

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

VOLUME 15

GOODLETTSVILLE, TENN. 37072

APRIL, 1981

NUMBER 11

Rocky Mound Missionary Baptist Church



Rocky Mound Missionary Baptist Church is located on the Highland Rim in the western part of Macon County, Tenn. The history of the church dates back to about 1878. Elder Wiley Henderson began preaching in the community and from this work the church was organized. Due to the fact the early records are missing, the information is limited. The work did not prosper for any reason and it partially disbanded.

However, the faithful ones who had been scattered were not willing to give up the work, and with some members from Garrett's Creek and Pleasant Grove Churches came together and reorganized on November 7, 1885, into the present body. Only two of those serving in the organizational presbytery are known, they were Elder J. R. Stinson and Elder Samuel Carter.

Pastors:

Eld. J. R. Stinson, 1885-1886; Eld. J. W. Meador, 1886-1888; Eld. R. P. Dillard, 1890-1891; Eld. J. S. Meador, 1891-1892; Eld. Matthew Jones, 1892; Eld. R. P. Dillard, 1892-1894; Eld. J. F. Lambert, 1894-1895; Eld. J. P. Durham, 1895-1896; Eld. J. S. Meador, 1896-1900; Eld. A. W. Keen, 1901-1903; Eld. J. S. Meador, 1903-1905; Eld. A. J. Sloan, 1905-1906; Eld. C. B. Massey, 1906-1911; Eld. J. B. Witcher, 1911-1916; Eld. P. S. Dyer, 1916-1917; Eld. A. G. Stinson, 1919-1919; Eld. V. O. Shelton, 1920; Eld. A. J. Sloan, 1920-1921; Eld. A. G. Stinson, 1921-1922; Eld. J. F. Overton, 1922-1923; Eld. N. C. Fuqua, 1923-1938; Eld. W. T. Russell, 1938-1947; Eld. F. W. Lambert, 1947-1953; Eld. R. D. Garmon, 1953-1958; Eld. F. W. Lambert, 1958-1965; Eld. J. D. Sanders, 1965-1977; Eld. James (Pete) Porter, 1977-present.

Clerks:

J. G. McGuffey, 1885-1888; P. A. Meador, 1888-1892; S. S. Reagan, 1892-

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LETTER FROM COLORADO CHURCH

February 14, 1981
H. C. Vanderpool
104 Hasty Drive
Goodlettsville, Tenn. 37072

Dear Bro. Vanderpool:

We would like for you to place the below article in your paper so we can thank everyone that has supported us financially and with their prayers.

The Colorado Missionary Baptist Church would like to use the means of the paper to thank everyone that has supported us financially. We have writ-

ten each one that has sent financial help since we started keeping a record, but there are so many that are praying for us that cannot help us with a love offering. We want you to know that your prayers are both felt and very important to our work here. It seems so slow and sometimes we feel very alone but we know you are there and it means very much to us.

Thank you very much for your assistance. May God bless you always.
Yours in Christ,
Colorado Missionary Baptist Church
Mod. - Elder Ottis Jones
Clerk - Mary Brown

A BALANCED MINISTRY

By J. H. Smith

(Continued from February issue of the Banner)

THE LORD'S CHURCH

Every person who gets saved should be Scripturally baptised and become a member of the Lord's church, not just any organization that is called a church, but a church of the Lord, like the one that He set up while on the earth. But people will not know what kind of church to join unless somebody teaches them what a New Testament church is like and what its teachings are. It is not enough to just tell people that I am a Baptist and everybody else should be too; that within itself will not make Baptist. We must show by the Scriptures what is a New Testament church, something of the marks that would identify it in the world that is today filled with many faiths that claim to be churches too.

