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

**VOLUME 13** 

GOODLETTSVILLE, TENN. 37072

MARCH, 1979

NUMBER 10

# A Dad Loses His Only Son But Regains His Faith

By GORDON HANSON

Pain was Billy's ever-present companion.

It delayed his falling asleep at night. It was with him through the long dark hours, and it was his first wakening awareness every morning.

For the last two of Billy's 11 years the pain had shadowed him. He grew thinner. His cheeks were drawn and his eyes haunted.

Billy's pain was the terrible aftermath of a tobogganing accident. He had been flipped from the rear of one toboggan and, as he was sitting in the snow, another toboggan came from behind and struck him in the back. A tumor developed on his spine, and it became cancerous.

Desperately Billy's parents sought a cure. Billy was their only child. There could be no more.

They took the boy from doctor to doctor, hoping one would say, "I think I can help him." But never was there any encouragement.

The search didn't end until the day an aging doctor in a small town far from Billy's home examined the boy.

"Billy will soon be free of pain," he said. "Soon he'll know it no longer."

Billy's mother knew what the doctor meant. She knew that soon Billy would die.

But his father refused that interpretation. In his grief he accepted only that Billy would live. He needed that belief, that faith, to keep going. He couldn't let the boy down. The lad needed his strength, and he needed his son's.

The week before Christmas Billy's fever rose. His pain worsened and only constant medication brought token relief Billy's mother had prepared herself. Deep in despair, she knew the time was soon.

But the father raged in his anguish. He ranted about the futility of it all . . . the cruelty of God and the pointlessness of taking a life so young. He had been misled in his religious teachings, he cried. Everything was a lie.

#### Dad Knows No Solace

The mother could minister only to the

(continued on page 3)



"WILLOWS OF THE BROOK." Across Jordan by way of the Allenby Bridge, and some miles east of the river, the road of ascent to the heights of Gilead winds through the Wady Sha'ib. In this valley masses of oleanders, the Biblical

"willows of the brook," flower in spring by the tumbling stream, their rose-pink a delight against the grey limestone of cliff and boulder. On the right of the photograph can be seen a tufted head of the tall "reed shaken with the wind".

# BIBLE LANDS PILGRIMAGE

By H.C. Vanderpool

(This is the fourth and final report in a series on our last Bible Lands Tour which was Oct. 30 - Nov. 10, 1978.) ---Editor

I closed my report last month with our last night in Jerusalem. That was Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Wednesday, November 8, 1978

We had just spent our last night in the Holy Land. We were up early, had breakfast, loaded our luggage onto our bus and left for the Jordan River where we would go back through customs, cross the Allenby Bridge into Jordan. We had a different guide from the one we had a few days past when we were in Jordan for one day and night. This time we had a jolly little Arab who seemed to enjoy life to the fullest and wished for us the same. He was Mr. Labri M. (Patience) Awadalla. After a rest stop just inside the Jordanian border, and receiving our lunches in bags which we would have to eat on our way, we

(Continued on page 2)

## Baptist History

The following excerpts are from "History of The Welch Baptists," By J. Davis, 1835.

"Baptism by immersion, administered to those who professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Welsh people considered the only baptism of the New Testament," p. 14

"On hearing this, Austin was exceedingly wroth, and persuaded the Saxons to murder one thousand and two hundred of the Welsh ministers and delegates, there present; and many more afterwards were put to death, because

### **Baptist Mission**

A new mission work has begun in Denver, Colorado. Bro. Luther Jent and wife along with several others are now meeting each week for services. At present they are waiting upon the Lord to lead a minister to them for this work. The weekly services now consist of prayer, singing and Bible Study. Anyone having friends or relatives living in that area are asked to contact them and inform them of the mission. Those desiring to get the information there may contact Bro. Jent as follows: Mr. Luther Jent, 45 Garfield St., Denver, Colorado 80206. If you wish to call him the number is: (303) 377-5050.

they would not submit to infant baptism."

"God had a regular chain of true and faithful witnesses in this country, in every age, from the first introduction of Christianity to the present time, who never received nor acknowledged the pope's supremacy: like the thousands and millions of the inhabitants of the vale of Piedmont, residing on green and fruitful meadows, surrounded by high and lofty mountains, separated from other nations, as if the all-wise Creator had made them on purpose, as places of safety for his jewels that would not bow the knee to Baal." pp. 16-17

"The names of several others are mentioned in Welsh manuscripts, as being noted; but in what respects we are not informed: except William Tyndal, who translated the Bible into English language, and translated the five books of Moses into the Welsh language, in the year 1520; for which he was put to death in 1536." pp. 20-

"His (John Eaton) son, Isaac Eaton, A.M., was the first pastor of the church at Hopewell in that country. -----He was the first among the American Baptists, who set up a school for the education of young men for the ministry." p. 87

### **BAPTIST BANNER**

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### Bible Lands Tour

(Continued from Page 1)

headed south for a distance of some 200 miles which would take us all day and into the night to return to our hotel in Amman.

