

Baptist Banner

H. C. VANDERPOOL
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MAY 70

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

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Number 9

Editor Reports On Bible Lands Tour

By: H. C. Vanderpool

(This is the final in a series of eight articles published since last May on our tour of Bible Lands. The days of March 3 through 14 have been reported on. In this article March 15-17 is recorded. I trust you have enjoyed these brief reports. As stated in previous issues, I have written a full-length book of this tour with many pictures. The title of the book is "TRAVEL WITH ME THROUGH BIBLE LANDS," being printed by Carlton Press, New York, price \$3.50. A copy will be reserved for anyone who will send your name and address. You may pay now or wait until the book is delivered - Editor).

March 15, 1969. This is Saturday. It is our thirteenth day of travels in Bible Lands. This being the Jewish Sabbath all the business places were to be closed until 6:00 P.M. We had the day for rest and relaxation in Tel Aviv or we could spend the day as we desired.

After breakfast at the Basel Hotel, six of us brethren decided to walk down through Tel Aviv into Jaffa (Joppa) which lies on the southeast side of Tel Aviv on the Mediterranean Sea shore.

Viewing the ruins of past centuries along with some of the present day structures, we stopped often to study the activities and some of the places of worship of various religions. We were never far from the beautiful and blue Mediterranean.

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MISSIONARY REPORT FROM MEXICO

Guadalajara, Jalisco
January 10, 1970

Dear Friends,

As we begin a new year of work, we continue to seek God's will and ask for the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

We have been blessed greatly during the past year. The Lord opened doors and blessed even far beyond our feeble physical expectations. We have begun to conduct prayer services with the congregations.

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ROME



Is It Safe To Receive Baptisms Administered By S. B. C. Churches?

By P. D. Ballard
Lindsay, Oklahoma

Baptist, real Baptist, have always contended that the proper authority, a scriptural subject, a proper form and a proper purpose are essentials to scriptural baptism. But it seems that the FORM, PURPOSE, SUBJECT and ADMINISTRATOR are all being ignored in our time by certain groups, and the Southern Baptist Convention (S.B.C.) is one of those groups. The following quotations from the BAPTIST MESSENGER (published by the Baptist General Convention of Okla.) reveal this fact when they answered the question: "Who should be admitted into the membership of a Southern Baptist church without being 're-baptized?'" The messengers of the 1969

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FINANCIAL REPORT OF MISSIONARY IN ISRAEL

By Henry Smith

The following is a report of offerings which we have received since arriving here last September of 1969.

SEPTEMBER—McFerrin Baptist Church, Nashville \$42.13; Brother G. H. Dillard, Holland, Ky., \$5.00; Jordan Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., \$25.00; Shiloh Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., \$20.00, total for September \$92.13.

OCTOBER—Fairview Baptist Church, Woodburn, Ky., \$40.00; Mr. and Mrs. William Woodall, San Antonio, Texas \$25.00; McFerrin Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., \$185.61; Parkwood Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., \$158.28; Shiloh Church, Chicago, Ill., \$20.00; Russell Springs Baptist Church, Russell Springs, Ky. - \$50.00; Bro. G. H. Dillard,

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Editor Reports

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We went up a rock wall and onto the top of the "house of one, Simon the tanner." Here we sat down and studied the 10th Chapter of Acts. I had many thoughts about Jonah and the time that he boarded a ship here in trying to run from God.

We strolled back into Tel Aviv and our round-trip of walking was probably seven or eight miles. Returning to the Hotel we washed and took a mid-day rest. We had a delightful luncheon and then made our way down to the Sea where I gathered more rocks and shells for my collection.

We returned in the afternoon to our hotel. After 6:00 P.M. the shops at the hotel opened and we did some shopping and looking. After dinner we packed our luggage, getting ready for our departure the next morning. This was to be our last night in the Holy Land.

Sunday, March 16, 1969. We were up early with baggage setting out in the hotel. We ate breakfast and soon Abraham, our bus driver, arrived. Our baggage was loaded onto the tour bus and we boarded the bus and were then on our way to the airport.

