

# Baptist Banner

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## Detroit Church Has A New Home



## Grace Missionary Baptist Church

Grace Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan has recently purchased a new building. Pictured above is the new home of the church located at 9835 Hayes Ave. on the East side of Detroit near Interstate 94. It is a nice residential neighborhood. The auditorium is about 35 x 60 Ft. and there are eight Sunday school rooms.

The first meeting place was the Mission which was located at 10601 East Warren Ave. The church was organized at this location on May 29, 1955, with 54 charter members. An arm was extended from old Union Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. to the mission for the organization.

The church soon bought a house of worship at 9151 Hall St. and worshipped there until recently when the above pictured property was purchased. Pastors who have served the church are: Eld. W. R. Overton, June, 1955-

Sept., 1960; Eld. L. W. Smith, Sept., 1960-1964; Eld. D. C. Barton, 1964 to present. Some of the Deacons who have served the church are: Kenneth Mason, Thomas Nance, Hubert Dyer, Garland Shawver, Otis Berry, Virgil Russell, Lester Hayes, Bert Bailes, B. W. Dirting, Don McDonald, Jack Doss, and Clyde Pierce.

Three churches have been organized from Grace through her mission work, they are: Liberty, Barberton, Ohio; Grace, Doylestown, Ohio and Bethel, Toledo, Ohio. Grace church represents annually in the Siloam Missionary Baptist Association. Grace is one of the churches that is getting a bundle of BANNERS each month for distribution in addition to individual subscriptions.

## Point Of No Return

By Norman H. Wells

America is like a man with a fear of cancer who will not go to a doctor because his fears might be realized. We run faster and faster and never stop and look at ourselves. Maybe it will go away—but we know it won't. The sickness gnaws away and the fear persists but we keep turning from the truth. We try to bury this gnawing and fear under the tinsel of prosperity and pleasure but it doesn't work.

It has become a way of life to ignore the warning signs. We know the diagnosis but we won't accept it. We even know the remedy but we won't use it.

We must stop and look at ourselves. Not in the light of our own publicity and not in the light of what we'd like to think we are, but we need to look at ourselves as we are—in reality.

"When they knew God, they glorified him not as God."

The pages of history are cluttered with the wreckage of nations who followed the same downward spiral that characterizes America today. Our only distinction is that we are doing it faster.

No nation can survive which, after knowing God and His blessing, rejects him. This is the course that America has taken. A nation which, in the very beginning, was characterized by an acknowledgement of its need of God and His blessings now are engaged in systematically eliminating God from every aspect of its existence.

"They became vain in their imaginations."

Somewhere along the line this country began to feel it no longer needed God. Instead of acknowledging that our greatness was in Him we began taking the credit. Our accom-

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## Point Of No Return

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plishments were our own doing. We were the greatest. God? Who needs Him?

"Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools."

Religion followed the trend. Man made religions that exalted man rather than God multiplied rapidly. Man was safe in the shelter of his own intellect. Religion was constantly changed to meet the current whims of the people.

"Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves."

When a nation rejects God, decay and degeneration begins. The slide into the abyss of moral perversion accelerates fast.

"Who changed the truth of God into a lie."

In this path of decline the nation eventually finds that it has completely changed directions. We made a 90 degree turn. Black is now white. error is truth, chaos is order, wrong is right, etc. On and on toward complete degeneration-----the point of no return!

We need to stop long enough to look at ourselves.

"---vile affections: for ever their woman did change the natural use into that which is against nature."

We have degraded our women from the exalted place of respect and beauty to a brazen, naked, symbol of sexual depravity whispering out invitations from every billboard, magazine, movie, play, book, etc.

"Men---burned in their lust one to another."

Men lust after men and women after women in a full expression of vile affection---and we are told by some religion this is as it should be!

We listen as pasty faced reprobates speak of a "new morality" in which sexual depravity is declared to be the accepted thing. The sickening thing is that we listen.

"Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity, whispers, backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:"

Our children are in ever increasing numbers turning to crime. Mobs roam the streets bent on violence. Lying, cursing and bitterness are the order of the day. Destruction, misery and blood shed are our daily diet. We do not know the way of peace. We have forgotten God.

