Baptist Banner

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

VOL. 16, NO. 9

GOODLETTSVILLE, TENN. 37072

FEBRUARY, 1982

GRACE

By Rex Hunt Fountain Run, Ky.

The first thing most of us will think of when speaking of grace is the grace of God by which we are saved. "For by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of ourselves: it is the gift of God:" Eph. 2:8 "For



the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. Teach us that denying ungodliness and worldly lust, we should live soberly, righteously and godly, in this present world;" Tit. 2:11, 12

God is the one who bestows grace, upon man, through his love and mercy. Man receives this grace without having earned or merited it in any way. To extend grace is to bestow an unmerited favor. Although man does not merit grace he can receive it only when humble. "Wherefore he saith God resist-

(Continued on Page 2)

8008-8008-8008

ORDINATION

On Saturday, February 6, there is to be an all-day ordination service held at Hauser Missionary Baptist Church, North Bend, Oregon. Services are to begin at 10:00 A.M. Bro. Larry Ross is to be ordained as a deacon. Missionary Baptist Churches of 'like faith and order' are invited. Elder Vernon Roark is pastor of the church.

Qualifications Of Ministers

I Timothy 3:1-7

1. This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

2. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

3. Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;

4. One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

5. (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

7. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

INTRODUCTION

We all realize there are qualifications

By Bobby Vanderpool, Hendersonville, TN



that one must meet to become a church member. Within the church body men are called out to carry the gospel. These men must meet certain standards, laid down by the Bible, to be ordained and set apart for the full service of this special work. We will study these qualifications and try to expound on as many as possible. DESIGNATED OFFICE

When Christ went back to heaven, He left His church in the hands of His people. Since Christ was the 'Shepherd of His sheep', there must be someone left in charge to take care of the work in His absence. Overseers were chosen to do this work. They are known as 'Undershepherds' because they receive their call from God to carry on the work.

The early overseers in the church were known as Bishops. This is the reason that Paul uses the term in today's lesson. Since then there have been other titles used such as Elders. This is the term used today for our ordained ministers. None of these titles indicate the special office of the Apostles of the first church. The Apostles had special gifts which the ordained officers do not have.

IMPORTANCE OF THE OFFICE

We realize the importance of the office of Pastor when we stop to realize all of the (Continued on page 3)

COLORADO CHURCH WANTS TAPES

January 5, 1982 Dear Bro. In Christ:

We would like to place this article in the Baptist Banner.

Colorado Baptist Church: Due to us being so far from our churches, we have not been able to hear very many of our Elders preach. We will be listening to tapes in our Wednesday night Services, and would appreciate very much if our ministers would send as many tapes of sermons as possible. Thank you

Yours in Christ,

Colorado Missionary Baptist

Church c/o Doreen Brown, Clerk 1516 S. Helena Circle Aurora, CO 80012

Of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee. God's Gen. 28:22

\$piritual Economy



Vible Study

The annual Bible Study at West End Missionary Baptist Church, 440 West Main St., Gallatin, Tenn. is to begin on Tuesday night, February 9. The study will be conducted each Tuesday and Thursday night for a few weeks. Each service is to begin at 7:00 P.M.

Elder W. T. Russell is to be the teacher. Elder William E. Massey is the pastor. Everyone who can, is invited to attend these studies.

WEST END MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

440 WEST MAIN GALLATIN, TENN. 37066



NEWS FROM OREGON

January 1, 1982

Dear Brethren:

As I send to you this report and my most humble thanks, my heart is overflowing with both sorrow and joy. Sorrow and grief fill my heart because I have been a tremendous burden to those whom I love, joy because you have exhibited true Christian love in the way you took my financial burden upon yourselves and shared my spiritual burdens with your prayers. The apostle Paul spoke of learning how to suffer need, and also how to rejoice in time of plenty. We have also learned this, and much, much more, but most of all we have learned to love the Lord more, and to trust everything to his Divine Providence.

There are so many things I would desire to write to thank you, but due to the lack of space and not wanting to hinder this paper in its work of spreading the gospel truth. I submit this report, and pray to Almighty God, that it will abound to His Glory, and blessings on your behalf.