We arrived at the Tel Aviv Airport and checked through customs. We took Flight 841 and were now on our way to Rome. We stopped in Athens. Enroute to Rome we had our lunch on the plane. We arrived at the Rome Airport, checked through customs and then took the bus that was waiting for us into Rome. We

crossed the Tiber River. We stopped at the Palatino Hotel to leave our baggage, for this was where we were to spend the night, and then began our Sunday afternoon tour of Rome.

We visited the Colosseum. Here thousands of early Christians lost their lives under the Roman powers. After viewing ruins of structures of the past, we took the Appian Way to the Catacombs. The lowest estimate of graves in the catacombs is 1,750,000 and the highest is 4,000,000. These were the burying places of the Christians killed in the early centuries A. D.

As we continued on the tour we came to the Mamertime Prison. This is where the Apostle Paul spent his last days and where he wrote his last book, II Timothy. This was one of the outstanding places that we visited. I felt mixed emotions. An inspiration and a sense of solemnity. Here we saw the hole in the ceiling of the rock prison where Paul was cast through.

It is now late afternoon and we ride our bus back to the Palatino Hotel. Bro. L. W. Smith and I were assigned Room 615. This was a luxurious hotel. We enjoyed a fine dinner and hour of fellowship.

Some of my preacher brethren and I walked down town. Business places were closed, but we had some good exercise and had some looks at the city. The night air was fresh and brisk. We returned to the hotel for the night.

Monday, March 17, 1969. Up at 6:30 A.M. we had breakfast. We checked out of the Hotel and our baggage was loaded on the bus. We boarded the bus and began our second tour of Rome. With the knowledge of the background of the Romans and their church theories of Rome, I could not accept many of the statements made concerning some of the places visited. Yet, from a historical viewpoint and with the view to learn of some of the situations here, I was happy to have this opportunity. We visited St. Peter's Basilica, (See article in last issue of Baptist Banner about Peter's Tomb in Jerusalem) the Sistine Chapel where Popes are elected, the Vatican City, the Vatican Museum. We saw many of the masterpieces of Michaelangelo.

Time arrived for us to go to the airport. Here we checked through customs and at 2:00 P.M. we were on Flight 841 to New York. Our flight brought us over the Atlantic Ocean, France and Ireland. We ate, slept, talked and looked. We arrived at Kennedy International Airport at 5:00 P.M. Later we flew from New York to Nashville with a stop in Washington D. C. From Nashville Bro. W. T. Russell and I drove to our homes in Bowling Green, Ky. Thus ended our 15-day, 15,000 mile Tour of Bible Lands.

REPORT FROM MEXICO

(Continued from page 1)

gation with which we attend services. Also during Christmas vacation we were privileged to visit two villages outside Guadalajara. The chances are good that we will be invited to hold services in a private home. This is the only way that we can legally hold services here. Either in our home or the home of a national. Pray for us that we can begin a work in the home.

Also, we have been blessed financially, to the extent that my wife is now able to attend language school with me for one quarter at least. It's almost as important that she speak the language, as myself.

I should have informed you sooner but failed to do so, It's not practical to send packages into Mexico by mail as they are invariably opened and the contents examined. Foodstuff therefore is contaminated and we have to pay a high import duty on the merchandise. As an example, a friend sent us a fruitcake on which the duty was \$64.00 pesos or \$5.00 American money. Since it had sat several days exposed to rats, flies and dirty hands, we refused to take delivery, as much as we like fruit cake.

Also, we received an offering of \$50.00 U. S. currency, without any form of identification or return address. The letter was mailed at Hartsville, Tenn. We will respect anyones desire to remain anonymous, but it's much safer to put a return address on all letters. Also, we are able to negotiate personal checks. If the words "for deposit only" is written on the back it's almost impossible for anyone to negotiate the check except me.

We appreciate all the cards, letters and offerings that were sent during Christmas. May God bless each of you is our prayer.

Following is a report of all monetary receipts for the months of November and December, 1969.