Travelling south we had the Dead Sea to our right and the land of Israel. The first small town that we went through was small town that we went through was Shuma, and a short distance further the old city of Philadelphia. Going down the Jordan Valley, and sometimes crossing the mountains also, from the high mountains we could look westardly to the Promise Land as was seen by Moses before his death. (Deu. 34:1-6). As we journeyed through the land of Moab we looked upon the height of Mt. Nebo, and later upon Mt. Hor where Moses had gone later upon Mt. Hor where Moses had gone with his brother Aaron whom God also took his life. (Numbers 20:22-29.)

We travelled through the valley where Og, the King of Bashan, came with his troops, but was defeated by the Israelites at Edrei. He was the king who had a kingsized bed. (Deu. 3:1-7).

We were also travelling over some of the area where Jacob met his brother Esau, after both were married and had families and wealth. (Genesis 32, 33, 34). We visited the Spring of Moses. Shepherds came from all directions with their sheep and goats. The waters were rushing from the rock and continuing down the valley. The water was refreshing to our thirst. It was November, but it was a very warm day and we were dressed lightly.

Patience, our guide, told us his grandfather was 105 years old and was still farming. Jordan has both private and government schools. Religion in Jordan is 90% Moslem and 10% Christianity. As we drove along we ate our sack lunch which had been presented to us in the morning. It consisted of boiled eggs, ham and cheese sandwiches, olives, cucumber pickles, cookies, candy and fruit juice.

(Continued on Page 3)

### The Body Of Christ

(For a better understanding of the imaginary conversation which follows, read I Cor. 12:12-27 and Eph. 1:22,23. Jesus Christ is the HEAD, the Church is His Body; and you and I are members of His

HEAD: My body is sluggish and miserable. It is not functioning as a healthy body

LEFT EAR: What has happened to us? HEAD: All the members are not filling their places properly and as a result, the body is weak and crippled.

LEFT HAND: Well, I would do my job, but the right hand was inactive and it put all the work on me, so I just decided to quit

HEAD: But don't you see, the right hand ran into some difficulty and was weakened for a time. All it needed was for you to pick up part of its load for a short while and help it get its strength back. You should show more compassion for one another. RIGHT FOOT: I don't like my position in the body, I am always being walked on. I want to be an eye; that seems like an

honorable position. HEAD: But this body already has two eyes; wouldn't it look strange with three eyes and only one foot?

RIGHT FOOT: Then if I can't be what I want to be, I'll just pick up and move to another body; I'm sick of this weak one anyway

HEAD: Yes, and if you move to a healthy body you will cripple it too. No body would be able to function properly with two right feet

RIGHT FOOT: But other members move around to new bodies when they please, why can't I?

HEAD: I led you to this body because you are needed here. If there is any "transplanting" to be done, you'd better let me take care of that. You are in the position I want you; now stand up straight and get to

LEFT EYE: I have not forsaken my post; I am to be congratulated. I seem to be the only member who is fulfilling his job.

HEAD: Yes, you have remained fairly active, but you are too busy peering into everyone else's business. And this selfrighteousness of yours clouds your vision. and keeps you from seeing things clearly. LEFT EYE: But if I don't look out for everything, no one else will.

HEAD: You just leave that to me, I'll let you know if I need your help with another member.

RIGHT EAR: Then what must we do to regain our health?

HEAD: everyone must find and fill the place I have assigned to him, so that my Life may circulate freely among you once more.

LEFT EAR: But what if someone refuses to do his part?

HEAD: That is quite possible, but I still have the power to amputate members and to bring in new ones to fill their places.

MOUTH: We need a new right elbow, that one does nothing but cause trouble.

HEAD: Mouth, you are over-stepping your authority; if you would give that elbow a word of encouragement as you should once in a while instead of bad-mouthing him, he might find his job a little easier to do. Remember what I said in Galations

NOSE: Are you saying that we need to leave all the planning to you and simply have love and compassion for one another while we fill the jobs you have assigned to

HEAD: Yes, that's the only way we can operate successfully. And when this happens, the body will have life and vitality to confront its enemy, the devil, and the love of God will shine out to the world.