(Continued on Page 3)

BAPTIST BANNER

Founded June 1, 1966

H. C. Vanderpool, Editor-Publisher, 1966-1981

Publication No. (USPS 041-800)

Second-Class Postage Paid At Goodlettsville, Tenn. 37072

Published Monthly

MISSIONARY BAPTIST LITERATURE COMMITTEE P. O. Box 1001

Goodlettsville, Tennessee 37072

Phone: (615) 859-5780

H. C. Vanderpool, Editor of Publications

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Donna Graves, Circulation

POSTMASTER: Send Form 3579 to: P. O. Box 1001 Goodlettsville, TN 37072

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Any Missionary Baptist Church, minister, laymember, who has an announcement, article or report, is invited to send the same to the BANNER for publication. Get it to me by the 10th of the month previous to publication. - Editor

GRACE

(Continued from Page 1)

eth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble" Ja. 4:6b. Man's need for grace is evident from the teaching of the scriptures. Man in his unregenerate state is dead in sins, desperately wicked, and unable to do anything about it. See Rom. 5:6, 🛊 12 and Jer. 17:9. It is evident * that man cannot cleanse his heart, "who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one." Job 14:4 also see Isa. 64:6, Prov. 20:9 Our brother or our fellowman cannot deliver us from this bondage of sin. See Ps. 49:7.

The Bible teaches us that God offers his remedy to mankind in general. "And he is the propitiation for our sins and not for ours only, but also for * the sins of the whole world." I John 2:2. The provision God made, through his grace, for each and every man is the greatest ever known to man. "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man." Heb. 2:9. Although one offering was all that was necessary, it's provisions are received as personal and individually as though he died each time one was saved.

If one rejects the overtures of God in his salvation, then justice will follow. "Of how * much sorer punishment, suppose ye shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and done despite unto the Spirit of grace." Heb. 10:29. There isn't * any difference in the end * results, whether one defiantly rejects the provisions of grace,

or tries to substitute personal merit for it. "Christ is become of no effect unto you whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace." Gal. 5:4. Pride is a tool the devil has used to prevent people from receiving the benefits provided

by the grace of God. See Ps. 10:4a. Some think that church membership, Baptism, and a strict code of morals will secure the grace of God, but these are the things that should follow receiving it.

(Continued on Page 4)

MEDITATIONS

Elder N. C. Fuqua 1885-1962

NOTE: A short time before Bro. Fuqua passed away he had been sick and hospitalized. Sometime during his illness he wrote the following article which bears his signature as he signed it. It was contributed by his daughter, Mrs. Floyd Cothron, and sent to the BANNER by his good friend, Elder F. W. Lambert. The MEMORIAL which appears on this page was printed in the 1962 Siloam Baptist Association Minutes. Bro. Fuqua was a great friend to me in my early ministry.

When we come down to cross the river of death, we will look back on life that has passed. Some a long life, some a short life, and we think of the many happy hours and the many sorrows of life.

We think of the great cities of this world with their beautiful homes, parks and roadways. And the wonderful scenery. And when we think of our capital, the city of Washington and the White House that has been the home of the presidents of the United States, the great men of our nation. And when we look at the great monument of Washington in memory of the Father of our country, the man that through his leadership was able to lead the colonies to victory and give us a land of freedom. That we are able to meet and worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and none dare molest or hinder.

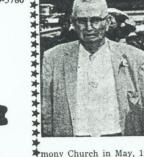
And as one should leave the great city of Washington down the Potomac River, he would look back on the sunset on the city as it faded away in the darkness of the twilight, and the great homes and all the fine buildings are lost to sight. Then what do we see? The only thing is that great monument that stands 555 ft. in the air in memory of the Father of our country.

So, when we come to cross the River of death, and as we move on toward the city of our God, we look back to that great memorable place to the cross of Calvary on Golgotha mount. Where our Saviour suffered, bled and died for our sins and brought reconciliation between us and God. And to those who trust in him to the saving of their soul will be permitted to live in that City of our God, and see him our Saviour face to face. And be there with him and our loved ones who makes peace with God. And all the redeemed host of God, freed from sin and death. No more sorrow, no more sickness, no more dying. But will be there with peace and joy and happiness for ever and ever.

Thank God for a loving Saviour who saves and keeps us until that happy day when we all get home. Thank God for salvation that frees us from sin and gives us joy within our souls and a home at God's right hand.

IN MEMORY

Phone: (615) 859-5780



Elder Noah Caleb Fuqua passed away at Smith-Chitwood Hospital, Lafayettee, Tenn., on February 24, 1962. He was born April 7, 1885, the son of Gus and Elizabeth Adams Fugua.

