

Baptist Banner

ELD. H. C. VANDERPOOL MAY70
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Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Psalms 60:4

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NAZARETH



Missionary Report From Israel

December 8, 1969

Dear Brother Vanderpool and Friends:

We send our warmest greetings to all of you from Israel in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our health seems to be fairly good at this time, and we thank the dear Lord for this and for all His many blessings that He bestows on us daily. The weather is fine, still fairly warm, just cold enough that we need a little heat. There isn't as much rain this year as is usually, and therefore the sun stays out most of the time during the day.

The situation gets rather explosive in this part of the world at times, but we feel safe in the Lord. We had an incident very near our house a few days back. A terrorist threw a hand grenade at an

(Continued on Page 4)

Editor's Father-In-Law Dies At Age 63

The editor's father-in-law, Bro. Audon M. Maynard, a Baptist minister, died with a heart attack at his home in Algood, Tenn., on October 25, 1969, at the age of 63. He had been in poor health for some time.

Funeral services were conducted on Sunday, October 26, at 3:00 P.M. at Caney Fork Baptist Church in Smith County, Tenn., of which he was a member, by Elders James Gibbs, Kenneth Massey and L. W. Smith. Burial was in the Vanderpool Cemetery, Smith County.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Audie Maynard; one son, Atwell Maynard, Nashville, Tenn.; three daughters, Mrs. Ralph Davis, Athens, Tenn., Mrs. Bob Johnson, Livingston, Tenn., Mrs. H. C. Vanderpool, Bowling Green, Ky.; two brothers, Addison Maynard, Allons, Tenn., Olen Maynard, Manchester, Tenn.; two sisters, Mrs. Walter Zachery, Allons, Tenn., Mrs. Lindsay Sullivan, Akron, Ohio. Six grandchildren.

Editor Reports On Bible Lands Tour

By: H. C. Vanderpool

(In previous issues of the BANNER I have given brief reports on our Bible Lands Tour last March. The days of March 3 through 11, have been reported. I begin in this issue with the 10th day - March 12). Editor

March 12, 1969. This is Wednesday morning and we had just spent our last night in Jerusalem. We journey north to Samaria and lower Galilee. We stopped near Sychar at the foot of Mt. Gerizim.

Here was one of our most interesting experiences as we went to Jacob's Well and had a drink from this Biblical and historical place. (John 4:1-30).

We saw the tomb of Joseph, Mount Ebal, Sebastia (ancient Samaria) and then traveled on north to Nazareth. Here we had a delicious lunch before touring the city. The population of Nazareth is 30,000. From here we go to Cana of Galilee (John 2:1-11). Late in the afternoon we went to the southern end of the Sea of Galilee and the Jordan River.

(Remember that it would take several pages to give full details of the days spent here and our experiences. Due to space we can't do this. But in my book, TRAVEL WITH ME THROUGH BIBLE LANDS, full coverage is given with many pictures. This book is being printed by Carlton Press, New York and the release date will be announced later. Price: \$3.50).

We make our way up to Tiberias which is located on the west coast of the Sea of Galilee. We checked in at Hotel Ginton and Bro L. W. Smith and I were assigned to Room 24 on the first floor.

Thursday, March 13, 1969. After breakfast, we took our bus down to the Sea of Galilee. Here we loaded onto a large boat and took a ride across the Sea to the northwest side to the ancient site of Capernaum. I can't put into words just what this experience meant to me. From this area we could see to the north of us the snow-capped Mt. Hermon. We continued on and passed the Mount of Beatitudes (Matt. 5, 6, 7).

Traveling northeast on the Damascus
(Continued on Page 4)

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Notice

Anyone planning to go on the Bible
Lands Pilgrimage, March 3, and have not
yet made reservation, should do so before
January 20. Those who have made res-
ervations will receive full information
soon and all details concerning this trip
of a lifetime. See page 4 for final
announcement. — Editor

We Shall Mount Up As With Wings of Eagles

C. A. Darst, St. Louis

"But they that wait upon the Lord
shall renew their strength; they shall
mount up with wings as eagles; they shall
run, not be weary; and they shall walk,
not faint." (Isa. 41:31).

The word of God offers many meta-
phors and similes, which help us to
understand some spiritual lessons. There
are the metaphors of "sheep," "salt,"
"light," "branches," "soldiers," "leaven,"
etc. In this text a man of God, with
faith in God, is compared to the greatest
of fowls of the air — the eagle.

FACTS ABOUT THE EAGLE

The eagle is a bird of superb strength,
keenness of sight, and has marvelous
powers of flight. It is a bird of courage,
and soars higher than any other creature
of the air. The eagle has a wing span of
seven to eight feet tip to tip. Some of
these fowls live a century. It is also
noteworthy that the U. S. uses the eagle
as an emblem.

I. THE EAGLE IS NOTED FOR ITS STRENGTH

The eagle is the strongest of fowls.
It is able to carry away sheep, and it has

been known to carry away babies. Its
seven to eight foot wing span and great
long claws gives it great power.

