

# Baptist Banner

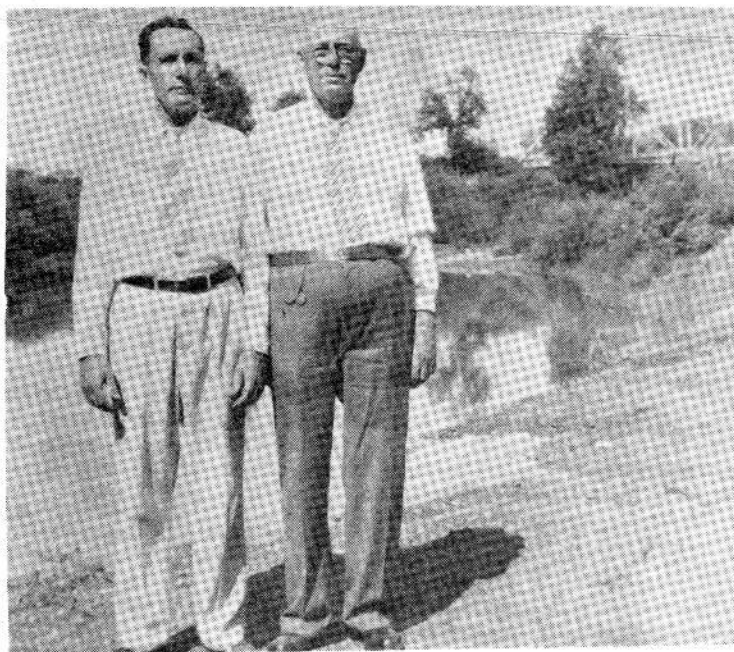
Vol. 9

Bowling Green, Kentucky, JULY, 1967

Number 2

## Apocalupsis-Revelatio-Revelation

### They Were Baptist Soldiers Together



Elder L. A. Stewart, left, and Elder C. B. Massey

#### MISSIONARY REPORTS FROM JAPAN

6770 Kongozan  
Tokuyama City  
Yamaguchi-Ken, Japan

Dear Friends:

Again we send our greetings to you from Japan in the name of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. We can say from the bottom of our heart that the Lord has been very gracious and merciful to His servants; His blessings to us are far beyond anything that we deserve, or ever can be worthy of. When we want the answer as to why the Lord blesses undeserving human beings so abundantly, we only have to turn to His divine Word; in one place it says, Gracious is the Lord, and

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Pictured above are two Baptist soldiers of the past. For many years Elder L. A. Stewart and Elder C. B. Massey were staunch Baptists and fought faithfully in the services of the great Commander.

The writer will not give all records concerning the work of the two Baptist ministers, but wanted here in brief memory of them and their labors to mention them and thank God once again for the good that they did and the hundreds of souls that they influenced during their ministry. No doubt their preaching convicted thousands and caused them to turn from sin unto the Lord for the salvation of their souls.

The above picture was made on the west bank of Drake's Creek in south Warren County, Ky. Old Union Baptist

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Introduction To Revelation  
By W. T. Russell

The Bible has been written in many languages for the benefit of many people of various tongues down through the ages. The Greek name for this book of Revelation is APOCALUPSIS. The Latin name is REVELATIO. The English name is REVELATION. All these names in their respective forms literally mean—the unveiling. A veil hides from view and therefore is a covering. So, the name of this book signifies exactly what it is, namely—an uncovering or unveiling. Therefore, the Greek word “Apocalypse” means REVELATION, the uncovering or unveiling. The future then being unveiled or uncovered and revealed, it is prophecy even though distinguished from ordinary prophecy.

Regular or ordinary prophecy is the word or communication of the prophet spoken or written just as God spoke to him through the Spirit, but apocalyptic prophecy is pictorial, the pictures being symbolic of the thing prophesied, and is received by trance or vision through the Spirit of God.

All will agree that the book of Revelation contains figures or symbols which are shadows or representatives of the substance. Two of the major sources of confusion in the minds of people concerning the teaching of this book has been and still is (1) The different methods of interpretation, and, (2) The place it occupies in time.