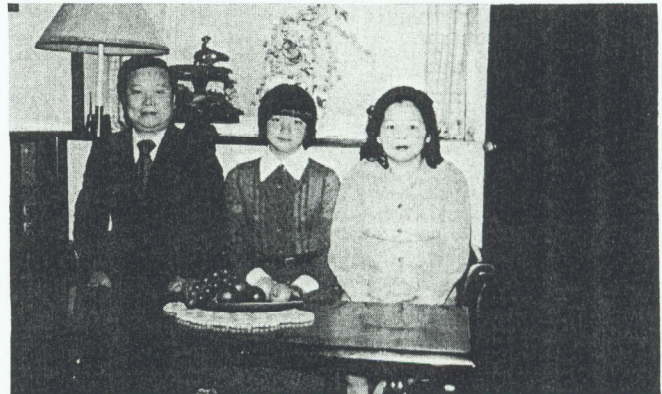
The Lord's church is presented in Scripture as a house, and it speaks of its foundation, its Corner Stone, and the kind of material that goes into the building, etc. So here again I refer you to the First Epistle of Peter. "To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious." 1 Peter 2:4. Let me

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MEDITATION

It's a busy world we live in,
We get caught up in the race;
And sometimes our sense of values
Slips a little out of place.
It's a good thing to pull over
To that roadside now and then,
And get our thinking straightened out
And then just start again.

Japan Missionary Report



Hiroshima, Japan
January 21, 1981

Dear Elder H. C. Vanderpool and Readers,
With joy and thanks we are sending you our christian greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ from Japan.

We hear you have an epidemic of flu in States. We hope you are well in good health condition and enjoy His blessings from above. We especially remember you in this cold winter season. We had an extremely cool and rainy summer last year, and now we are having an extremely cold and snowy weather even here in Hiroshima. They say they never had this kind of abnormal weather for 68 years in our area we live. Even though we are having such bad weather, we are enjoying His grace day after day, for which we are thankful to the Lord.

We hope you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We did have them. Our Christmas season started by receiving a card from Bro. Phocian Gibbs like many other years in the past. We really appreciated receiving pretty cards and gifts from our friends in the Lord. We got three boxes of

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Singing School



Don Xavier Hines

There is to be a Singing School at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 1088 Old Dickerson Pike, Goodlettsville, Tenn. on the following dates: April 27, 29, May 1, 4, 6, 8, which will be on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights of the two weeks. Classes are to begin at 7:00 P.M. each of those nights. Bro. Don Xavier Hines will be the teacher. Everyone from other churches and communities are invited to attend.

No one should make such thorough preparation for the rainy days that he can't enjoy today's sunshine.

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History



BIBLE LANDS REPORT

By H. C. Vanderpool

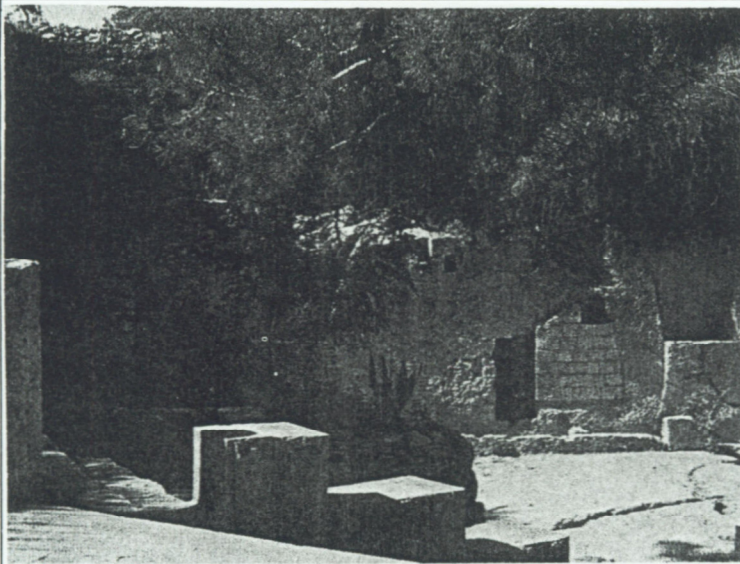
My wife and I, some members of our church and other brothers and sisters from several states—our group 182—toured in Cyprus, Turkey, Lebanon, Syria and Israel.

Thursday, Dec. 2, 1971—On the above date we arrived at the port of Beirut, Lebanon after sailing all night on the M. T. S. Orpheus, a Greek ship, down the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea. We had left Iskenderun, Turkey late the afternoon before. Arriving early in the morning at Beirut we ate breakfast on the ship before disembarking.

