

Baptist Banner

VOL. 2

APRIL, 1968

Number 11

Eld. H. C. VANDERPOOL
2303 GRANDVIEW DRIVE
BOWLING GREEN, KY 42101
MAY 68

Disappointed Soldier

Dear Preacher:

I was at home a few days ago on a furlough and happened to hear you preach on the radio, and I feel that I should write you about what is on my heart. For I think that I will be going to the battlefields within a few days and I want to have everything right between me and God before I go. Preacher, I have never seen you and do not know you personally, but I wish you would write me and tell me exactly what to do to be saved and ready to meet the Lord if this should be my time to go. Also, if you wish to read this letter over the air you may do so, for it may help some Mother or Father to wake up to what is going on. Perhaps it may reach my own Mother and help her to see what she should do.

Now, here is the story. When I went home the other week, I went with a feeling of joy, and yet there was a burden on my heart. I knew that perhaps it would be my last furlough home, and that maybe I would never see my folks again. For I know that not all of us are coming back, and as yet I am not ready to die. So as I went home, I went hoping that Mother and Dad would help me to get right with the Lord. I knew that they had never been very religious, but they belonged to the church and claimed to be Christians. They never had family prayers and did not seem to care much about the real spiritual work of the church. But I had the idea that that would all be changed now. Some how, Preacher, I felt that surely this war with all that it is bringing would make Mother and Dad really live for the Lord.

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Fellowship Meeting

There is to be a Fellowship Meeting at Union Hill Missionary Baptist Church, North of Gallatin, Tenn. on Dobbins Pike on Friday night, April 5.

Services are to begin at 7:30 P.M. Eld. Billy Moran of Indianapolis is to preach. Everyone is invited to attend.

Arrives In Israel



Elder James H. Smith

MISSIONARY

REPORTS

FROM

TELAVIV

C/o Commodore Hotel
No. 2 Zamenhoff Street
Telaviv, Israel
February 28, 1968

Dear Friends:

I arrived in Telaviv Saturday, February 17th, at 5:00 A.M. and I came directly from the air port to this hotel, where I am now staying. When I left Japan I wasn't feeling very well, neither did I feel too well on the way, but soon after arriving in Israel I began to feel much better. The climate here in Telaviv is excellent; the air is dry, and it is warm and sunny. I feel so much better after a few days here it is beyond expression. I do thank the Lord for such an improvement in my health.

On Tuesday, February 20th, I took a bus and went to Jerusalem and stayed part of the day, but I didn't do any sight-seeing, because it was raining and chilly, and I left Telaviv with light clothes on, and I felt too uncomfortable for sight seeing that day. Jerusalem isn't but about fifty or sixty miles from Telaviv, but just that distance from the sea coast makes a lot of difference in climatic conditions. I went there for the purpose of inquiring about a place of lodging, but I found even at the YMCA, room rates are double to what I pay here in this small hotel in

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Radio Broadcast

Elder James (Pete) Porter can be heard each Sunday on WFKN, Franklin, Ky. Time, 9:00—9:30 A.M.

Old Union Baptist Church broadcasts each Sunday, 1:30—2:00 P.M. on WKCT Bowling Green, Ky. Services conducted by Pastor, H. C. Vanderpool.

The Hope Within Us

BY H. C. VANDERPOOL

"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day." II Cor. 4:16.

Thirty years ago, when I was a small boy, God saved my soul at Caney Fork Baptist Church in Smith County, Tenn. I have had eternal life since that time. Many times since that time I have experienced bodily pain and I've heard or have seen things that brought heartaches and disappointments, but that hope within me has always been a comfort and a rock upon which I could depend.

Paul said that while the outward man (the flesh) perished, the inward man (the soul) was renewed daily. As I write these words, I rejoice in this truth. Thank God for eternal salvation—Satan tempts God's children, the world scorns them, they are hated by evil forces, the bodies suffer pain, but by the grace of God the souls are renewed day by day.

The hope within us should help in a great way to look above the cares of this world to that eternal abode that we will have with God in eternity.

(Continued on Page 4)

Texas College Bars Hippies From Rolls

BROWNWOOD, Texas—Howard Payne College has announced a policy barring "hippies and other bizarre personalities" from enrollment.

The Baptist-supported institution said those who were not hippies when they enrolled but became so later "will be asked either to change their ways or to withdraw."