NOVEMBER

Friends	\$ 10.00
South Carthage Sunday School.	
"Young adult class."	30.00
Maces Hill Church	50.00
Caney Fork Sunday School ..	22.50
Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Wilburn ..	5.00
Siloam Association	48.50
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Halbert ..	15.00
Mr. and Mrs. Loucius Reed ..	25.00
Mt. Tabor Baptist Church	191.78
Rock Bridge Sunday School ..	96.78
Willette Baptist Church.....	50.00
Sunday School, Faith Baptist Church	45.03

\$589.59

DECEMBER

Caney Fork Sunday School .. \$ 59.65

(Continued on page 3)

WHY?

By Eunice Schmalz
Pittsburgh, Pa.

The question I hear asked most frequent is a little three letter word, "Why?" What have I done? Why do so many awful things - sickness or troubles - come to me? Being of a discerning nature, being taught from childhood that children are to be seen not heard, caused me to say little but give a lot of thought to problems and troubles that come to me and those around me.

I was raised in a home with parents that loved and feared God, and they believed and taught that "All things happen for the good of those who love the Lord." (Rom. 8:28). I began my walk with Jesus Christ as my Saviour and guide at the age of thirteen and in reading the Bible and hearing it taught. I found that God is good, just, compassionate toward mankind whom He created in His own likeness. I also found that He is a Holy God who hates sin and because of His Omnipotence, Omnipresence and Omniscience why shouldn't all the answers be in Him.

In reading the eleventh chapter of the Gospel of John where Jesus went to the home of friends whom He loved, we see He found Lazarus had been dead and in his tomb four days. He had told them when they brought the news of his sickness that "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby." In finding the sisters mourning, "Jesus wept." Why? Was it because of their grief? Was it because he was to bring Lazarus back into this world? Or, was it because he found a lack of faith in the family he dearly loved? We read later that many of the Jews which came with Mary and had rejected the Lord believed on him, because of the miracle.

Now I think of a frequent visitor to the church where I want as a child. She was addressed by all as "Aunt Bide." Aunt Bide was blind. She was born in poverty. She was stricken with a disease when she was three months old, her life hung in the balance for two years, and she was left blind to face life.

All through her sickness, each day friends would ask, "Does she still abide?" Thus, she received the title. From the tender age of eight she was left with the memory of her mother's hand as it touched her head while she breathed her death-bed prayer to God, committing her blind child to His care and keeping. Aunt Bide saw many difficult days as she grew up, being taken from one home to another and many times expected to do the same work that other children did with good eyesight and what was amazing

about her, she could do most anything other children could do in spite of her handicap.

At the age of twelve she was converted, giving herself over into the hands of the Lord to lead and guide her in her condition. It was thru her love and faith for her Lord that she won her way into the homes and hearts of the Baptist preachers who took her in. She visited both city and country churches with the pastors in revival meetings throughout the areas of Kentucky and Tennessee. It was through her Christian living and witnessing that many were won to Christ, thus through her condition and faithfulness Christ was glorified.

Many in praying ask God to change the other person or the circumstances to their liking rather than asking for strength to accept the things that might be all wrong for them if changed to their way of thinking. It is the nature of the heart to rebel against troubles, trials, sickness, handicaps, or any kind of problems. But Jesus taught that in this world "You will have tribulations." Also he said, "Come unto me - I will give you rest." God says to man through the Bible "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." (I Peter 5:7). "And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." (Ps. 50:15).

Many times it is when one is in a state of helplessness or on a bed of affliction that he turns to the Lord for help. Many come out of their troubles with a sound testimony and a perfect trust.

My own personal experience came in the year 1965, when after a chronic illness of many years caused me to be in the doctor's care continuously. As I grew older I found my illness growing worse until I was taking medicine to counteract medicine and my body seemed to be rejecting or rebelling against it all. For the lack of sleep, rest and peace of mind I was at the point of a nervous breakdown. It was in desperation that I took health problems to the Lord. He heard me. I told my husband that the Lord had healed me and proceeded to take myself off the many pills that I was taking by now with the wisdom and guidance that the Lord gave me.