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#### PARENTS SENTENCED

JEFFERSON, GA. — When two young sons of a Twiggs County family were caught stealing, Superior Court Judge Harold E. Ward sentenced the parents. The father and mother will spend Friday night in jail for the next three months and see that the children attend church regularly for three years.

# 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, Ky. 42167

POSTMASTER: Send 3579 to 105 Main  
Street, Tompkinsville, Kentucky 42167

Mail All Communications To:

H. C. Vanderpool, Editor

2303 Grandview Drive  
Bowling Green, Ky. 42101

Subscription Rate — \$2.00 per Year

## Missionary Reports

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righteous, yea, our God is merciful." Psalms 116:5. In another place it says "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness," Lamentations 3:22,23. In light of these Scriptures, we surely know that all of God's dealings with His people are tempered with mercy. There is nothing to boast of, except in the cross of Jesus Christ.

On Sunday, May 21, we had a good fellowship meeting at Koi Baptist Church in Hiroshima. Brother Bacon and family, a group of Japanese who attend their services went with them to the meeting; some of the members of Yamaguchi Church came up and went with us to the service; two of the Japanese who attend our mission in Tokuyama attended. We had a good day, and it seemed to have been enjoyed by all. The fellowship meeting had been arranged by Koi Church and pastor, Brother Tajima. The Church and pastor served all of us lunch at the noon hour. The pastor asked me to preach in the morning and Brother Bacon in the afternoon. Other activities of the day was singing and testimonies from some of those who were present.

We have been having a few new faces at our mission of late, but mostly young people who are interested in English. I have an English Bible class on Saturday night, and in this service

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## INTRODUCTION TO REVELATION

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There are those who strive to interpret the figures and symbols literally, which makes it utterly impossible to arrive at the truth. For example: Some interpret the woman in the twelfth chapter of Revelation to be a real woman—the virgin Mary. And they make the man-child she bore—Jesus Christ. Now, if this be prophecy, it is impossible for this to be true, since this was written about 96 years after Jesus was born. A woman given as a symbol can never be interpreted as a real woman, and we can understand this by referring to the allegory which Paul used in the fourth chapter of Galatians. Hagar was a real woman, but Paul said she represented "the Jerusalem that now is." Sarah was a real woman, but Paul said she represented the Jerusalem which is above. "It is impossible to rightly interpret the book of Revelation unless you recognize it to be symbolic apocalyptic prophecy, and steer clear of interpreting the symbols literally.

If we have studied the Old Testament, we cannot help from recognizing many symbols related to ancient Hebrew symbolic imagery in the Revelation. Some of these are to be found in Daniel, Ezekiel, Zechariah and others. Also, in Genesis, we read about paradise (a sinless place). We read about the serpent. (the devil). In Exodus we read about the plagues sent upon Egypt. In Numbers we read about the wilderness, through which the children of Israel passed. We also read about the Lion of Judah, the Holy City of Jerusalem, The Temple of Solomon, the Jezebel of Israel. In Isaiah, we read about the apocalyptic Seraphim, and in Ezekiel, the Cherubim. In Joel we read about the locusts, the beasts of Daniel and the horses of Zechariah.

If we will but take time to read these Old Testament truths, we can see more clearly the use of symbols in Revelation which are related in many cases to ancient Hebrew examples.

Since it is truth we are concerned about, I cannot pass into another field of thought without pointing out that the Apostle Peter experienced, in a vision, a revelation in symbolic order which we will do well to study for a better approach to use of symbols in our study. Peter, in his vision, saw as it were a sheet knit at the

four corners, let down from heaven, containing all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean. And the voice spake unto him again the second time, what God hath cleansed, that call not thou common. This was done thrice; and the vessel was received again up into heaven.

Now we must understand that this was to prepare Peter for a call to go preach the gospel to the gentile household of Cornelius. Notice, that which was shown Peter by symbol, revealed to him that God was no respecter of persons. Let's study the symbols.

