, and of course, you ought to be interested in knowing what you will get for your money.

In the event of the death of a member before entering upon age retirement annuity or after entering upon a disability retirement annuity, during a fiscal year for which all of the member's contributions have been paid in full and convention contributions have also been paid in full, an annuity shall be payable to the widow of such member in equal monthly payments effective from the date of the death of the member, ceasing with her death or remarriage.

The amount she is to receive is based upon a percentage of a potential age retirement annuity, which annuity shall be the equivalent of 50 per cent of the average basis of the member upon which contributions have been paid, as follows:

The first year of eligibility she will receive 20 per cent; the second year 24 per cent; the third year 28 per cent; the fourth year, 32 per cent; the fifth year 36 per cent; and, the sixth year 40 per cent. If the widow at the

★

"And

the Angel

said unto them,

fear not: for behold,

I bring you good tidings

of great joy, which shall be

to all people." (Luke 2:10). We

wish for every one of you a most joyous Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous

New

Year

B. L. BRIDGES, *General Secretary*  
L. E. COLEMAN, *Assistant Secretary*  
W. DAWSON KING, *Superintendent of Ministers Retirement*  
BETTY GARTON, *Bookkeeper*

date of the death of the member is younger than her husband by ten years there is a reduction in benefits and we will furnish this information to those it may affect.

Now Brethren, the fiscal year in Arkansas is from January 1 of each year. In other words if you are coming into the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan you must enter as of January 1, 1951.

Just suppose the Lord should call you home TODAY, would your widow be taken care of properly or would she and the children be forced to do without things you would want them to have or become objects of charity? We want to insist for the sake of your family, that you pray about this matter and send in for application blanks. We respectfully suggest that a regular income is much more to be preferred than a lump sum payment which would soon be gone.

### New Bethel and Pastor West

Pastor William West of New Bethel Church in Delta Association is a real constructive leader. We asked this little church for \$24 for the Cooperative Missionary Program. It will do many times that much. Perhaps in two months it will give more than we ask for the entire year. Pastor West is mission minded and the Lord is greatly blessing him.

### Riherd and Lepanto

It has been inspiring to see the growth of the Baptist work in and around Lepanto under the leadership of Pastor Leslie M. Riherd. This young man is in his twelfth year of service with the Lepanto saints. During that time an elegant church building and beautiful pastor's home have been built. The congregation has had a steady and substantial growth. The attendance has more than doubled. One of the outstanding features of Riherd's work is in his interest in the spiritual welfare of the rural people within the reach of his town. The church is operating three missions that are well housed and Riherd and his workers are leading many of them to the Savior.

### Another Brother Gone

Brother Raymond Limer, pastor of the Vann-dale Church, passed away last Saturday, December 9. Although Brother Limer had not been preaching as long as some of us, he has left a worthy example through his enthusiasm and ability to lead in the Lord's work. Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family.

### Sad Words!

"Of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these, 'It might have been!'"

Yes, "It might have been" different for your wife and children if you had been a member of the Ministers Retirement Plan and the Widows Supplemental Annuity Plan. Yes, it would be different for them unless you were able to have left enough estate to care for them. Remember, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Join today!

### "No Room in the Inn"

Again, this year, we celebrate the birth of our Savior. And again, as always since his birth, some people crowd him completely out of their hearts and declare by their lives — "No room in the Inn" for Jesus.

God grant that we, who love Him, shall make a larger place in our hearts, homes, and churches than ever before for Him. Let us share Him and His love with the world this Christmas time beginning with our next door neighbors then out to the "utmost part of the earth."

No room in the Inn?

There ne'er has been  
in the lives of sinful men;

O friend, Open the door  
and let Him in,

Say no more, "No room in the Inn."

### L. H. Davis and Fort Smith

Pastor L. H. Davis, Calvary Church, Fort Smith, is having a long and fruitful ministry in that important section of Fort Smith. Under his leadership the church has greatly increased its physical properties and it has carried on an increase in missions. In 1951 the church proposes to give \$5,692.50 for the Cooperative Program. It will also liberally support local missions. Davis is solid and constructive in his work.

### Hicks and Pulaski Heights

Pastor W. H. Hicks of Pulaski Heights Church in Little Rock is one of our busiest men. Under his leadership the growth of this important church is encouraging indeed. The congregation has grown greatly. The attendance in Sunday School has had a steady and notable increase. The contributions have had an unusual increase. Their interest and support of the Cooperative Program is encouraging indeed. Have you seen the skeleton of the new structure that will be occupied early next year as an auditorium for this great church. If you love the Baptist cause, it would make your heart swell with pride to look at it. Hicks is one of our solid, dependable leaders.