# OLD UNION BAPTIST MINISTERS SCH

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SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION - MARCH 28, 29, 30, 1979

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Phone: (502) 843-9339 NOTE: Books and materials not related to the school and its interest will not be sold at the church during the session. 

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1979

9:00 A.M. — Devotional

9:45 A.M. - Missions - J. H. Smith

10:30 A.M. — Intermission 10:45 A.M. — The New Testament Church - In Prophecy - H. C. Vanderpool 11:30 A.M. — Lunch

1:00 P.M. - Apostolic Gifts - W. T. Russell

1:45 P.M. — Intermission 2:00 P.M. — Bible Revelation - F. W. Lambert

2:45 P.M. - Announcements and Benediction

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1979

9:15 A.M. - Devotional

9:15 A.M. — Devotional
9:45 A.M. — Baptism of The Holy Spirit — W. T. Russell
10:30 A.M. — Intermission
10:45 A.M. — The New Testament Church - On Earth — H. C. Vanderpool
11:30 A.M. — Lunch
1:00 P.M. — The Two Natures of Man — F. W. Lambert
1:45 P.M. — Intermission
2:00 P.M. — Better Things of Christ in Hebrews - Part I — J. H. Smith

2:45 P.M. — Announcements and Benediction

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1979

9:15 A.M. — Devotional 9:45 A.M. — The Intermediate State between Death and the Resurrection — F.W. Lambert 10:30 A.M. — Intermission

10:45 A.M. - Better Things of Christ in Hebrews - Part II - J. H. Smith

11:30 A.M. — Lunch 1:00 P.M. — The New Testament Church - In Glory — H. C. Vanderpool 1:45 P.M. — Intermission

2:00 P.M. — The Gift of Tongues — W. T. Russell 2:45 P.M. — Presentation of Certificates and Benediction

3:00 P.M. - Refreshments

### Bible Lands Tour

(Continued from page 2)

As we passed a small village, we were told it was the home of the engineers who worked in a nearby phosphate factory. We saw a train also travelling south. It was a German train hauling phosphate to the Port of Acaba to be shipped to China and Japan. This is the first export for the county of Jordan.

We learned that a large apple orchard which we saw had been set from young trees from the United States.

Down in the afternoon we reached a valley that would lead us to Petra. The only access to the site of the ancient "rosered city" was to walk or ride horses. So, we decided to ride horses into the valley. I was reared in a hill section of Tennessee where rocks were as common and multiplied as the stars of the skies, but, Oh, brother, I have never seen as many rocks! To beat it all the Arab men in charge of the horses would slowly trot and lead our horses through and over those rocks. Some were coming and some were going. We soon learned we had been going! We went two miles this way through caverns, mountains and rocks. All of them red. The entire ancient city of Petra or "sela" was of "red rocks." of "red rocks."

The classical name Petra, and the early name Sela both mean the same thing, "rock." No city was ever more aptly named. But "Rock" only conveys half the picture of the city, the wild, fantastic shapes of the hills, the great chasms which cleave them, the brilliant colouring, all these must be seen to be believed. Petra is unique alike in its antiquities, its natural. unique alike in its antiquities, its natural setting and its approach.

The trail winds down the hill from the entrance, the little village of Wady Musa with its neatly terraced gardens and vineyards looking more like a model than reality. Entering this great ravine, the path runs along a dry torrent bed, and the sheer cliffs on either side rise higher and higher as it penetrates deeper into the heart of the mountain. Some places the rocks overhead almost touch and you feel squeezed in as you pass through.

An entire book, and many have been, could be written here on the historical background of this place. This was the land of Esau and his descendants, the Edomites. The meaning of the words themselves is "red." Into this area, and believed by authorities, to be where the Apostle Paul came for three years of study and medication after his conversion on the road to Damacus. (Gal. 1:15-18).

We enjoyed a great afternoon in Petra, viewing the majestic environment, after which we loaded onto our horses and rode the two rocky miles back to our bus. We had many things to discuss. We slept, talked and passed the time until the bright lights of Amman came into view. Our supper was soon ready and we ate a hearty meal and retired for the night.

Thursday, November 9, 1978

We were up at 5:00 A.M. at the Ambassodor Hotel. We ate at 6:30 and left our hotel at 7:10 A.M. We arrived at Amman Airport. We went through

# **Baptist Mission**

A new Baptist Mission has begun in Smyrna, Tenn. It is located at the corner of Old Nashville, Rd. and Sam Davis Rd. and is across the street from Tellafaro's Mkt. Service is conducted each Sunday at present at 11:00 A.M. They are under the leadership of Bro. Gayle Snoddy a member of Greenfield Missionary Baptist Church, Green Brier, Tenn. and Bro. Tommy Oldham a member of Harmony Missionary Baptist Church in Nashville.