He was converted in October, 1909, at New Harmony Missionary Baptist Church, in Macon County, Tenn., and six years later was baptized into the fellowship of that church by Eld. A. J. Sloan. After feeling the divine call to the ministry, he tried to escape his duty by teaching singing schools and doing evangelistic singing, but later acknowledged his call and was ordained to the full work of the ministry by New Har-

mony Church in May, 1922. From that date to the time of his death, \$\frac{1}{2}40\$ years, he was very active in the ministry and was very much in demand for revival work

He served the following churches as pastor: Long Creek, Glad-**************

dice, Long Fork, Liberty, Bethany, Mt. Tabor, Cedar Bluff, Haysville, Fairview, Rocky Mound, Union Camp, New Zion, all in Northcentral Tennessee, and Macedonia, Union, Red Hill and Mt. Zion, all in Southern Kentucky.

He served as Moderator of Wiseman Baptist Association for 17 He served as Moderator of Wiseman Baptist Association for 17 years, and of Siloam Association since its formation in 1952. He also had preached before these Baptist bodies. He was a wise counselor and was well read in the scriptures. He was a good man and loved and respected by those that knew him. While living, he estimated that he had baptized 850, married 160 couples, conducted 250 funerals and witnessed hundreds of conversions.

Funeral services were conducted at Brattontown Baptist Church on Sunday, February 25, by Elders J. C. Austin, F. W. Lambert and W. E. Massey. Burial followed in Drury's cemetery. He was a member of Long Creek Church at the time of his death.

daughter, Mrs. Floyd Cothron; granddaughters, Rosemary, Carolyn and Ruth Cothron; half brothen Cillian D and Ruth Cothron; half brother, Gilliam Fuqua; a half sister, Mrs. L. V. Eden.

After fighting the battles of life nearly 77 years, he went forth to be with the Lord and it was said "Bro. Caleb Fuqua is dead."





QUALIFICATIONS FOR MINISTERS (Continued from Page 1)

responsibilities it carries. The pastor is

charged by the Lord to see that his sheep are cared for. This responsibility is not to be taken lightly.

A pastor's first love must be his church and his work in the Lord. It can never become second. In the event it should, grave consequences will follow. Not only will the Pastor himself suffer, but the church he pastors will suffer. A Pastor must put his work above family and friends.

IMPORTANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS

It is impossible to give all the qualifications equal space in this brief lesson. However, I will touch upon a couple which are more widely discussed than others.

According to the scriptures, a man who

is a candidate for ordination to the full work of the ministry should be one who does his best to live above reproach. Today's lesson points this out. However, too many times there is more emphasis put on part of the requirements than is put on others.

Too often most of the attention is centered on the fact of whether or not the man in question has been married only once. We know that the Bible mentions this, but it mentions at least fifteen other requirements in the same lesson. Why do we not put equal emphasis on all of these requirements? One is as important as the other. I have known some preachers with great ability who were refused ordination because they had been married twice. To my knowledge no one has ever been refused ordination because he was impatient or greedy. Again, I point out that all qualifications should be treated equally. As we've studied previously, the Bible gives scriptural grounds for divorce and re-marriage. It also gives the right to marry again if the spouse has died. It does not give an exception for any of the other qualifications. You, as the future decision makers of the church, should always be prayerful and depend on God when choosing a man for ordination.

APT TO TEACH

We should be very proud of our preachers who attend the school that has been provided for them by the authority of Old Union Missionary Baptist Church at Bowling Green, Ky. We should pray for them and encourage them. They are studying so they will be better able to teach you and me and our children. We should pray that the school will continue to grow and new interest in it will be created. With all of the false doctrines in the world today, our preachers and pastors need to be as well read and as well educated as possible. Paul

(Continued on Page 4)

OLD UNION BAPTIST MINISTERS SCHOOL

Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101 Tenth Annual Session - March 24, 25, 26, 1982 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1982

9:00 A.M. - Devotional

9:45 A.M. - Calvin Perrigo: A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ

10:30 A.M. - Intermission

10:45 A.M. - Jerry Reynolds: A Critical Examination of Church History 11:30 A.M. - Lunch 1:00 P.M. - W. T. Russell: The True Bride of Christ

1:45 P.M. - Intermission

2:00 P.M. - J. H. Smith: Faith 2:45 P.M. - Announcements and Benedicti

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1982

9:15 A.M. - Devotional

9:45 A.M. - Howard Taylor: Faith

10:30 A.M. - Intermission

10:45 A.M. - H. C. Vanderpool: The Bible and Modern Science

11:30 A.M. - Lunch

1:00 P.M. - Calvin Perrigo: Teaching Them to Observe All Things

1:45 P.M. - Intermission

2:00 P.M. - Jerry Reynolds: Following The Lord

2:45 P.M. - Announcements and Benedi FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1982