We boarded our tour busses and drove through the beautiful city of Beirut, a city of 1,200,000 people. George Bacchus was our Lebanese guide. His lectures were very informative and interesting. Traveling east from the Mediterranean Sea we soon climbed to an elevation of 5,000 ft. This brought us through the mountain pass.

There are two mountain ranges in this country, the Lebanon Mountains and the Anti-Lebanon Mountains. The land bordered on the east by the mountain range, on the south by Galilee and on the west by the Mediterranean Sea was formerly known as Phoenicia, and here of course lived the Phoenicians but today are Lebanese. The cities of Tyre and Sidon were Phoenician and were on the coastal area of the Mediterranean. The material that went into the building of King Solomon's temple came from Lebanon (I Kings 5:1-18). One type of tree that was used for building material was the Cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus libani*)

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The Garden Tomb

The Hope Within Us

"But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." Romans 8:11

By H. C. Vanderpool

True Baptists believe the Bible doctrine of the resurrection of Christ, who was crucified, buried and after three days and three nights in the grave was raised from the dead, walked upon the earth with his disciples for forty days and then ascended back to heaven.

Paul wrote, "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." Romans 8:11. "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." Philippians 3:20-21.

THE EMPTY TOMB

A Moslem once boasted to a Christian: "When Moslems go to Mecca, they find there at least a coffin, but when Christians go to Jerusalem, they find only an empty grave."

"That is just the difference," replied the Christian. "Mohammed is dead, but Jesus Christ is not in the tomb. He is risen, He is alive for evermore."

FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

The resurrection of Christ, its certainty, his duration in the grave is taught in the Old Testament. Some ministers were discussing recently the subject of religion on a Nashville TV station, and they agreed, including a so-called Baptist, that the story of Jonah and the whale was not like the Bible teaches, but rather an allegory, a story in which people and things are used to mean something else. This is just another example of how modern religionists are watering down the truth of the word of God. When one denies these truths taught under the inspiration of God, the Bible has already told of their fate, Revelation 22:18-19.

Jesus quoted from the writings about Jonah and put his approval upon it by using it to preach about his resurrection. "But he answered and said unto them, An evil and

adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas; For as Jonas (Jonah) was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Matthew 12:39-40.

Jesus taught in John 11:9 that a day has twelve hours. He also separated the day from darkness. If the day has twelve hours, so does the night. This would simply make twenty-four hours, and three days and three nights would be seventy-two hours. This is the duration of the Lord's stay in the tomb, that is his body.

Jesus was spoken of by David and he wrote concerning him, "Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption." Psalm 16:9-10

In the New Testament two words "hades" and "gehenna" have both been translated "hell." If the English word is translated from "gehenna" it means the place of fire, or the place of punishment for the wicked. If the word "hell" is translated from the word "hades" it means the "unseen state, or the unseen world," as the word "sheol" does in the Old Testament.

When David said of Christ, "thou wilt not leave my soul in hell," he did not mean that the soul of Christ would go to the place of fire as some teach, but rather that while his soul would depart from the body into the unseen world, it would not be left there but would return to the body which would be raised from the dead. To better understand where the soul of Jesus went for three days and three nights, read II Corinthians 12:1-4; Luke 23:43.

Christ was crucified on Wednesday afternoon, his burial taking place about 6 O'clock in the evening. From this time until the same time on Saturday, we have three days and three nights. No one saw Jesus when he came from the tomb. It is my belief based upon all Bible references that it was at the end of the seventy-two hours mentioned above that Christ arose. When

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Balanced Ministry

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Elder Henry Smith

speak of this Living Stone: Christ Jesus is spoken of many times in the Bible as a stone, or a rock; and this Living Stone is the Sure Foundation on which the church is built. Peter quotes, in part, Isaiah 28:16: I Peter 2:6, "Behold, I lay in Zion a Chief corner stone, elect, precious, and he that believeth on Him shall not be confounded." Isaiah includes, "A sure foundation".