My husband watched me in doubt and my doctor let me go as his patient. But now time has proved that the "Great Physician" is still at work among us in this generation and will be to the end of time. We both have a stronger faith and give "Him" credit for my healing.

(To be continued next issue)

(NOTE: Sister Schmalz wrote her article in 1967. Due to space the second half will be printed next month. - Editor)

REPORT FROM MEXICO

(Continued from page 2)

Mr. and Mrs. William Carter . . .	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Wilburn . . .	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Loucius Reed . . .	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Shoulders . . .	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Beachboard, Bell Buckle, Tenn.	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Grisham	20.00
Sunday School "Pipers Chapel Church"	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Certain and Shirley	25.00
Elder James H. Smith	50.00
New Macedonia Church	60.00
J. T. Vance and Family	50.00
White Hill Church	25.00
Grace Baptist Church, Detroit Michigan	100.00
Elder J. Frank Carr	5.00
Friends at Sycamore Valley Church	33.50
Rocky Grove Baptist Church . . .	100.00
Longview Church	50.00
South Carthage Sunday School. "Young Adult Class"	40.00
Old Union Sunday School, J. O. Rains Class	27.00
	<hr/> \$725.15

In one or two cases, we were not sure if the offerings were from the church, or individual offerings of friends and members of the respective churches. In any event, God knows all our hearts and will bless accordingly. Continue to pray for us.

Your Servant in Christ,
James and Margaret Vance

Reverence To God

By Lueree Brown
Old Hickory, Tennessee

My God is my friend,
My hope and my life,
He is my everything.
He is my comforter,
My chastiser, my ruler,
He is my King.

I give all praise to Him,
To Him only,
For He is my guiding light.
Though others mock,
And have no fear,
I tremble at His might.

He walks with me,
Through darkness of night,
I talk and He hears.
He knows my aspirations,
My longing, my dream,
That Heaven is near.

S. B. C. Churches

(Continued from page 1)

session of the said Convention took the following stand, if it be called a STAND:

"The largest portion of the messengers to the convention (36.4 per cent) chose the alternative "any person who has been immersed by any church." The second largest portion of the messengers (28 per cent) chose the alternative "any person transferring from any Baptist church," and "only persons transferring from a Southern Baptist church" was a very close third (27.2 per cent) choice."

So the greater per cent of the messengers of the Convention churches believe that just anyone's baptism is alright just so it is immersion administered by just ANY CHURCH. Bob L. Ross is worse than this, for he believes that just any Christian can administer scriptural baptism. Since we are Christians before Baptism, Ross' theory is: a man can administer something he does not have.

You might ask: "What do the pastors of Southern Baptist churches believe concerning ALIEN IMMERSION (immersion administered by other professed churches)?" The same publication states that 19.7 per cent of the pastors in Southern Baptist churches believe that "Any person who has been immersed by any church" is qualified for membership in a Baptist church. If this is not enough to let you know that it is dangerous to receive Southern Baptist baptisms, then take a look at this:

"A fourth alternative, "Any person 'baptized' in any manner by any church," was indicated by 7.4 per cent of the teachers and 2.0 per cent of the pastors. The remaining 3.3 per cent of the pastors and 2.0 per cent of the teachers chose not to respond to the question." This information was received in a VIEW POLL among Southern Baptist pastors and teachers. I am caused to wonder just where the remaining per cent of the pastors and teachers stand since they refused to answer the proposed question.

Brethren, it should be plain for us to see that, according to the information given by this paper (Baptist Messenger, December 11, 1969, issue) it is not safe for Bible loving Baptist churches to receive baptism that is not being administered by Southern Baptist Convention churches. If we wish to preserve the ordinance in its purest form, then we must refuse to accept people on Southern Baptist Convention churches' baptisms. They are ignoring the proper administrator (orderly Baptist church) and have begun to ignore the mode or form. But the writer of the article in the publication says the views given in the VIEW POLL and that which was taken at the convention are not considered to be representative of Southern Baptists. I would

think the View Poll and the answers given at the convention would indicate the condition of Southern Baptist Convention churches, for I would think their strongest Baptists would be their pastors, teachers and messengers at the convention.