We know, even when we won't face it, that our nation today is saturated with unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness, envy, murder, pride and boasting.

Have we passed the point of no return? No nation that has ever gone as far down as we are has ever come back. It can be, but never has been done. There is absolutely no hope---unless we are willing to look honestly at ourselves and admit what we are.

America is sick, terribly sick---but we won't accept the diagnosis or the remedy.

In the face of this sickening mess religion busys itself with building bigger and better hospitals that the sick will not attend and arguing over the ingredients of medicines that no one will take.

When someone does come for help, religion responds by covering over the cancer with empty platitudes and hollow pretense and blandly announces that everything is going to be just fine. A lot of religion spends its time trying to convince dying patients that they are not really sick!

This nation has a malignancy and religion hands them a patented happiness pill. Well---maybe we'll die laughing anyhow!

(NOTE: Let me say amen to the above article. I appreciate this article very much and would hope and pray that America would read it and take heed. Bro. Wells is pastor of Central Baptist Church in Cincinnati, the church that sponsors the Cincinnati Baptist Bible Institute ---Editor)

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## Timely Advice

Contributed by  
Mrs. Eurice Swire  
89 Fernwood  
Barberton, Ohio

Take time to work,  
It is the price of success.

Take time to think,  
It is the source of power.

Take time to play,  
It is the secret of youth.

Take time to read,  
It is the fountain of wisdom.

Take time to look around,  
It is the short cut to unselfishness.

Take time to laugh,  
It is the music of the soul,

Take time to dream,  
It is the highway to the stars.

Take time to be friendly,  
It is the road to happiness.

Take time to pray,  
It is the way to Heaven.

### POPULAR TV PROGRAM TITLES THEY APPLY TO CHURCH MEMBERS

Lone Ranger—Person who will not cooperate with the rest of the church.

Playhouse 90— Ninety minutes that seem shorter than a preacher's 30 minute sermon.

I've Got A Secret— Something church gossips can't keep.

Wanted Dead or Alive—What We wonder about non-resident members.

Gunsmoke—The way it looks outside the church between Sunday School and preaching services.

Sugar Foot—Kind of sermon some folks want.

Groucho—Effect religion seems to have on some people.

People Are Funny—Excuses they give for not attending Church.

Late Movie—Why some can't get up in time for church Sunday morning.

— Copied

## Banner Circulation

We are happy to announce that in addition to the copies of the BANNER which go into some foreign countries, that it is also circulated in Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Texas, A total of 18 states.

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## Catholic Prelates

## Clash On Documents

VATICAN CITY — The synod of bishops, called to give Pope Paul VI the opinions of prelates on Roman Catholic Church problems, went into its second week with a clash between liberals and Conservatives in the lime-light.

The synod of nearly 200 cardinals, archbishops, and bishops resumed debate on a document on "dangerous errors" of Catholic thinking. The debate has highlighted differences between progressives and traditionalists in the church.

## HOW SHOULD WE DRESS?

By H. C. Vanderpool

Each day that we live we hear people talking of the various styles and what is being worn and what should be worn. The styles of garments some people like and wear, others resent. Probably those resenting have a taste for apparel that others dislike. So we find ourselves in the midst of a disagreeing generation concerning the proper dress.

How should we dress? We should dress to please God. Paul told Timothy, Thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. II Tim. 2.3. If Timothy was a soldier in the army of God, we the people of God today are soldiers. If we are soldiers, we should be willing to wear with gratitude a soldier's uniform. Our enemy is Satan. Our dress should have a two fold purpose. First, to manifest to the world that we are soldiers identified with God and His army. Second, that our garments are dependable, protectable, and sufficient to withstand our enemy—satan.

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about the truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness:

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quence all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Eph. 6:13-17.

How should we dress? To be sure that God is pleased regardless of what the world of critics say, let us wear the following garments:

- A. TRUTH to girt the loins.
- B. RIGHTEOUSNESS for a breastplate.
- C. The GOSPEL OF PEACE for our feet.
- D. FAITH for a shield.
- E. SALVATION for a helmet.