9:15 A.M. - Devotional

9:45 A.M. - W. T. Russell: Church Perpetuity

10:30 A.M. - Intermission 10:45 A.M. - J. H. Smith: Faith

11:30 A.M. - Lunch

1:00 P.M. - Howard Taylor: The Faith

1:45 P.M. - Intermission

FULL NAME

2:00 P.M. - H. C. Vanderpool: Hospital Ministry

2:45 P.M. - Presentation of Certificates and Benediction

NOTE: Any minister having attended the school before, will not need to fill out an application. Ministers who will attend for the first time should.

APPLICATION FORM

STREET & NO. _ CITY -STATE _ CHURCH _ CHURCH ADDRESS _ I HAVE BEEN IN THE MINISTRY ____ YEARS. () LICENSED. IAM () ORDAINED ARE YOU NOW PASTORING A CHURCH ()YES, () NO. IF A PASTOR, NAME OF CHURCH __ CHURCH ADDRESS RELATE EXPERIENCE OF SALVATION: (ADDITIONAL) RELATE CALL TO THE MINISTRY: (PAPER)

HOWEVER, ALL MINISTERS SHOULD REGISTER WITH THE SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ASSIST THE ONES IN CHARGE OF RECORDS AND CORRESPONDENCE. The tuition is \$20.00 for each minister; \$25.00 if his wife is to attend the Fellowship and Study for ministers wives, Conductors of those meetings will be Sister Evelle Massey, Sister Annie Laura Smith and Sister Alta Vanderpool. For information, write or call: Dr. C. R. Hayes

Route 3 Bowling Green, KY 42101

Elder Paul W. Bryson Route 9, Box 84 Bowling Green, KY 42101 Phone: (502) 842-3742 Phone: (502) 843-9339

ATTENTION

We appreciate the Old Union Baptist Ministers School at Bowling Green, Ky. It is needful for every preacher to study and prepare himself for the work God has called him to do. We recommend the school to ALL BAPTIST MINI-STERS, and trust you will make preparations to attend the Tenth Annual Session. See the announcement on this page. -Editor

★★★★★★★ ORDINATION

There is to be an ordination service at Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Highway 53, Manchester, TN on Saturday, Feb. 27. Services are to begin at 2:00 P.M.

Bro. Bobby Earps and Bro. J. B. Newman are to be ordained to the full work of the ministry. Churches of the Enon, Wiseman and Siloam Baptist Associations, and Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Nashville, TN are invited to assist in this work.

Going from Nashville to Chattanooga on I-24, exit at Shoney's Restaurant on the Woodbury exit. Turn north on Highway 53 and go about onefourth mile to the church on the

BOOKS

You are invited to write to the address below, or call the listed number, to receive a nice brochure with over 150 books listed. Many of these are reprints of old books that have been out of print for a long time. Write and ask for the brochure of their books.

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***************** **NEWS FROM OREGON**

(Continued from Page 1)

