

Baptist Banner

ELD. H. C. VANDERPOOL
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BOWLING GREEN, KY 42101
MAY 70

Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Psalms 60:4

VOL. 4

Tompkinsville, Ky., December, 1969

Number 4

Report From Missionaries In Israel

P. O. Box 266
Ramallah, Israel
November 5, 1969

Dear Brother Vanderpool and Friends:

We send to you all our greetings once again from the land of Israel. Health wise, we seem to be doing well, and our spiritual blessings are many. Our faith is often tested, but this brings blessings too. "That the trial of your faith being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 1:7. I lost several pounds of my weight since coming here, but for the last few days I seem to be gaining a little of it back. I guess there are adjustments that have to be made, and there is nothing else to do but take things as they come. One thing is sure, that the Lord won't put any more on His people than what they can bear, with His help.

I am studying Arabic two days a week, and I believe that is about all of that that I should take on. I have been wanting to find a Hebrew teacher, or a language school where I can study Hebrew the rest of the time that I have left over for study. I learned yesterday of a place where they have Hebrew classes for people like me: and I am going right away to inquire about it. The classes for the winter starts November 26. So, I have time to get in the winter classes.

The weather is getting rather chilly in Ramallah, and I am a little surprised that it gets so chilly this early in the fall. We intend to go to Jerusalem tomorrow for buying a German made kerosene, circulating heater. The Arab pastor here lent us a gas space heater for the time, but it isn't enough heat when it gets colder. And there is a possibility that gas will run short because, for one reason, in the war some of the supply lines have been blown up; and the Arabs have been sending some of the empty

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THE SHEPHERD'S FIELD



The Shepherd's Field near Bethlehem, Judaea

Resolution Adopted By Baptist Associations

In their 1969 annual sessions, the Enon Baptist Association met at Lafayette, Tennessee, the Siloam Baptist Association met at Detroit, and the Wiseman Baptist Association at Nashville. A RESOLUTION was adopted by all three Associations. The recommendation was made to each church. Some churches have already adopted the resolution which is given below:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, at the General Association of Missionary Baptists which met in Nashville, Tenn. on Saturday, March 29, 1969, a resolution was adopted respecting some irregularities existing within Baptist churches on our boundaries, and

WHEREAS, the points of this resolution being strict adherence to and scriptural
(Continued on page 2)

By H. C. Vanderpool

Above is the picture of the field near Bethlehem known as the Shepherd's Field. It was here that the shepherds were watching their flocks when the angel announced the birth of Jesus. Let's listen to the message as Luke tells it in the Bible:

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

"And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:8-11).

It was a joy and inspiration for me and others to be privileged to visit this place a few months ago. Due to other articles and the work schedule I had this month, I'm not writing a regular article on the Bible Lands Tour this month. This will be resumed next month, the Lord willing.

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Revival Reports

Friendship Baptist Church, Allen County, Ky., Pastor Billy Johnson was assisted by Elder W. T. Russell. Good fellowship.

Dixon Creek Baptist Church, Trousdale County, Tennessee, five professions of faith and six additions to the church. Pastor F. W. Lambert was assisted by Elder W. T. Russell.

Lyons Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky. Good meeting and fellowship. Pastor L. W. Smith was assisted by Elder H. C. Vanderpool.

Fairview Memorial Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. Two professions of faith and three additions to the church. Preaching by the pastor, Elder W. T. Russell.

McFerrin Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn. One addition to the church. Pastor A. G. Gregory was assisted by Elder Howard G. Taylor.

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The Theology of John the Baptist

(An Outline Survey)

John, the first Baptist, believed and taught a good deal more Baptist (Bible) doctrine than is commonly attributed to him. Some have even tried to call his baptism "pre-Christian" or "sub-Christian." If that were true, then the baptism of Christ was not Christian baptism—an absurdity beyond reason. Consider the following list of doctrines from the ministry of John as stated in Scripture, and decide for yourself.