If you have someone in the Sinyrna area that you would like for these brethren to contact you are invited to call them. Call Bro. Snoddy at (615) 643-4686; call Bro. Oldham at (615) 459-9276.



Tour group on our way to Petra in Jordan.

customs and then at 9:15 we boarded KLM Flight 512 for home. We landed for a short time at Beirut, Lebanon. We took to the air again at 10:45 A.M. At 12:30 P.M. we landed at Athens, Greece and then left there at 1:45 P.M. We landed at Amsterdam, Holland at 3:55 P.M. We had a brief shopping tour and then boarded KLM Flight 643. We left Amsterdam at 5:30 P.M. (Amsterdam time) and arrived in New York at 7:10 (E.S.T.) We went through customs and then I called the motel in New York where we had rooms reserved for the night for the 23 of us. The motel sent cars for us and we were carried

(Continued on page 4)

# Baptist History Republished

Several years ago while doing some historical research in Nashville, I found a copy of "The Annual Register of The Baptist Denomination in North America," By John Asplund, 1790. I paid \$35.00 for this book.

- \*Churches
- \*Ministers
- \*Proceedings
- \* Original Writing
- \*Associations (35)
- \* Rules of Decorum
- \* Rules and Order
- \* Correspondence

I have seen this history referred to through cross-reference in many histories, but this is the only copy I have ever seen. It includes all the above CONTENTS up to, and including the year 1790.

I am having it republished with original spelling and writing, and with a heavy hard-bound COVER. EVERY BAPTIST SHOULD HAVE A COPY OF THIS HISTORY AND ESPECIALLY EVERY BAPTIST MINISTER. While I paid \$35.00 for my copy, I'm offering them to YOU for \$10.00 per copy. Use the order form below. Your books will be mailed to you witch they come from the press. The price includes the History, postage and handing. LIMITED NUMBER!

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### LOSES SON, BUT REGAINS FAITH

(Continued from page 1)

needs of the boy. She couldn't help her husband and he knew no solace

Then came Christmas Eve. The father was awakened by the sounds of Billy tossing fitfully in his bed.

Walking into the darkened living room, the father looked at the presents under

There were so many unopened gifts there for Billy. They represented the plans so carefully made for the boy. What grand things the father had in mind and how proud of Billy he wanted to be.

The football was for the athlete Billy was to become. The books were to improve his mind, the chemistry set to challenge him, the toy train for pleasure.

The father slumped into a chair. He put his hands to his face and he wept.

Then, when grief could no longer come, he sat still for long minutes. The clock on the mantle ticked softly and the house was quiet as he thought.

He searched into himself, painfully, and with determination. And he remem-

Slowly, awkwardly, he got down on his knees. Clasping his hands until the knuckles whitened, he raised his head.

"God," he said in an anguished whis-per, "something has happened. I ask that You hear me out.

"As I sat here, I remembered what a personal success I've been, and how You've responded when I've asked You to give me a hand.

"But I know now that these were self-ish prayers, for my own personal gain. And when I asked You to save Billy, that was personal, too.

"I couldn't stand to lose him. I had such great plans for him, and I wanted some-day for him to carry on for me.

"I wanted everybody to know what a fine boy I had raised.

"You know what I remember now? I remember Your Son and Your great love when You gave Him to the world. What sadness You must have known when He died. And so God, if You would do this great thing for all of us, then I must be comforted by Your sacrifice.

"It's long past the time, oh God, when I must put my trust in You. So I pray that You will welcome little Billy when he comes. I know he'll be in g od hands. I know that it is Thy will be done."

Time for Billy's Pill

The father got to his feet and went into

The boy was still. It almost seemed he wasn't breathing. On his cheek was a dried tear brought by the pain of only winning hofers. minutes before.

Tenderly, carefully, he took Billy's limp head. He looked upon the boy he loved.

Suddenly the little hand tightened. Billy opened his eyes.
"Dad," he said simply, "I won't be

needing that pill tonight."

Desperately, the father closed his eyes. Then he took a deep breath and asked the question he knew he must.

"Why not, Billy?"

"I've been dreaming, Dad. I've been dreaming about Jesus. He seemed very close. It might sound funny, but it's al-most like He's here in the room with us right now.