Old Union Miss. Bapt. (Ky.)	10
Bethel Miss. Bapt. (Ind.)	00
Grace Bapt. (Hendersonville, TN)	00
Fairview Miss. Bapt. (Woodburn, Ky.)	nn
Siloam Miss. Bapt. (TN)	00
Rayon City Miss. Bapt. (TN)	00
Southside Miss. Bapt. (IN)	00
Fairview Memorial Miss. Bapt. (KY) 417.6	62
Ebenezer Miss. Bapt. (TN)	00
Pleasant Hill Miss. Bapt. (KY)	00
Long Creek Miss. Bapt. (TN)	00
Old Time Miss. Bapt. (W. VA)	20
Siloam Miss. Bapt. Assoc. (KY) 813.2	
Gateway Bapt. (TN)	
Faith Bapt. (TN) 200.0	
White Hill Miss. Bapt. (TN)	
Unity Miss. Bapt. (IN) 100.	
Madison Miss. Bapt. (TN)	00
Cedar Bluff Miss. Bapt. (TN) 83.	
Enon Chapel Miss. Bapt. (TN)	
Faith Bapt. Church (Mich.) 504.	
Caldonia Bapt. Church (TN)	
Brattontown Miss. Bapt. (TN)	
Salem Bapt. Church (TN) 200.	
Meadorville Bapt. (TN)	
Bethel Bapt. (Ohio)	
Mt. Zion Miss. Bapt. (KY) 600.	
Harmony Bapt. (TN)	
Faith Partiet (Payling Cross VV)	00
Faith Baptist (Bowling Green, KY)	
Lyons Bapt. (KY)	
Fairview Bapt. (TN) 50.	
Maple Grove #2 Miss. Bapt. (TN)	00
Old Hopewell Miss. Bapt. (TN)	00
Union Bapt. (KY)	
Drakes Creek Miss. Bapt. (KY)	
Salem Baptist (IN)	
Mt. Lebanon Miss. Bapt. (KY)	
Fellowship Miss. Bapt. (IN)	00
Rock Bridge Miss. Bapt. (TN)	
Union Miss. Bapt. (Lafayette, TN)	00
New Bethel (TN)	
West End Miss. Bapt. (Gallatin, TN)	
Harmony Bapt. (IN) 100. Pipers Chapel Miss. Bapt (TN) 100.	
Maple Grove #3 Miss. Bapt. (TN)	
Rough Hill Miss. Bapt. (KY)	
Summer Shade Miss. Bapt. (KY)	
Colorado Miss. Bapt. (Denver)	
Goodwill Miss. Bapt. (TN)	
Liberty Bapt. (IN) 100.	
McFerrin Ave. Bapt. (TN)	
Eastside Miss. Bapt. (Gallatin, TN)	00.
Murfreesboro Mission (TN)	.00
(Continued on Page 4)	

SPECIAL BOOK OFFER

The regular price on a set of Gill's Commentary is \$195.00. Any minister who wishes to have this set of books can GET THEM AT PRESENT for \$125.00. You would need to get your order to Bro. Brown at the address below by March 1, 1982. HE WOULD THEN HAVE YOUR BOOKS FOR YOU AT THE OLD UNION MINISTERS SCHOOL the last week in March. SEND ORDER TO:

Elder Eugene Brown 110 Linda Drive Hendersonville, TN 37075

GRACE

(Continued from Page 2)

The enabling grace, that makes it possible for us to be workmen for God, should be acknowledged by all. "But everyone of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ." Eph. 4:7, "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves, but our sufficiency is of God." II Cor. 3:5. All we have and all we are, belong to God, and we are only stewards in these matters. "For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive?" I Cor. 4:7a. "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and your spirit, which are God's." I Cor. 6:20. As the purchased possession of God our first priority should be to spend and be spent for the glory of God according to his purpose and grace. If the financial support of God's cause is viewed as a tax or a burden, we come short of our duty and the joy received from giving. To be granted the means and the opportunity to have a part in the support of God's cause, is indeed a great grace, "therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in diligence, and your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also." II Cor. 8:7

Our debt through grace is neglected many times. There are some who would not neglect their material duties to their fellowman, in anyway. This is not only commendable but necessary if we accomplish the purpose that God has for us. Not separate and apart from the above but in connection with it. we should give all diligence in paying our debt of grace to the unsaved. As God through his grace provided the means for the salvation of man, through the death Jesus. So he provides the means that man can hear the gospel message and be saved. His church has the commission for this purpose. "And ye are witness of the things." Luke 24:48 "I am debtor; both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as is in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also." Rom. 1:14-15. The scope of our debt through grace may

not be as large as Paul's or someone else but the necessity to be diligent is the same. The reason we owe this to our fellowman, is not because he merits it or is worthy of it, but God provides it through his grace, WE cannot dispense grace. WE are instruments through whom God provides grace to man by the gospel. "But by the grace of God I am what I am." I Cor. 15:10a.

NEWS FROM OREGON

(Continued from Page 3)

Lafayette Miss. Bapt. (TN)	50.00
Longview Miss. Bapt. (TN)	
Freedom Miss. Bapt. (IN)	
Liberty Hill Miss. Bapt. (TN)	45.00
Pleasant Hill Miss. Bapt. (TN)	
Faith Bapt. Senior High Sunday School	30.00
Union Hill Miss. Bapt. (TN)	600.00
Independant Miss. Bapt. (TN)	100.00
Hauser Miss. Bapt. (OR)	361.06
Eld. Chas. Patterson	201.30