John believed in:

1. the necessity of preaching—Matt. 3:1;
2. repentance—Matt. 3:2, 8, 11;
3. the Kingdom—Matt. 3:2;
4. faith ("at hand" points forward, a sign of faith)—Matt. 3:2, Acts 19:4;
5. inspiration of Scripture—Matt. 3:3, Luke 3:2, John 1:17;
6. the Messiah (Christ, Anointed One of God)—Matt. 3:3, 11, and 11:3;
7. the immersion of accountable, confessing individuals on divine authority—Matt. 3:6, 11, and 21:24-27, Mark 1:5, John 1:6, 33, and 3:23;
8. public confession of sins—Mt. 3:6;
9. the fact of sin—Matt. 3:6-7.
10. the worthlessness of an impersonal religion—Matt. 3:7, 9;
11. coming judgment—Mt. 3:7, 10, 11, 12;
12. the necessity of fruits of a righteous life before baptism—Matt. 3:8;
13. the omnipotence of God—Matt. 3:9;
14. the Holy Spirit—Matt. 3:11;
15. the baptism in the Holy Spirit to be performed by Christ—Mt. 3:11;
16. eternal punishment of the lost (hell)—Matt. 3:12;
17. the importance of truth even in times of testing—Mt. 14:3-12;
18. discipleship (following to be a learner)—Matt. 11:2, 14:12;
19. the necessity of high moral standards for all—Mt. 14:3-4, 21:32;
20. the gospel of Jesus Christ, His death, burial, and resurrection—Mark 1:1;
21. the remission of sin—Mark 1:4 (upon repentance, not upon baptism; else why demand fruits before baptism?);
22. salvation—Luke 3:6;
23. prayer—Luke 11:1;
24. social justice and honesty—Luke 3:10-14;
25. the pre-existence of Christ—John 1:15; 30;
26. grace—John 1:16-17;
27. God a Spirit—John 1:18;
28. Christ is one with God, and He has shown us God—John 1:18, 34;
29. atonement—John 1:29, 36;
30. communion with God—John 1:33 (see Luke 11:1);
31. the helplessness of man—John 3:27;
32. the bride of Christ—Jn. 3:29;
33. witnessing—John 5:33, 35.

Do you believe as much of the truth of God as John did?—Baptist Bible College Herald.

Resolution Adopted

(Continued from page 1)

observance of the two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, and WHEREAS, it is a known practice in some Baptist churches to receive candidates for baptism by what they call accepting Christ or making a decision, with repentance no longer a requirement neither an experience of grace, and

WHEREAS, we are convinced that old-fashioned Baptists in belief and practice are being inconsistent when we continue to correspond with these churches which we consider out of order in their practice and cannot and will not conscientiously work with these churches in their meetings on their terms of practice. Yet, we virtually endorse their practice when we seat them in our meetings, receive their letters, invite them to observe the Lord's Supper with us as well as recognize and seat them in our association, and

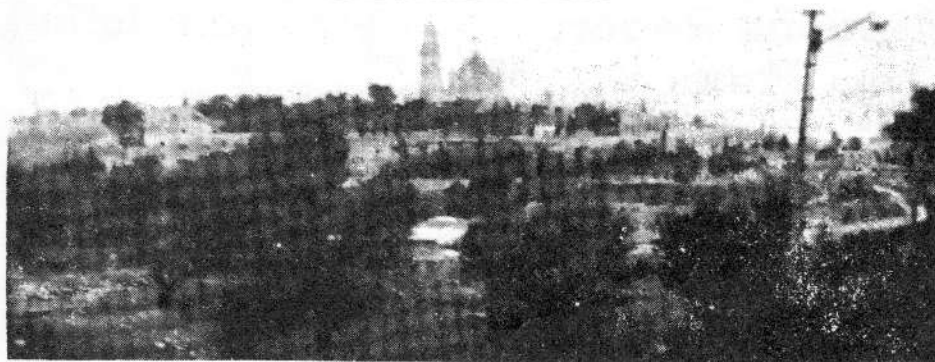
WHEREAS, due to this inconsistency on our part we feel that many young Christians as well as outsiders are confused and wonder why we contend for the old-fashioned altar, believe in genuine repentance and an experimental knowledge of salvation, and require every candidate for baptism to tell publicly of his or her travels from nature to grace, when at the same time we continue to correspond with these churches whose practice we condemn, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That we show the world that we are determined to be consistent in faith and in order, in doctrine and practice.
2. That we acknowledge that we have neglected to adhere strictly to the phrase, "of the same faith and order" in our correspondence with other Baptist churches.
3. That we make inquiry into the practice of churches, about which we do not know, as to their requirements of candidates for baptism upon receiving and granting letters.
4. That each candidate for membership in our churches be required to give evidence of a change of heart (an experience of grace) regardless of how they come to us, by letter, credit of letter or for baptism.
5. That we refrain from seating in our association, and in our business meetings, members of churches which we regard as out of order in practice.
6. That we refuse to correspond with churches which are out of order in practice, neither take letters from, nor grant letters to go to them.
7. This is recommended to our churches.