I long for the day when all truth loving Baptists say "no" to the receiving of alien immersion that is tolerated in the S. B. C.

NOTICE!

As clerk of Siloam Missionary Baptist Association, I would like to take this opportunity to say that I finished the manuscripts for our 1969 Associational Minutes about two months ago and sent them to the printer in Tennessee. When they are printed I'll send them out immediately to the churches. — Editor

Meditations

By G. H. Dillard

"Then Peter turning about, seeth the disciple (John) whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his (Jesus') breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? Peter seeing him (John) saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? Jesus saith unto him (Peter), If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me." John 21:20-22.

So almost two thousand years later, I believe with all my heart that my Lord loves me as dearly as he did John. My prayer is, Lord I intend to look for thee each day, if my eyes grow weary and I fall asleep in thee, I will be in that great multitude and as Paul said, "So shall we ever be with the Lord."

Send In Reports and Announcements

I would like to have the announcements and reports from your church for the BANNER. I'm taking this opportunity to ask churches and pastors to send me the announcements of your revivals for this year — date, pastor and helper. SEND THEM NOW. They will be made previous to the dates. — Editor

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Subscribe to the BAPTIST BANNER or send it to a friend. The subscription rate is \$2.00 per year.

REPORT FROM ISRAEL

(Continued from page 1)

Holland, Ky., \$5.00; Hendersonville Church, \$140.79; Bethel Church, Toledo, Ohio, \$31.70; Lafayette Church, Lafayette, Tenn., \$130.97; Fellowship Church, Indianapolis, Ind., \$85.75. Total for October, \$873.29.

NOVEMBER—McFarrin Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$132.26; Concord Baptist Church, White House, Tenn., \$70.40; Shiloh Church, Chicago, Ill., \$20.00; Jordan Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., \$25.00; Becker Drive Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., \$30.00; Bethel Baptist Church, Indianapolis, Ind., \$22.50; Brother and Sister Dexter Bacon, Jr., Glasgow, Ky., \$25.00; Red Hill Baptist Church, Delhi La., \$50.00; Maple Grove Church No. 1, Fountain Run, Ky., \$30.00; Red Hill Church, Holland, Ky., \$25.00; Rock Bridge Church, Gallatin, Tenn., \$96.78; Old Pleasant Point Church, Ingle, Ky., \$32.00; West End Church, Gallatin, Tenn., \$58.65. Total for November \$617.69.

DECEMBER—Hendersonville Baptist Church, \$484.18; Brother Kenneth Woodall, Gallatin, Tenn., \$25.00; Lyons Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., \$50.00; Brother G. H. Dillard, Holland, Ky., \$10.00; New Bethel Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, Tenn., \$51.58; Shiloh Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., \$20.00; Jordan Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., \$25.00; Brother and Sister George Hefner, Phoenix, Arizona, \$15.00; Praters Creek Baptist Church, Pickens, S. C., \$150.00; Dorthy and Ann Stone, Nashville, Tenn., \$60.00; Mrs. Janie Jones, Madison, Tenn., \$10.00; Mr. and Mrs. William Duncan, Hendersonville, Tenn., \$10.00; Union Church No. 2, Glasgow, Ky., \$50.61; Grace Church, Detroit, Mich., \$100.00; Salem Church, Fonthill, Ky., \$161.39; Fairview Church, Woodburn, Ky., \$40.00; Old Union Suncay School, J. P. Doss' class, Bowling Green, Ky., \$44.00; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Shoulders, Carthage, Tenn., \$5.00; Liberty Church, Barberton, Ohio, \$50.00; Mrs. Ramsey Jenkins, Nashville, Tenn., \$5.00; McFerrin Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., \$331.48; Parkwood Church, Nashville, Tenn., \$135.31; Faith Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky., \$100.00. Total \$1,933.25.

Mt. Zion Church Calls Pastor

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Holland, Ky., recently called Elder Thomas Shoemake of Hermitage, Tenn., as pastor. He succeeds Elder James G. Beal who resigned the pastorate after serving the church for nine years.

Bro. Shoemake accepted the call and has already begun his work with the church.