If we wear these we will be properly dressed. Then take with us—the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Eph. 6:17B.



# On The Conversion Of Children

By F. R. Bingham

I believe in the conversion of children. When you get a child saved, you save, not only a soul for heaven and eternity, but also save a life for the Lord here and now.

Jesus said, "suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not." This does not mean infant baptism. He did not say Infants, or little babies, but children; and there is a lot of difference between babies and children. Neither did he say bring them to baptismal font. He said "Let them come to me..." that is, if they come of their own will and accord, then let them come, do not hinder them, and do not forbid them.

This does not give anyone the right to gather a bunch of little children together and entice them down the aisle to a profession of religion, and into membership of a church, like an old woman shooing a bunch of little chicks into a coop. Everyone knows that under high pressure evangelism, and sympathetic appeals, children can be flocked into public professions of faith, but most often deceived.

This is dangerous work, and those who deal with children in the matter of their salvation need to be very careful in what they do and say.

Recently, I heard a preacher tell of a group of children making a profession of faith, receiving Christ as Saviour, when they were only 3 & 4 years old, and had not reached the time of personal accountability; they had not even realized they were lost, and needed to be saved. This angered me, but there was nothing I could do about it.

No one can set the time when a child becomes accountable for his own sin, and needs to be saved. But until he does he should be let along and not over-persuaded into a profession prematurely.

## Monkey Business

Leaving Darwin out of it, there is still a little too much monkey business in modern theology.

## Dad's Greatest Job

I may never be as clever as my neighbors down the street,  
I may never be as wealthy as some other men I meet;

I may never have the glory that some other men have had,

But I've got to be successful as a little fellow's dad.

There are certain dreams I cherish that I'd like to see come true.

There are things I would accomplish ere my working time is through;  
But the task my heart is set on is to guide a little lad

And to make myself successful as that little fellow's dad.

I may never get earth's glory; I may never gather gold;

Men may count me as a failure when my business life is told;

But if one who follow's after is a Christian, I'll be glad,

For I'll know I've been successful as a little fellow's dad.

## LAZY AS A HOUND

A hound was sitting in a country store in Missouri, howling as hounds howl. A stranger came in who asked the store keeper, "What's the matter with the dog?"

"Oh, he's sitting on a cocklebur" replied the storekeeper.

"Why doesn't he get off?" continued the stranger.

"Oh, he'd rather holler," drawled the shop man.

How many Christians would rather "holler" about the things that are wrong in the church than to patiently and humbly seek to rectify them?

—Selected

## Watch For Expiration Date

Each subscriber to the BANNER is asked to watch for the date at the end of your name and address on the paper. This is the month that your subscription expires. Please renew as soon as possible, for this saves time and work on the editor and the printer.

## THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S NINE REASONS FOR GOING TO CHURCH

1. "In this actual world, a churchless community, a community where men have abandoned and scoffed at or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapids down grade.

2. "Church work and church attendance mean the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility of others.

3. "There are enough holidays for most of us. Sundays differ from other holidays in the fact there are fifty-two each year. Therefore on Sunday go to church.

4. "Yes, I know all the excuses I know that one can worship the Creator in a grove of trees, or by a running brook, or in a man's own house just as well as in a church building. But, I also know as a matter of fact the average man does not thus worship.

5. "He may not hear a good sermon at church. He will hear a sermon by a good man who with his wife, is engaged all the week in making hard lives a little easier.

6. "He will listen to and take part in reading some beautiful passages from the Bible. And if he is not familiar with the Bible, he has suffered no loss.

7. "He will take part in singing some good gospel hymns.

8. "He will meet and nod or speak to good quiet neighbors. He will come away feeling a little more charitable toward all the world, even toward those excessively foolish young men who regard church-going as a soft performance.

9. "I advocate a man's joining in churchwork for the sake of 'showing his faith by his works.' "

## GOD'S ANSWER

I prayed for strength; He kept me weak

That I might lean on Him,  
And with my triumphs He sent tears,  
Lest I take pride in them.

I prayed for light; He gave me faith  
And though I cannot see

The distant path I have no doubt  
That God will walk with me

—Sybil Leonard Arnes