"In no circumstances will any student or any person affiliated with the College be permitted to use any kind of hallucinatory, habit forming or harmful drug or alcohol," the announcement said. The college has an enrollment of about 1,250.

BAPTIST BANNER

Published Monthly at

105 Main Street
Tompkinsville, Kentucky 42167

H. C. Vanderpool, Editor

Entered as second-class matter at the post
office at Tompkinsville, Kentucky 42167

POSTMASTER: Send 3579 to 105 Main
Street, Tompkinsville, Ky. 42167

Mail All Communications To:

H. C. VANDERPOOL, Editor

2303 Grandview Drive
Bowling Green, Ky. 42101

Subscription Rate — \$2.00 per Year

\$1.50 in Bundles to Churches

DISAPPOINTED SOLDIER

(Continued from Page 1)

So I went home hoping that they would talk to me about being a Christian, and that they would try to help me to get saved and ready to meet ti. Lord. I went home thinking that surely my Mother was interested in the spiritual condition of her son. I have always thought that my Mother was the finest woman in the world and have been proud of her. So I told myself that Mother was praying for me and that she was interested in seeing her boy saved, whether anyone else was or not.

But things at home were not what I had expected to find them. I think I came back to camp the most discouraged boy that there has ever been. For when I got home everything seemed to be just about as usual. About the only difference that I could see was that they fussed a lot about having to put up with rationing and because they could not buy just anything they wanted to have. As far as their religious life is concerned I think they must be farther from God than they have ever been. Preacher, they seem to be asleep to what this war is doing, and instead of waking up and getting right with God, they seem to be getting deeper in sin. The

Mother that I thought would pray with me and help me to be saved, never once mentioned religion to me. She has even quit going to Church with the excuse that they do not have enough gas to drive to Church. I noticed that they could take a drive and go visiting in the afternoons on Sunday. Anyway the church is not very far and anyone who was really interested could walk.

Dad is all wrapped up in his job. Of course, it is a defense job but he does not seem to care much about the defense end of it. All he could talk about was the big salary he was getting, and the fact that their local union was pressing for more money. One day when I said something about it being the biggest salary he had ever gotten, he said, "Oh well, I just might as well get my part out of this war." Preacher, I believe that he is actually glad that the war is going on. He did not seem a bit interested in the fact that the longer the war goes on the more people will lose their lievs. All he seemed to care about was his pay.

So I spent my entire furlough at home. Time and again I would bring up the subject of religion hoping that Mother or Dad would talk to me about my soul. O how I wanted Mother to pray for me and how I wanted Dad to talk to me. Of course, I had never heard Mother pray, and Dad had never said a word to me in all my life about my soul, but I thought that surely this war would make people turn to God. But the full time of my furlough passed and they had not said one word.

Then came the day when I had to leave. Preacher, I could not stand it any longer. I know you may think I am a fool, but I broke down and cried like a baby. I just could not help it. It was not because I was having to leave. I did not mind that so bad. I knew that I might never see them again. But that was not what worried me. I just had to cry to think that my own Mother and Dad were not in the least interested in my salvation.

Preacher, I came back to camp determined by the help of God to get saved. But I also came back wondering what could happen to Mother and Dad if God should call them into judgement. I am not very proud of Mother now. I see that she is more interested in her clubs and visits and clothes than she is in the salvation of her son. And one day when I smelled cigarette smoke on

her breath, I knew that Mother was just as badly in need of someone praying for her as I am.

Now, I know that Dad isn't interested in his son's salvation. Oh, he got a kick out of taking me around and showing the men of the community what a fine looking boy he had, and all that. But Preacher, Dad does not care about my salvation. He is too much interested in making a dollar. I even caught him drinking one day in a beer joint.

I know this is a long letter and will take some of your precious time, but I write it in the hope that you may be able to say or do something that will wake the Godless Fathers and Mothers of America up to see that they have boys and girls who need to be saved and that they should help them. Tell the Mothers where ever you can, that for God's sake and for the sake of their boys, they should get right with God and quit this foolish, sinful way in which they are going, and get down to business in praying for the boys and girls of this nation. Tell the fathers that they should quit their drinking and gambling and get interested in their children and in God's work MORE than they are interested in making money. Tell the young girls (I have some sisters) to quit their smoking and dancing and petting, and to be clean Christians so that they will be fit to marry a decent man some day and and raise a family.