You can see readily that if we interpret this literally, or let's say if Peter had interpreted this vision literally, the only lesson that I see he could have gained from it would have been that God no longer restricted the Jews to the eating of clean beasts, for he commanded Peter to kill, and eat, or partake of all. But isn't it a fact that through this vision Peter was able to perceive that there was no respect of persons with God? Also, if we try to interpret this vision literally, we would be forced to the conclusion that all living creatures that Peter saw in the sheet are now in heaven, for they were received up into heaven.

What then was the lesson: Peter was a Jew and had grown up in the teaching that only the natural seed of Abraham were respected of God, and that the Gentiles were disregarded. To the Apostle Peter, only a certain class of these creatures were clean and he could not accept them all in general, but God assured him that they were clean in his eyes, and that there was no difference. So, by this vision Peter was made to understand something he had never understood. It had been veiled or covered to him.

Let's go a little deeper and reach back in Isaiah the eleventh chapter, and examine some more symbols that so many try to interpret literally. See Isaiah 11:6, 7 "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw

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**SPEAK OUT FOR JESUS**

You talk about your business,

Your bonds and stocks and gold;  
And in all worldly matters

You are so brave and bold.

But why are you so silent

About salvation's plan?

Why don't you speak out for Jesus,

And speak out like a man?

You talk about the weather,

And the crops of corn and wheat;

You speak of friends and neighbors

That pass along the street;

You call yourself a Christian,

And like the gospel plan—

Then why not speak for Jesus,

And speak out like a man?

Are you ashamed of Jesus

And the story of the cross,

That you lower His pure banner

And let it suffer loss?

Have you forgot His suffering?

Did He die for you in vain?

If not, then live and speak for Jesus,

And speak out like a man,

I'd like to tell the story sweet

Of Jesus. Wouldn't you?

To help some other folks to meet

Their Saviour. Wouldn't you?

I'd like to travel all the way

To where I'd hear my Jesus say:

"You've helped my work along today."

I'd like that. Wouldn't you?

### ORDINATION HELD AT SUMMER SHADE, KY.

An ordination was held at the Summer Shade Missionary Baptist Church, Summer Shade, Ky., on Sunday afternoon, May 21. Bro. Lanos Isenberg and Bro. Earl Ford were ordained as Deacons.

Elder Gerald Cherry, pastor of the church, served as moderator. Elder C. B. Huddleston was clerk. Deacon James McWherter introduced the candidates and Elder Barlow Page led the interrogation. The sermon was preached by Elder Evans Strode. Elder Oscar Meredith prayed the ordination prayer and Elder C. B. Huddleston gave charges to the newly ordained deacons and to the church. The Bible was presented by Deacon James McWherter.

The presbytery was composed of brethren from the following churches: Missionary Mound, Lone Star, Hagan's Grove, Sulphur Fork, Union No. 1 and Summer Shade.

**Missionary Reports**

(Continued from Page 2)

I let them read the Scriptures in the English, and I help them in their pronunciation, but at the same time I try to give them some Gospel. I'm rather sure that most of them just come for English. However, in the past there have been young people who came to us just for help in their English, but the Word of God convicted their hearts, and they were saved. So it is worth the time and trouble to try to help them in one respect that they might be benefited in another. One man and his wife have started coming to our Sunday night service, who are new comers, they don't come to the English services at all; so I suppose they are altogether interested in hearing about the Lord. Dear Friends, please pray for these lost and benighted souls. They do need the Saviour so much, as well as all others who don't know Him.

Brother Tajima will come to Tokuyama today, as he does on Thursday of each week, and we plan to go out looking for a place to stretch our tent for a tent meeting. We also plan to go to a small island over in the Inland Sea for handing out Bibles and tracts to the inhabitants of the island. There are hundreds of these small islands which have from a hundred or so to several hundred people living on them. We want to visit these islands and carry the Gospel to the people there. I guess our trip today will be primarily to view the situation and then go back later and take supplies. We request all of our friends to pray for us as we try to spread the Word of God. Please pray for Annie Laura and myself and all missionaries whom the Lord has called and sent to the difficult field.

