

Baptist Banner

ELD. H. C. VANDERPOOL
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Missionary Writes From Japan

Hagishi-Ku, Kita-Kotoshiba
Ube City, Yamaguchi Ken,
Japan
April 2, 1968

Dear Friends:

Greetings from the "Land of the Rising Sun"! We are having nice spring weather now, and soon the Japanese cherry trees will be blooming in this area. Certainly it is a lovely season of the year.



Eld. Bacon

We sure miss Bro. & Sis. Smith since they left Japan. However, we know that each of us must follow the leadership of God in order to be happy and to enjoy God's blessings. We pray that if it be God's will Bro. Smith may be able to stay in Israel and God, through him, will be

able to witness to many, and that precious souls will be saved.

Often someone comes to our house wanting help in their English study. Of course I always invite them to church. Sometimes they give various reasons why they cannot attend the scheduled services. And in that case I will agree to help them in their English study, if they will allow me to preach to them in Japanese afterward. Presently I am having two services a week in this way. One young lady has been coming regular for several months now. Although she has never attended our regular services, I preach to her after the English lesson each week. We pray that she will open her heart to God.

One young lady came to the services in Ube City for the first time last Sunday. Also one young lady began attending the services at Yamaguchi church three weeks ago. We pray that they will continue coming. I am enjoying preaching at Yamaguchi Church, just pray that through the Lord, we can be a help to each other. It takes us about one hour to drive to Yamaguchi City for the Sunday morning

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The Christian Path

By H. C. Vanderpool

Every person is traveling the path of life. There are various ways in which people are walking. The unsaved are walking in darkness. It is not the will of God that they should do so. The Christian path is the greatest of all to travel. Let us take a few steps through the pages of Holy writ and study the path of the Christian.

LIGHT. Jesus said he was the light of the world. Just before he returned to heaven, he told the disciples that they were the light of the world. Christ not being here in the world in person is reflected to the world through the people of God. The Christian path then is a path of light. "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." I John 1-7.

LOVE. We are aware of the fact today that there is hate on the left and on the right. There is hate among groups, races, nations, individuals and it brings heart aches, broken homes, wrecked lives and destruction. But the people of God should manifest to each other and the world the love that God has placed

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BROADCASTS

Broadcast on radio station at Smithville, Tenn. each Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Bro. Tommy Ashford is the speaker each 1st., 3rd. and 5th. Sunday of each month, and Bro. J. C. Derting each 2nd. and 4th. Sunday. 1480 on radio dial.

Elder James Porter broadcasts each Sunday at 9:00 A. M. on WFKN, Franklin, Ky.

The following can be heard on the Carthage, Tenn. radio station on Sunday at 8:30 A. M.: Bro. Tommy Ashford, 2nd. Sunday; Bro. Everett Fields, 3rd. Sunday and Bro. George Reed, 4th. Sunday of each month.

Old Union Baptist Church broadcasts from WKCT, Bowling Green, Ky. each Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Program conducted by H. C. Vanderpool, the pastor.

The World's Debt To The Baptists

By F. L. Ray

"Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour." Romans 13:7

As I began to write this article, I am reminded of many things that God has done for us, and also the many things that God's people have done for the world. I think of how Lord made choice of the Israelites in the long ago.



Eld. Ray

In Deuteronomy chapter 7:6: "For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth."

Then in the New Testament we find the following statement: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people (people of God's own possession); that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." I Peter 2:9.

While we are not unmindful that the world is indebted, in a large measure, to many great people who have lived in the past, our purpose is to show or consider the Baptist contribution to the spiritual welfare of mankind.

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Banner Ends 2nd. Year of Publication

This issue completes the second year of publication for the BANNER. Thanks to all who have helped to make it a success. We greatly appreciate all that everyone has done to help. We pray that the 3rd. year will still be a better one.

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Revival Announcements

Second Sunday-May

Grace Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.
Pastor D. C. Barton is to be assisted by
Elder L. W. Smith of Louisville, Ky.