Preacher, keep telling them the truth, over and over and over again, and please pray for my lost Mother and Father and sisters, and write me just what I must do to be saved, FOR I WANT TO BE A REAL CHRISTIAN AND READY TO MEET JESUS EVEN IF I HAVE TO DIE ON THE BATTLE FIELD.

Signed by a Soldier

(This letter has been lengthy, but I pray that God will use it to stir the hearts of unconcerned fathers and mothers everywhere—Editor)

Humanity is never so beautiful as when praying for forgiveness, or else forgiving another.

MISSIONARY REPORTS FROM TELAVIV

(Continued from Page 1)

Telaviv. I pay four dollars a day here, with breakfast, and at the YMCA in Jerusalem they want eight dollars. So I have decided to stay here till I can see further at least.

I have already sent a letter to the Israeli Ministry of Interior and ask for an extension of my stay in Israel, that was one week ago, but haven't received any reply as yet. But I have asked the Lord to work out His will in this matter, and I will try to be satisfied with the results. I do feel the need of your prayers in this and all matters that concern the Lord and His great cause. I find great encouragement in these verses in the Scriptures: "I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me; thou art my help and deliverer;" Psalms 40:17; "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and he will strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord." Psalms 27:14

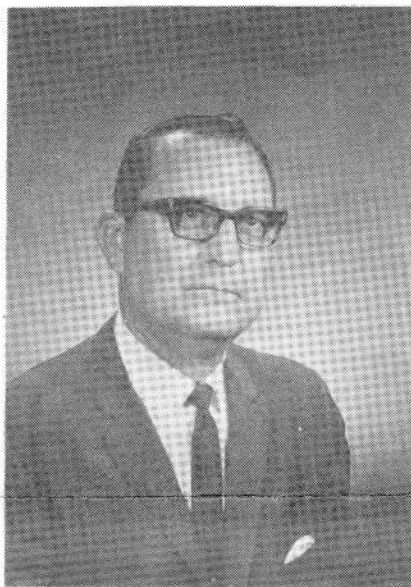
I have gone on two tours since I've been here, one to the Dead Sea, and the other to the Gaza Strip. The Dead Sea is certainly a great wonder; we ate lunch at what they call, Lot's Inn, and our guide said that this is the place where Lot's wife turned to a pillar of salt; of course nobody knows this, they base their opinion on the great lumps of salt lying around that are as hard as stone. On our way to the Gaza Strip we visited the cities of Ashdod and Askelon; these are modern cities now, but these names go back to the days of the ancient Philistines. David referred to Askelon when he was lamenting the death of King Saul, "Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice," II Samuel 1:20

In the Gaza Strip area we can still see much of the results of the six days war of the Jews and Arabs; Egyptian tanks and other war machinery lying trewred over the desert. In the towns almost all buildings are spotted with bullet holes. Arab children almost mob us when we get off the bus, coming toward us with hands outstretched begging and wanting to sell something. At one point I bought a chocolate bar and was going to eat it, but the children would stand off at a distance begging for it; I couldn't eat it, I walked out among them and began to break off bits of it and give it to them, but they literally covered me up, and I had to throw it down to their feet and run. It would break your heart to see this awful sight.

I would to God that I can help somebody in this land to a better life, which is, of course, in Christ Jesus.

Yours in His Service
James H. Smith

Editor Receives Degree



Elder H. C. Vanderpool

The editor was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree on February 7, 1968 by the American Bible Institute.

All courses required by the Institute had been completed with the recipient receiving credit for studies in other institutions including Newspaper Institute of America, Baptist Bible College and Western Kentucky University.

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6. Owned your own car—or traveled by bus?
7. Had servants to wait on you — or served yourself?
8. Walked on velvet carpets — or on the bare floor?
9. Used Sterling Silver—or stainless steel?
10. Paid \$2.50 for a meal—or 50 cents?
11. Had a million in the bank—or nothing at all?

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have Everlasting Life. —John 3:16

For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved. —John 3:17

He that believeth on Him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. —John 3:18

"WITHOUT THE SHEDDING OF BLOOD IS NO REMISSION OF SIN." —Hebrews 9:22

BUT-

It Will Make A Mighty BIG
And ETERNAL DIFFERENCE
WHETHER YOU WERE A

SAVED

OR A

LOST SOUL

(Heaven or Hell)

FOR—It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment. —Hebrews 9:27

So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto Salvation. —Hebrews 9:28

We are sanctified (saved) through the offering of the Body of Jesus Christ once for All. —Hebrews 10:10

HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE — IF WE NEGLECT SO GREAT SALVATION? —Hebrews 2:3

What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? —Mark 8:36

Watch For Expiration Date

Each subscriber to the BANNER is asked to watch for the date at the end of your name and address on the paper. This is the month that your subscription expires. Please renew as soon as possible, for this saves time and work on the editor and the printer.