Sincerely in His Name,

Henry and Annie Laura Smith

### FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FIRST QUARTER — 1967

**JANUARY**

McFerrin Baptist Church	\$166.85
Lafayette Baptist Church	37.66
Shiloh Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill.	20.00
Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, Pleasant Shade, Tenn.	12.75
Prater's Creek Baptist Church, Pickens, S. C.	20.00
Hopewell Baptist Church, Scottsville, Ky.	16.00
East Main Baptist, Harts-ville, Tenn.	55.00
Faith Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.	30.00

\$357.53

**FEBRUARY**

McFerrin Church, Nashville, Tenn.	\$108.63
Old Pleasant Point Church, Ingle, Ky.	42.00
Shiloh Church, Chicago, Ill.	20.00
Siloam Church, Westmoreland, Tenn.	32.00
Becker Drive Church, Louisville, Ky.	10.00
Old Union Church, Bowling Green, Ky.	131.04
Fellowship Church, Indianapolis, Ind.	25.00
Parkwood Church, Nashville, Tenn.	241.41
Beckwith Church, Mt. Juliet, Tenn.	25.00
Bethel Church, Toledo, Ohio	27.38
Mt. Tabor Church, Pleasant Shade, Tenn.	15.21
Concord Church, White House, Tenn.	34.78
Beech Bottom Church, Lafayette, Tenn.	17.02
	<hr/> \$730.49

**MARCH**

McFerrin Church, Nashville, Tenn.	\$110.46
West End Church, Gallatin, Tenn.	52.10
Faith Church, Nashville, Tenn.	30.00
Friendly Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.	58.00
Lyons Church, Louisville, Ky.	50.00
Becker Drive Church, Louisville, Ky.	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Smith, Hendersonville, Tenn.	25.00
Shiloh Church, Chicago, Ill.	20.00
Willete Church, Lafayette, Tenn.	24.59
Bethel Church, Indianapolis, Ind.	22.50
Mt. Tabor Church, Pleasant Shade, Tenn.	11.87
Salem Church, Fonthill, Ky.	30.99
Brother Dewey Cooper, Russell Springs, Ky.	100.00
New Bethel Church, Goodlettsville, Tenn.	25.32
Faith Church, Nashville, Tenn.	30.00
Lafayette Church, Lafayette, Tenn.	29.30
	<hr/> \$608.17

## INTRODUCTION TO REVELATION

(Continued from Page 2)  
like the ox."

Now a literal interpretation of this teaches the coming of a time when this will literally happen; that is, the lion will be gentle and the wolf will be tame, and there will be no fear of the wild beasts, and even the child will lead them around and play with them as they would the kitten or puppy dog. Also, that the lion will actually live on straw, as does the ox.

Now, since this was a vision, it was apocalyptic or pictorial prophecy, using symbols to reveal to Peter the future state of both Jew and Gentile, so Isaiah also uses animals as symbols as God did to Peter.

To the Apostle Peter, the clean beasts represented the Jew, and the unclean beasts represented the Gentile. Using the same method of interpretation, what does Isaiah teach us? My answer is, the very same lesson as taught Peter.

I would like to show you that this simply teaches the bringing together of both Jew and Gentile under the gospel dispensation with equal benefits. Please notice the order in verse 6, The wolf (gentile) shall dwell with the lamb (Jew), and the leopard (Gentile) shall lie down with the kid (Jew); and the calf (Jew) and the young lion (Gentile) and the fatling (Jew) together; and a little child shall lead them. (Under the New Covenant God said that they all shall know me from the least unto the greatest.) Therefore, the little child is the young Christian who shall lead them

Now verse 7, and the cow (Jew) and the bear (Gentile) shall feed; their young shall lie down together; and the lion (Gentile) shall eat straw like the ox (cow). 1. Is it possible for anyone to study this through and not be able to see that it was not accidental that a clean beast and an unclean beast were joined together in each case? Therefore, the inevitable conclusion is that it is prophecy of the bringing in the Gentile after the gospel was first preached to the Jew. So this is what I mean by determining the meaning of symbols and interpreting them according to their meaning.