Third Sunday-May

Southside Baptist Church, Indianap-
olis, Ind. Pastor William L. Shoulders is
to be assisted by young ministers of the
church.

Fourth Sunday-May

Calvary Baptist Church, Carthage, Ten-
nessee. Pastor Kenneth Massey is to be
assisted by Elder H. C. Vanderpool of
Bowling Green, Ky.

All Day Services at Calvary Church

Calvary Baptist Church is to have an
all-day service on Sunday, May 26. Lunch
will be served at the noon hour with sing-
ing in the afternoon by the Spirituales
Quartet of Nashville. The revival begins
that night. Elder Kenneth Massey is the
pastor of the church. Everyone is invited
to attend the all-day service and the re-
vival following.

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Missionary Writes From Japan

(Continued from Page 1)

service there. Then we drive back to Ube, have a quick lunch and begin the after-
noon service here at 3:15. Through
February we had a lot of snow, but the
Lord blessed us in that every Sunday the
roads were free of snow and safe for
driving.

Some people have attended our ser-
vices regular for some time, then move to
other cities in their work or to attend
college, and we never see them again.
And some maybe have quit coming be-
cause they just do not want to hear the
Gospel of our Savior. There is nothing
much that we missionaries can do about
these things. However, there is another
problem that we have been struggling
against here in Ube. One man who came
to our services for some time, claimed
to be a Christian and pretended to be-
lieve the doctrines of the Bible that we

Baptists believe and preach. However,
as time went on, I found out that he did
not believe the truth of the Bible. Futher-
more, He began saying that we should
fellowship any denomination, anyone
who says they are a Christian, of course
I could not go along with these things.
He quit attending our services about a
year ago. However, I found out even
while attending our services he had been
talking to the other people behind my
back and trying to turn them against the
truth of God's word. He was able to
turn three of those people against us and
they quit coming. Just recently I found
out that he still is trying to learn who
comes to our services here in Ube and

tries to talk to them and to get them to
believe his heretical doctrine, even though
he can prove none of it by the Bible. I
have learned a few of the things he is
telling; such as the baptism, it does not
matter whether you are immersed or
sprinkled; he has told them that Baptists
are narrow-minded and isolationists be-
cause they do not fellowship people who
do not believe as they do. Some of them
who have been coming have become con-
fused because of the things this man has
been saying against me, Baptists and the
Teaching of the Bible. Brothers & Sis-
ters we need your prayers more than ever
before. We love God and His Holy Word,
we love the souls of the Japanese people.
I am going to try my best to follow the
Lord's Spirit and to proclaim the truth of
God's Word; the way of salvation with all
the strength that God gives me. Please
pray that if it could be God's will that
the slanderous words of this man would
be stopped. And please pray that people
here will open their hearts to God's
truth, that God's name could be honored
and glorified. We sometimes wish that
some of our Christian friends from the
states could stand beside us and witness
with us. You cannot be present with us
physically, but by uniting our prayers
you can all stand beside us in this battle
for the Lord. And we know you will.

We will be remembering all of you
and your work there, may souls be saved
is our prayer. We appreciate everything
that has been done for us.

Sincerely in His Service,

Dexter Bacon, Jr. & Family

THE WORLD'S DEBT TO THE BAPTISTS

(Continued from Page 1)

First, we will notice that God has paid much tribute, and given much honour to his chosen people, by intrusting us with the task of evangelizing the world by preaching the gospel, and bestowing such honour when he made the church the pillar and grounds of the truth. Though we have been persecuted, mocked, scorned and made a gazing stock in the eyes of the world, yet, from the standpoint of spiritual welfare to mankind, Baptists have made the greatest contribution that has ever been made to the world.

First of all, and essential to all, is soul liberty, which, from the beginning, has been the trophy of the Baptists. That the right to worship God, according to the dictates of the individual conscience is a debt that the world owes exclusively to the Baptists, is a closed question in all informed circles. A few quotations by accredited historians will suffice in this connection:

Bancroft says that "Freedom of conscience, unlimited freedom of mind, was from the first the trophy of the Baptist."