Christians, likewise, are to be strong.
We are to be strong in the Lord, strong in
our belief of God's word, strong in our
convictions. The Psalmist said, "A wise
man is strong, yea a man of knowledge
increaseth strength." (Psa. 24:5). Paul,
in Gal. 6:9, says, "Be not weary in well
doing."

II. THE EAGLE IS NOTED FOR ITS FARSIGHTEDNESS

The world book speaks of its keenness
of sight. It is alert to spot its prey, or to
sense danger. The Christian too, should
be of foresight. Here is where his faith
comes in. This faith comes to the
Christian on his knees. There is a motto
that says, "The Christian on his knees can
see farther than the philosopher on tip
toes." Stephen was a man who had
"eagle eyes." He had a vision of God.
At last he saw the Lord at God's right
hand. There was Daniel with "eagle eyes."
He opened his window which was in the
direction of Jerusalem, and prayed. No
one can doubt the results of that prayer.
We need such faith. We should be men
of God with "eagle eyes."

III. THE EAGLE RISES ABOVE THE WORLD'S OBSTACLES

The eagle soars higher than any other
fowl of the air. It flies far above the
trees, power lines, etc., far above the

(Continued on Page 4)

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Bro. Henry Smith
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Ramallah, Israel

Peter's Tomb Was Recently Discovered In Jerusalem

By Paul F. Patterson

While visiting a friend in Switzerland, I heard of what seemed to me to be the greatest discovery since the time of Christ — that Peter was buried in Jerusalem and not in Rome. The source of this rumor, written in Italian, was not clear; and it left considerable room for doubt, or rather wonder. Rome was the place where I could investigate the matter; and if such proved encouraging, a trip even to Jerusalem might be necessary in order to gather valuable first-hand information on the subject.

I therefore went to Rome. After talking to a number of priests and investigating various possible sources of information, I finally was greatly rewarded by learning where I could buy the only known book on the subject, which was written in Italian. It is called *Gli Soavi del "Dominus Flevit,"* printed in 1958 at the Tipografia dei PP. Francescani in Jerusalem. It was written by P. B. Bagatti and J. T. Milik, both Roman Catholic priests.

The story of the discovery was there, but it was purposely hidden and much was lacking, it seemed to me. I consequently determined to go to Jerusalem to see for myself, if possible, that which seemed to me almost unbelievable, especially since it came from priests, who naturally, from existing ideas concerning the tomb of Peter, would be the last ones to welcome such a discovery or to bring it to the attention of the world.

In Jerusalem, I spoke to many Franciscan priests, who all agreed that the bones of Simon Bar Jona (St. Peter) were found in Jerusalem on the Mount of Olives, on the Franciscan monastery site, called *"Dominus Flevit"* (meaning "Jesus Wept").

The pictures, reproduced in my book, which I had a photographer take, show the story. One of the photographs shows an excavation where the names of Christian Biblical characters were found written on bone boxes. The names of Mary and Martha were found on one bone box, and right next to it was one with the name of Lazarus, their brother, written on it. Other names of early Christians were found on other boxes.

Of greatest interest, however, was that which was found within

twelve feet from the place where the bones of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus were found—THE REMAINS OF ST. PETER. They were found in a bonebox, on the outside of which was clearly and beautifully written in Aramaic, "SIMON BAR JONA."

I also spoke to a Franciscan priest in authority in the priest's printing plant within the walls of old Jerusalem, where the book on the subject was printed. He also admitted that the tomb of St. Peter is in Jerusalem.

Then, when I was visiting the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, I encountered a Franciscan monk. After declaring to him what a wonderful discovery the Franciscans had made, the discovery of the tomb of St. Peter, I asked him plainly, "Do you folks really believe that those are the bones of St. Peter?" He replied, "Yes, we do. We have no choice in the matter. The clear evidence is there."

Then I asked, "So Father Bagatti (co-writer of the book on the subject, and archaeologist) really believes that those are the bones of St. Peter?" "Yes, he does," he responded. Then I asked, "But what does the Pope think of all this?"

"Well," he answered, "Father Bagatti told me personally that three years ago he went to the Pope in Rome and showed him the evidence, and the Pope said to him, 'Well, we will have to make some changes, but for the time being, let us keep this thing quiet.'"

Then I said, "So the Pope (Pius XII) really believed that those were the bones of St. Peter?" "Yes," was his answer, "The documentary evidence is there; he could not help believing."

To Protestants, it matters little where Peter's body was buried, since they know he himself is in Heaven. But for the adherents of the Catholic Church to build their superstructure on Peter and to claim that he was their first Pope in Rome and that he was martyred and buried there, is a very unstable foundation. The Bible says in 1 Cor. 3:11, "Other foundations can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

"Also, it is written, 'Cursed be man that trusteth in man.' I am reminded of a story which an expriest

told me in Scotland. A discussion over religion with a Protestant caused him to study the Bible and to think seriously about his beliefs. Finally he found salvation through Christ and then left the priesthood.—American Baptist

What Does A Pastor Do ?