You will notice in the first chapter of this book (Revelation) that Jesus takes the symbols, seven stars, seven golden candlesticks, as well as Alpha

and Omega and tells us in plain words their meaning, but he leaves the other symbols in the book for our study.

Truly, we are entering into the study of a book of symbolic imagery, and we are under the same obligation to rightly divide it as any other book of the Bible. I do not desire to stand before the judgment of God having added to or taken from the words of this prophecy.

There are three things we must not overlook concerning this revelation. John was told in Rev. 1:19 "Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter."

That which John saw, of course, was this vision, in which he was shown the things which were at that time, and that which was to be thereafter. He saw the revelation of our glorified Lord in his relation to the churches and pastors as respecting their commission as light bearers. He saw the state of the churches here upon earth at that time. Chapters 2-3. He saw the revelation of the throne of grace revealed in chapters 4-5. The things to come to pass hereafter revealed from chapter 6 to the end.

## REVIVAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FIRST SUNDAY--JULY

Fairview Memorial Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. Pastor W. T. Russell is to be assisted by Elder C. D. Miller.

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, Simpson Co., Ky. Pastor C. W. Borden is to be assisted by Elder Raymond Hargis.

White Hill Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, Tenn. Pastor William House is to be assisted by Elder J. D. Birdwell.

Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, Boyce, Ky. Pastor Odell Willoughby is to be assisted by Elder H. C. Vanderpool.

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### SECOND SUNDAY--JULY

Cave Springs Baptist Church, Liberty, Tenn. Pastor Charles A. Gentry is to be assisted by Elder Bobby G. Sutton and Elder Charles Johnson is to be in charge of song service.

### THIRD SUNDAY--JULY

Enon Baptist Church, Macon Coun-

## BRO. MASSEY AND BRO. STEWART

(Continued from Page 1)

Church is located a short distance to the west. Bro. Massey pastored the church from 1913-1926, and Bro. Stewart from 1927-1945. Here in Drake's Creek they baptized hundreds into the fellowship of Old Union Church. The church continues to use this place for baptizing.

Bro. Massey and Bro. Stewart work together in many revivals. Their ministry was far reaching.

Bro. Stewart was born on May 9, 1887. He was converted on October 29, 1906. He soon united with Punchoon Camp Baptist Church and was baptized by Elder Bud Crowder. He was ordained to the ministry by Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Allen County, Ky. on Friday before the third Sunday in February, 1915. During his ministry he pastored 37 churches. He died at his home near Holland, Ky. on August 22, 1956. He was 69.

Bro. Massey was born June 16, 1867. He was converted at Rocky Mound Baptist Church, Macon County, Tenn., on January 11, 1888. He united with this church and was baptized by Elder Joe S. Meador. He was ordained to the ministry by Rocky Mound Church on June 10, 1899. He pastored 33 churches during his ministry, and was Moderator of Enon Baptist Association for 40 years. He was a member of the Masonic Fraternity at Lafayette, Tenn. No. 543. He did much writing for religious papers and was a strong debater. He died on October 18, 1957, at his home in Pleasant Shade, Tenn. He was 90.

ty, Tenn. Pastor Floyd Ferguson is to be assisted by Elder Curtis Carter.

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Union Baptist Church No. 1, Fountain Run, Ky. Pastor Wendall Froedge is to be assisted by Elder Emmett Strode.

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Old Union Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. Pastor H. C. Vanderpool is to be assisted by Elder L. W. Smith, and Bro. Duncan Houchens is to be in charge of song services.

### FOURTH SUNDAY--JULY

Baptist Mission, Alexandria School Auditorium, Alexandria, Tenn. Preaching by Elders Tommy C. Ashford, L. O. Barclay and J. C. Dirting.