Judge Story writes: "In the code of laws celebrated by them in Rhode Island we read for the first time since Christianity ascended the throne of the Caesars, the declaration that conscience shall be free, and that men should not be persecuted for worshipping in the way they believe right."

Waddy writes: "Nowhere else in all the world (Rhode Island) were all men allowed equal rights."

Savoyard declares: "What a great conservator of American character this church (Baptist) has been. A despotism could not exist where this church flourishes. Its church polity has for its foundation home rule."

A corollary of soul liberty is the entire separation of church and state. For this Baptists have suffered through all the ages from the days of Christ and the Apostles, and their tragic contention is traced through blood and tears. A Mrs. Hutchinson, during the reign of Charles I, wrote of the persecuted Baptists: "O pitying skies, is there nowhere beneath your encircling dome a land, where this agony can cease, because the soul is free?" It was in behalf of religious liberty that John Bunyan, one of the world's greatest and best Baptists spent more than a decade in Bedford jail. It was for this cause, that more than fifty thousand Anabaptists were tortured and murdered, surrendering their lives rather than principles. . . . and they loved not their lives

unto the death." Rev. 12:11. It was for this cause that Waller, Shackleford, Ware, Craig and countless other of whom the world was not worthy, were whipped and imprisoned, even counting their lives not dear, that they might give to the world its greatest blessing. "But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord, Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God." Acts 20:24.

The very government under which we live was formed and fashioned upon the model of a Baptist church. Thomason Jefferson frequently attended a Baptist church near Monticello, Va. of which Elder Andrew Tribble was pastor. Mr. Jefferson, who often witnessed the congregation transacting business, was much impressed with their democratic way of doing things, and concluded that their plan of government would be the best possible one for the American colonies. Mrs. James Madison says: "Mr. Jefferson did gather those views from a Baptist church."

It has been none other than Baptists who have contended that the gospel be preached to all the world. God has honored Baptist people by making them pioneers in this great mission work.

If God will demand of us according as he hath bestowed upon us—and he will surely our obligation is great. The fields are white unto harvest, and God commands of us to go into the fields and work for him.

To a Baptist, also, is due the Sunday School movement of our age. William Fox, a Baptist deacon, organized the first scriptural Sunday School, in the year 1783.

The Baptists have preserved to the world the New Testament idea of a church. They are the only people who through the ages have contended, and who are now contending, for a regenerated church membership.

Time and space will not permit me to say all that could be said on this wonderful subject. As I look back over almost thirty years in the ministry, and I thank God today that these Baptist people brought to me the truth. I thank God that they have fought for the freedom that we enjoy today in this great nation. I can go to the house of the Lord, sing, pray, preach and worship God in spirit and in truth. I request that all of you pray, that I may continue to have health, and be able to serve the Lord and declare his wonderful truth to a lost and dying world.

THE CHRISTIAN PATH

(Continued from Page 1)

in our hearts. Love is one of the witnesses that we have been saved. See I John 3:14. The path of the Christian is a way of love. "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour." Eph. 5:1-2.

SPIRIT. The unsaved of this world are walking the path of life without the Holy Spirit of God. Rom. 8:9b. After the spirit has reproved of sin and then one has repented of sin and exercised faith in Christ to the saving of the soul, the spirit leads and directs those persons as they live in this world. Another joy then of the Christian's path is the possession of and the leadership of the Spirit. This I say then Walk in the Spirit and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. Gal. 5:16.

TRUTH. Among the sins that God hates is a lying tongue. See Prov. 6:17. Some of us have heard the question many times—Why did that person want to tell such a thing, it isn't true. I wonder! The people of God are to be lovers of the truth and should walk in the truth. "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in the truth." III John 4.