Bro. & Sis. L. E. Smith	25.00
Bros. Wilson Gregory & Kenneth Woodill	37.00
Bro. Billy W. Green	30.00
Bro. James Briley	25.00
Bro. Thomas Moyers	
Bro. Robert Buttler	
Bro. Haven Hendricks	
Bro. Curtis Pardue	
Bro. Robert Jackson	
Bro. Rollin Brown	
Eld. Henry Smith	
Eld. Jack Green	
Sis. Martha Sue Wincel	
Bro. Glen Stanley	
Eld. Ottis Jones	
Bro. Lewis Law	
Bro. Delbert Compton	
Bro. Estel Ray Hughes	10.00
Sis. Lucy White	25.00
Bro. J. W. Shockley	
Bro. C. E. Hendricks	
Sis. Pauline Cothron	
Eld. Jerry Foster	
Bro. Ray Smith	
Sis. Annie Chandler	
	\$18,249.96

Due to the many churches of the same name, some errors may be found, if so it is unintentional. Please forgive me and thank you so very much.

Your Brother in Christ.

Vernon Roark

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MINISTERS

(Continued from Page 3)

said to Timothy, a young preacher, in II Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

God will not put words into a preacher's mouth as some people would have you believe. If he does, Paul would have had no reason to tell Timothy to study. He must study all that he can so he is able to explain (rightly divide) what the scriptures teach. Paul was well educated in the Jewish faith and in the school of Gamaliel before he was saved. The Lord did not call him to preach because he was educated, but his education was greatly used when he preached to the Jews. He was able to meet them on their own terms and prove to them by their own scriptures where they were wrong. God does not call men to preach because they are educated. However, after they are called, it is their responsibility to man and to God to educate themselves as much as possible.

The younger preachers can learn from the older ones. In II Timothy 2:1-7, Paul, an older preacher in the gospel, gives the young preacher Timothy the following charge: 'Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully. The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits. Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things?'

A GOOD REPORT

Paul said that a minister should have a good report from without. This means that

he should not have a good reputation among the members of his church only, but he should have a good reputation outside of his church.

We know that reputation has a lot to do with a person's influence. The better the reputation, the more influence a person can have. Paul also says he should not fall into reproach. If he is not reputable, it might be easy to be overcome by the influence of the devil. If a man has had a questionable reputation, he should have had time to prove himself otherwise before becoming a candidate for ordination.

It is often said that character is what you are and reputation is what people think you are. The Bible teaches that these should be equal.

A PASTOR'S FAMILY

Paul continues in the second chapter of II Timothy 8-10, "Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel: Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory."

Paul did not always have it easy. There were times when he had barely enough to eat and to wear. He was persecuted for preaching the truth. However, he was able to enjoy the blessings of God abundantly. Nearing the end of his life, Paul said to Timothy in II Timothy 4:7, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:". Every God called preacher should be able to say those words.

Having lived in a pastor's family since I was six years old, I realize, more than many, how critical it can be. There are times when a pastor must make major decisions that affect family and church. Moves have to be made from one field to another that may not always be pleasant.

I have moved, and I have changed schools. I have left old friends and had to make new ones. I am not complaining, because I would not trade my rearing with anyone. The blessings outnumber the heartaches. My life is much richer because of it. It's not because of what I did but because of the blessings and strength I received from the experiences.

If any of you are preacher's children, please consider what I have to say. The preacher's family plays a very important part in the Lord's work. Always be willing to go wherever your father is sent. If the family refuses to co-operate, the family will suffer.

I have known preachers who could not move to a field of labor because their families refused to go. I wonder how many churches have suffered and how many souls have gone to Hell because of this selfishness. Always do your part to help, and the blessings will follow. If he feels the need to move to another location, encourage him and let him know that his work is important to you, too. No school is too great, and no job pays too good a salary, for a preacher's family to refuse to go with him in his field of labor.

BIBLE'nitions

- 1. BLAMELESS Free from accusation or guilt of failing.
- 2. COVETOUS Desiring that which belongs to another.
- GREEDY Desiring more than one needs or deserves.
- 4. HOSPITABLE Showing hospitality toward others. Being able to mix with other people.
- 5. BRAWLER One who argues and quarrels.
- 6. NOVICE A person new to a particular activity. A person on probation in a religious group.
- 7. VIGILANT Staying watchful and alert to danger or trouble.
- 8. SOBER Showing mental and emotional balance. Sensible and serious.
- STRIKER One who hits or makes blows at another (with hand or tongue).
 NOT GIVEN TO WINE - Not
- 10. NOT GIVEN TO WINE Not partaking of wine and not giving in to the evils that go with it.