Common honesty would suggest that those who do not believe in Christ should not take commercial advantage of the Christmas season.

BETHLEHEM



O, Little Town Of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep,
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark street shineth,
The ever lasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years,
Are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem!
Descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today!
We hear the Christmas angels,
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Im-man-u-el!

PIGS

A farmer took care of some business at a neighboring estate and was asked to stay for lunch. His host and hostess began to eat immediately, but the farmer bowed his head and gave thanks to God for his food.

"Do many of the people around here still follow such an old-fashioned custom?" asked the host, smiling indulgently.

"Most do," the farmer replied.

"This must be a more backward area than I thought," said the host. "Isn't there anyone nearby sufficiently enlightened not to parade their prayers at the table?"

The farmer thought a moment and replied. "Well, I reckon there are some over at my place who don't pray over their food."

"College graduates, no doubt."

"Nope," said the farmer, "Pigs."

Baptist Instructor.

Send Christmas Offerings To Missionaries



Bro. James Vance
Address:
Postal Apdo. 1901
Guadalajara
Jalisco, Mexico



Bro. Henry Smith
Address:

P. O. Box 266
Ramallah, Israel

GOD'S LOVE

By: Mrs. Lueree Brown

Your love is more beautiful
Than rainbows etched in gold;
More cleansing than raindrops
The leaves catch and hold.
More refreshing than dewdrops
In the morn's early dawn;
As radiant as sunbeams
As gentle as the fawn.

Your love means more to me
Than earthly goods or worldly pleasures;
You give your love freely to all
To hold and to treasure.
It is meant to be shared
For the poor it holds wealth;
Your love means more to me
Than — life itself.

Your love is an anchor
In troubled times and changing worlds;
It gives hope and peace of mind
As time unfurls.
It is continuous
As the river's flowing tide;
Your love is eternal
May we use it as a guide.

Wiseman Baptist Association Met In 78th Session

The Wiseman Baptist Association convened in its 78th annual session on October 24, 25 and 26, with Faith Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.

Officers elected were: Elder F. L. Ray, Moderator; Elder W. T. Russell, Clerk; Elder A. G. Gregory, Treasurer.

Elder H. D. Linville preached the Introductory Sermon on Friday. On the second day, Elder Howard G. Taylor delivered the Memorial Sermon. Elder W. T. Russell preached the Doctrinal Sermon on Sunday.

Sunday Schools, Prayer Meetings, Orphans' Home, Christian Education, Church Discipline, Financing the Lord's Work, and Missions were some of the subjects discussed during the three-day session.

The Association is to meet with Gateway Baptist Church, Donelson, Tenn., in 1970.

Was The Church In Existence Before Pentecost?