The Hope Within Us

(Continued from Page 1)

Each week in my visitation in homes and hospitals, I talk with people that have sick and worn bodies, many who have lived long lives and the fleshly tabernacles are bent, weak, trembling and perishing. Sometimes daily I hear testimonies from these people that the hope within them is stronger and stronger with the passing of time.

Job, a man of patience and afflictions, said, "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:" Job

We, the people of God, should continue to preach Christ and do all within us to help those who are dead in sin that they too can have a hope within them of eternal life and the glory of God.

A dying man once said in substance: "I have at this moment a particular impression of the immortality of the soul for my body is already half dead. I have lost the use of both legs and one arm, and if my soul were not immortal it would be half dead also. But instead of that, I am constantly thinking of God and Heaven, and I think with great ease and freedom."

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts; and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." I Peter 3:15.

A MOTHER'S REWARD

I do not ask that you repay the
Hours of toil and pain
The sacrifice of youth and strength
Shall not have been in vain.

I do not ask for gratitude
But only this, my child,
That you shall live your life so well.
My gifts be not defiled.
The nights I watched beside your
crib,

The years of love and care
Will amply be repaid if once
I see you standing there—
An upright and an honest soul
On whom success has smiled,
That I may say with humble pride
"THAT is my child."

A Brother Passes



Elder Gena E. Gregory

Elder Gena Eskle Gregory, age 64, died at Lafayette, Tenn. on March 3, a few hours after suffering a heart attack at his home. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, March 5, at 11:00 A.M. at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Macon County, Tenn., by Eld. J.D. Birdwell, Eld. T. C. Jones and Eld. Larry Bakken. Burial was in the Nelson-McDonald cemetery with Masonic rites.

He was a native of Macon county, the son of Wiley and Amanda Cothron Gregory. He was a member of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Hillsdale Masonic Lodge and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Due to ill health, he resigned from the office of Tax Assessor of Macon County after serving in that office 11 years.

He united with Ebenezer church in 1919 and was ordained a deacon in the church on October 3, 1936. On Sept. 29, 1957, he was ordained by the same church to the full work of the Ministry. Bro. Gregory was a leader in his church and had preached in several revivals and mission points. He was one of twenty-four brethren who assisted in the financing and distribution of a republished edition of the "History of The Welsh Baptists" by J. Davis. This work was done last year.

He was married to Lillie Burnist Mathis on October 29, 1922. To this Union were born seven children. Survivors include his wife; five sons, Truman, Glenn, Gordon, Lillard and Ralph Gregory, all of Lafayette; two daughters, Mrs. J. B. Porter, Nashville and Mrs. Vendel Jones of Hendersonville; two brothers, Bervie Gregory of Lafayette and Raymond Gregory of Pleasant Shade, Tenn.; two sisters, Mrs. Della Hooper of Nashville and Mrs. Olma Porter of Sparta, Tenn. and 15 grandchildren.

Spiritualaires To Sing

The Spiritualaires Quartet of Nashville are to sing at Old Union Baptist Church, Highway 240, Bowling Green, Ky. on Sunday night, April 28. The singing is to begin at 7:00 P.M.

They are to be with the Liberty Baptist Church, Barberton, Ohio on Sunday, June 23, at 11:00 A.M. Everyone is invited to attend these singings.

REVIVAL

Sunday Night—June 14

Lyons Missionary Baptist Church, 904 Gagle Ave., Louisville, Ky. Pastor L. W. Smith is to be assisted by Eld. H. C. Vanderpool.

Plan now to spend more on your Easter heart than on your Easter head.

"He humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Phil. 2:8.

There are 168 hours in a week. Can you spare one hour a week for worship in Church?

B-O-O-K-S

You can now order the following books through the BAPTIST BANNER:
History of old Union Missionary Baptist Church, 1795-1966, 86 pages, \$1.00
Twentieth Century Baptists, 322 pages, \$2.00.

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