Billy's fingers loosened in his father's grasp. The breath of life, so silent it could barely be heard, escaped his lips in a gentle sigh. And his eyes closed.

The father bent over little Billy, and he took the tiny hands and folded them.

Straightening, he quietly spoke his final words to his son.

"That wasn't a dream, Billy. And what you said about it probably sounding silly—it didn't.
"He's here and He's watching over you . . and me. He's watching over both of us.

"Goodbye, son,"

# Republished

In 1958 I wrote my first book "What True Baptists Believe." All copies were soon sold. Requests continued to be made for the book. They have continued for over 20 years, and due to this fact is now reprinted.

Book, handling and postage is \$1.00 per copy. It churches wish to have several copies

for distribution, I'll be happy to send them.

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> Elder H. C. Vanderpool 104 Hasty Drive Goodlettsville, Tenn. 37072

#### Thank You

Some months ago I ran an announcement in the BANNER that one of our elderly ministers, Elder Alfred Cook, needed financial help. Bro. Cook called me and asked that I publish a THANK-YOU NOTE in the paper from him to all those individuals and churches who had sent donations to him. He wishes to thank all of you very much. Should there still be someone who wishes to send Bro. Cook something, mail it to: Elder Alfred Cook, 214 Rose St., Lafayette, TN 37083. (Editor)

#### NASHVILLE CHURCH SERVICE ON TV

Pennsylvania Ave. Missionary Baptist Church, Nashville, TN, will televise a program on WTVF, Channel 5, "Your Church" on Sunday, April 1. Those in the viewing area may check your TV schedule for the time. Elder Tommy Ashford is the processor of the physics. pastor of the church.

Also, other Missionary Baptist churches in Nashville have been, and will also in the future, be on this program "Your Church."

**Ordination Service** 



On Saturday, January 13, 1979, at 2:00 P.M., an ordination service was held at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, 5208 Nolensville Rd., Nashville, TN, for the purpose of ordaining Brethren Colin Dyer, Key Dillard and Harold Petty to the Deaconship. They are pictured above with their wives and the pastor and his wife. They are from left; Bro. Colin Dyer, Mrs. Dyer, Elder Henry Smith, pastor of Mt. Calvary, Mrs. Smith, Bro. Key Dillard, Mrs. Dillard, Mrs. Petty, Bro. Harold Petty.

Twenty-four Baptist churches from Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee were represented in the ordaining council by forty-five deacons and ministers. Elder Henry Smith, the pastor, served as moderator. Elder Tom Armstrong was elected clerk. The candidates were presented to the presbytery by Deacon Clarence Petty and they were interrogated by Elder W.T. Russell. Elder H.C. Vanderpool led the ordaining prayer. Elder K.W. Massey gave the charge to the deacons and Elder Calvin Perrigo gave the charge to the charge to the church. The Bible was presented to the newly ordained deacons by Elder W.R. Overton. A large crowd was in attendance and a good spiritual fellowship was enjoyed.

## Singing

There will be a singing at Rayon City Missionary Baptist Church, 209 Keaton Ave., Old Hickory, TN on Sunday, March 11, beginning at 2:00 P.M. The Christian Aires of Lafayette, TN will be the featured singers. The public is invited to attend.



"Kids sure can embarrass parents when they do in public what they learned to do at home."



"UNTO THE MOUNTAIN OF NEBO." On the skyline to the left is seen the point, at the edge of the uplands of Moab, identified with Mount Nebo, last scene of the life of Moses. From there he viewed the Promised Land before his death (Deuteronomy xxxiv, 1-5). This headland, 2,643 feet above Mediterranean level, drops precipitously to the Dead Sea valley some 4,000 feet. Pisgah may have been the name of the ridge. In the foreground is the glen through which the "Wells of Moses" fall and stream.

### Bible Lands Tour

(Continued from Page 3)

to our rooms for the night.

Friday, November 10, 1978

We were up at Holiday Inn at 5:00 A.M. We had taxi cabs to transport us to the airport where we had breakfast. At 8:15 we left New York on Braniff International Flight 119 for Nashville. Again we were served breakfast. We flew over New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington D.C., West Virginia, Knoxville and on to Nashville. A large number of families, neighbors and friends were there to greet us. After a time spent for homecoming activities, we made our way to our respective homes feeling richer than ever before because of the past twelve days and the experiences we had had together.

## Missionary Baptist Literature Committee

Receipts: January 24, 1977 to January 28, 1979 TOTAL RECEIPTS---\$16,241.50

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