Everything essential to a Scriptural church was in existence before Pentecost

1. Jesus was a King before Pentecost. John 18:37.

2. His kingdom suffered before Pentecost, Matt. 11:12.

3. Men pressed into the kingdom before Pentecost, Luke 16:16.

4. Some hindered others from entering the kingdom before Pentecost, Matt. 23:13.

5. There was an ordained ministry before Pentecost, Mark 3:13-14.

6. There was a commission to preach before Pentecost, Luke 9:1-6.

7. They were authorized to baptize fore Pentecost, John 4:2.

8. They had the Lord's Supper before Pentecost, Luke 22:19.

9. They had a rule of discipline before Pentecost, Matt. 18:15-17.

10. They had the gospel before Pentecost, Matt. 24:14, Mark 1:1.

11. Jesus said there was no doubt about its real existence before Pentecost, Luke 11:20.

12. Peter said that the company had existed from the baptism of John, Acts 1:21.

13. The Lord's kingdom thus begun shall have no end, Luke 1:33.

14. All power of authority was in Jesus hands before Pentecost, Matt. 28:18-20.

15. The Bridegroom had His bride before Pentecost, John 3:28-29.

16. All things had been given into Christ's hands before Pentecost, Jno. 13:3-4.

17. When Jesus left the world, He left His "House" and gave His servants "a work to do" and "authority" and commanded them watch, for they know not when the Master of the House cometh Mark 13:31-37. Now, I Timothy 3:15, reads, "The house is the church." If the house is the church as the Bible says, and Jesus "left his house" when He ascended, then the church was in existence when Jesus left the world and before Pentecost.

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.

Missions Report From Mexico

Guadalajara, Jalisco
November, 1969

Dear Friends:

We are happy to report that we are still well for which we thank God, as there is much sickness here at the present time. As we continue to study and learn the language, the desire gets stronger each day to begin work on a more permanent basis. It is imperative, however, that we learn the language before we can accomplish very much. God has richly blessed us here, in that although we have had no opportunity to preach in public, we have opportunities to witness daily to people here. It is our hope that soon we will be able to preach in Spanish and can begin holding services in our home. To this end, we beg everyone to pray, as we need the prayers of God's people very much here.

Following is a report of our financial receipts for Sept. & Oct.

Caney Fork, 70.35; South Carthage, Sunday School, (Young Adult Class), 50.00; Lucious Reed Family, 60.00; Lois Vance, 25.00; Fannie Vance, 50.00; A.J. Grisham & Family, 50.00; J. B. Taylor & Family, 20.00; Elder James Gibbs & Family, 10.00; James Whited & Family, 5.00; G. S. Whited & Family, 7.50; Pipers Chapel, 28.00; White Hill, 50.00; Mr. and Mrs. George Woodard, 5.00; Fairview Baptist Church, (Ky.), 63.38; North Carthage, 85.20; Miss Vickie Reed, 2.00; Mrs. Annie D. Manning, 20.00; Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Winfrey, 10.00; TOTAL \$611.43

We thank everyone for the support that has been given and beg that you continue to pray for us.

Your servant in Christ,

James Vance

Report From Israel

(Continued from page 1)

bottles back to the Israelis for refills with explosives in them. So the Jews have been holding back their supply of gas. There is a very tense situation in this land and it gradually gets worse; and I don't think it will be any better until it gets much worse.

I went last Monday to inquire about our VW bus, and I learned that I don't have to pay the 150 percent tax which I heard I would have to pay. I don't have to pay any tax when I buy, but at the end of one year I must pay a 25 percent of the value of the vehicle, and that is all. They have changed the law on imported cars. So, I am very pleased about this, and truly I thank the Lord.

I desire very much to start a work at some point, but I must seek the Lord's will very earnestly in this matter; and I am requesting all of our friends to join us in prayer about this. I know, and you know, that when the Lord directs and opens a door no man can shut it (Revelations 3:8). Please remember to pray for the Jewish girl about whom I wrote before; she is ill now, and we have been making it a special occasion of prayer. She has been on our hearts very heavily.

Sincerely in Jesus Name

Henry and Annie L. Smith

Intercessory Prayer

You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer
And even say "I".

You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer
And even once say "my."

Nor can you pray the Lord's Prayer
And not pray for one another

For when you ask for daily bread
You must include the brother

For others are included in each and every
plea.

From the beginning to the end of it,
It does not once say me. (copied)

BIBLE LANDS PILGRIMAGE

March 3-12, 1970

\$570

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