The pastor teaches, though he must solicit his own classes. He heals, though without pills and knife.

He is sometimes a lawyer, often a social worker, something of an editor; a bit of a philosopher and entertainer, a salesman.

He's a decorative piece for public functions; he is supposed to be a scholar.

He visits the sick, marries people buries the dead, labors to console those who sorrow. He admonishes those who sin and tries to stay sweet when chided for not doing his duty.

He plans programs, appoints committees—when he can get them; spends considerable time keeping people out of each other's hair.

Between times he prepares a sermon and preaches it on Sunday to those who don't happen to have any other engagement. Then on Monday he smiles when some jovial chap roars, what a job—one day a week!

—Author Unknown

LEANING ON THEE

Lord, who am I to teach the way
To little children day by day
So prone myself to go astray.

I teach them knowledge, but I know
How faint the flicker and how slow
The candles of my knowledge glow.

I teach them power to will and do
But only now to learn anew
My own great weakness thru and thru.

I teach them love for all mankind
And all God's creatures, but I find
My love comes lagging far behind.

Lord, if thou guide I still must be
Oh, let the little children see
The teacher leaning hard on Thee.

Report From Missionary

(Continued from Page 1)

Israeli, military vehicle and wounded one soldier and twenty-three Arabs. We heard the explosion from our place and saw all the people come running home, having closed all their shops in the area. A curfew was imposed for four days, but everything is back to normal now. Some of our friends tell us that they are getting use to all this and don't think too much about it any more.

I haven't bought the VW bus yet. I am trying to decide what to do, because there is some problem about it in living here in this occupied territory. If I buy it while living in Ramallah, or having our mailing address here, they will issue me Ramallah license plates for this area, and I will be restricted to a certain area, and if I want to go outside of occupied territory I would have to get a permit. In other words, I can't be free to drive just anywhere in the country. The dealer told me, however, that if I could establish an address in Jerusalem they could give Jerusalem license, and then I could drive anywhere in the country freely. I tried to get a post office box in Jerusalem and receive our mail there, but they wouldn't let me have one when I told them where I am living. But I am going to keep trying to get something worked out so that I can get Jerusalem license. It may be that we would have to move there. We really need a car, and I do want to get the bus just as soon as possible. We request your prayers about this. The Lord knows what is best for us, and He can make everything right.

I am still studying languages part time and doing some preaching here at this Baptist church in Ramallah. The pastor, Brother Abu'Igal, and his wife are staying in Jericho for the winter. He comes back for the services on Sunday morning and Wednesday, but he asked me to preach on Sunday afternoon in English to those who can understand English. So I tried it last Sunday and we got by just fine. I will continue to preach at that hour on Sunday. I thank the Lord for such opportunities to be a witness for Him while I better prepare myself for other work. We are praying for the Lord's guidance as to where He would have us to get established in the work. Certainly we desire your prayers in this also. We thank all our friends who have been praying for us, sending us encouraging letters, and your offerings to supply our needs. God bless you, one and all.

Henry and Annie L. Smith

We Shall Mount Up

(Continued from Page 2)

obstacles of the world. The Christian is to keep his chin up, and his heart looking up. We should stay above the clouds of the world. "Set your affection on things above, not on things of the earth" (Col. 3:2). "They that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles..."

IV. THE EAGLE IS NOTED FOR ITS LONGEVITY

The eagle is known to have lived a century. This is a long time for a creature of the air. However, the born-again person shall live forever. The believer has eternal life now (John 5:24), and shall not come into condemnation. Paul said, "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23). The believer's life is without end, for we shall live with our Redeemer forever and ever.

Let us wait upon the Lord, for He shall renew our strength, and finally we shall mount up at His coming with wings as eagles. We shall soar higher than any other creature, even higher than the astronauts have gone or shall go.

—Missouri Missionary Baptist

Editor Reports

(Continued from Page 1)

road we crossed the Jordan River going on to the edge of the Golan Heights. We stopped for relaxation and refreshment and then went on to Baniyas (ancient Caesarea Philippi) Matt. 16-13.

We visited the headwaters of the Jordan River, went through the region of Dan and then to a Kibbutz community where we had lunch at one of their restaurants. In the afternoon we visited the mountain top city of Safed. From here we could view much of the Promised Land. The mountain sides were covered with some of the most beautiful flowers that I've ever seen. We returned back to our hotel in Tiberias for the night.

Friday, March 14, 1969. We say farewell to Tiberias after going down to the Hot Springs and turn north through the area of Magdala. Traveling west across Israel, we could see to the south of us the mountain range of Mt. Carmel. We arrive at the coastal city of Acre (Akko). We continue on down to Haifa on the Mediterranean Sea. We go up on Mt. Carmel from Haifa. What beautiful country! What an inspiration!

We had lunch on Mt. Carmel and then after touring the area, we journeyed south along the coast to Caesarea. This is where Cornelius and his household lived (Acts 10:1-48). From here we go to Joppa and back into Tel Aviv on the Mediterranean for the night at the Basel Hotel. (To be continued).

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