GOOD WORKS. Sinners have tried in all generations to save or justify themselves. We read in the Bible of people that came before Christ offering to him good works while enquiring of eternal life. I believe we will all agree that it is

B-O-O-K-S

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Responsibilities of Our Present Day Churches

By Mrs. Ruby Cornwell

God saved my soul forty-three years ago in an old country church in Macon County, Tenn. I was at the age of ten and from that night on I've had a great desire to know more about God's way.

Every time I open His precious Book I find something new. I pray for greater understanding that I might be able to lead others to believe in a living God. Without him, we could do nothing. He gives us natural life and He can take it away, but best of all He gives us eternal life. This is by repentance and faith.

The best way I know to grow and have a healthy body is to eat nourishing food and care for our physical needs. Just as we need a balanced diet and nourishing food to have a healthy body, so must we have Spiritual food to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord.

Every church should have a good Sunday School, but this is not enough. We should always stay for preaching services Sunday School is very important to have a strong, working church. To have a sound Sunday School we must have sound teachers. Too many churches fail to carry out the rest of Christ's commandments after people are saved. He said to make disciples and then teach them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and I'll be with you all the way, even unto the end of the world.

Many people will tell you that they have been saved by the grace of God, but when you ask them where they attend church you get some pitiful answers. Some will say, "I don't go anyplace regularly at any place, one place is as good as another. We are all striving for the same thing. I just don't condemn anyone. They have the same right as I do to go to the church of their choice."

That is where someone has failed. In the first place, Christ set up only one church. We have no choice! There is still one church in this world and Christ is the head and founder. If men all through the ages had rightly divided the word of God there would never have been different denominations that call themselves churches. I believe everyone who is saved by the grace of God, if led by the Holy Spirit, will join the church, the Missionary Baptist Church.

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The church where I was raised didn't have Sunday School every Sunday but I am thankful for those who did study and encouraged me to study and grow in grace. But I have grown so slow because of the need of more teaching.

Fourteen years ago we moved to Nashville. We hadn't lived close to a church where they taught and practiced the things I believed the Bible to teach. I was starved for Spiritual food and blessings. Eld. Robert began a Mission in Woodbine close to where we lived. God blessed his efforts and it grew into a lively church—Faith Missionary Baptist Church. I was in the first service of the mission and was a charter member when it was organized into a church.

I was elected as a Sunday School teacher and had to study hard and depend on God to help me learn with the pupils. I hadn't been taught enough to be a teacher, but when elected the desire for knowledge burned stronger than ever. We used literature that many of our churches use but we often found things in it that we could not teach and the teacher or pastor would point out that those things were not true.

It was then that I recognized that we needed men and women of our own ranks to write and prepare literature for use in our churches. My prayers were that God would lead someone in this great work. Three years ago we moved to Gallatin, Tenn. and began attending Longview Missionary Baptist Church. I was soon led of the Spirit to join here.

Thank God our prayers have been answered and we have some members

who have been led to write and compile our literature. It is every bit Bible. No man's idea. The questions are asked from the scripture and we can study it together and learn the unadulterated truth. If we disagree on a scripture, we study it until it is revealed unto us. We recommend this literature to all the churches. We use it here at Longview. New Bethel Church at Goodlettsville where Bro. F. L. Ray is pastor used it; Bethlehem church, Nashville, Bro. Bobby Sutton, pastor and Rocky Grove church, Lebanon, Bro. William Hall, pastor, also uses it.

We pray that other churches will prayerfully examine this literature and will accept it into their churches for study, and churches that do not have a Sunday School will organize one.

There has never been a more needful time for our young people to be taught the true plan of salvation. While there is heresy being taught both day and night, we as God's children are at ease—we are asleep and letting the devil and his angels lead our children to a devil's hell. Also letting our young converts go astray and being led by the Gods of this world. Failing to teach them the commandments given to the church that they may be spiritually strong and the church of tomorrow.

God help us to awake from our sleep and be about our Father's business.

There is not in this hollow world a fount of deep, strong, deathless love like that which flows from a mother's heart.

How slow we are to prove the height and depth and deathlessness of perfect mother love!

All that I have ever accomplished in this life I owe to my mother—Moody.

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.