THE SURE FOUNDATION

Christ the Rock on which He built His church, "Upon This Rock, meaning Himself, the Petra, I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18

Since Christ built His church upon Himself it has never failed to exist, the forces of evil haven't destroyed it, and will never. The Lord's church didn't die out sometime in history for some mere human being to come along and resurrect it, as some people might have you to believe. True churches of Jesus Christ have been here since Christ set up His. history proves this to anybody who would desire to know and would check into it. But the common opinion is just join any institution that is called a church, just join the one that is most convenient, or the one that all the relatives are members of; and just keep up tradition, regardless of what the Bible says.

Churches of the true type have left a trail of blood down through the centuries, faithful men and women have died martyr's death rather than give up the Faith which was once delivered to the saints. So the kind of church that we read of in the Bible has weathered the storms, storms that were extremely violent at times, it has stood the test of time, because Jesus Christ is the foundation on which the church is built. It cannot go down because it is founded on Him, the Rock; it cannot fall apart because He is the Chief Corner Stone, He is the force that holds it together.

BUILT OF LIVELY STONES

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." I Peter 2:5.

As mentioned before, the church is presented in Scripture as a house. "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." I Timothy 3:15. We notice in this statement of Paul to Timothy that the house of God and the church of God are one and the same. Now, the kind of material that the house is built of stands out in the verse above in I Peter. He says: "Ye also as lively stones are built up a spiritual house" Not dead stones, not people who have no spiritual life, but those who have been born again and have spiritual life. If we build a church out of sin-

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Report From Japan

(Continued from Page 1)

food and others from Young Adult Class of South Carthage, with which we had wonderful American dishes with American fragrance in American style. They really "hit the spot". Mrs. Charles M. Taylor sent us a can of fruit cake with other food. (She has sent us fruit cake each Christmas time for 12 years). I am going to raise blackeye peas here in Japan, which she also sent us. Maybe we start history of it. December 21st was the day we held Christmas programs for Sunday School children and their parents. Our small church house was packed with people. There were probably 80 people. We took all the benches out from the house and let them sit on the floor. It was a Spirit-filled service. We held ones for adults on 24th. (From that day we have had snow). It was one of the best services we ever had in the past. Five missionaries from three different places joined our service. The farthest one was from over a hundred miles away from us. It was a great joy for us to see ones get saved and baptized into the fellowship of ours last year remembered their Lord the Saviour at their very first Christmas in their lives. One of them made a new song, "My Christmas" and sang it before the Lord and people, while others made good testimonies of their salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ, through which new people are coming to us. It was like an evangelical meeting. We held other services in other places.

Since new year Lord has given us good services. We would like for you to pray for Nagaishi's father, for Saeki's father, who has a priest's license of Sintoism, Japanese traditional religion, for Tanaka's husband, 40 years old gardener, and for others. We are glad to have them in our meeting. It is their first step to come to hear the gospel of the Lord. We also ask you to pray for Mrs. Nagatoma, Miss Funamoto, and for Nagaishi's mother that they may have real conviction. These are back again in our service. In spite of bad weather we are holding good service. We understand Lord is leading people come to His meeting. Please pray for us from time to time.

We have a lot of things enjoyable from the Lord to share with you together. Some day in the future let's have a nice fellowship time with you. Recently I had a wonderful blessing. Let me tell you. Two weeks ago I got a parcel from Junko Miyoshi of Iyo City, Shikoku, in which I found some Kimonos, Japanese traditional costume, which she sewed. A little over four years ago, a woman of quiet personality came to us for some time. We did not know her, even her name. As soon as our service was over, she went home. She was a quite puzzling to us. It was when she had a hard time with her husband. Yet she kept coming. On the very last day she was leaving for her mother's home, she told me, that she was divorced by her husband and his family. (If she had told me something about herself in advance, I could have helped her in some way). She was in pregnancy. It was a sad time, yet praise the Lord it was a happy time. She got saved by His saving power. Three days after I got the parcel, I received a very good letter from her mother. She got saved. Miyoshi, her mother, and her four year old boy named Makoto, which means Truth, all three of them go to church of the town every week now-a-days. They are kept all right by the power of God, and are happy in the Lord. What a joy! This mother wants to see me and say thanks. Some day in near future Michiko and I will go to see them. It takes some time for them to know what it is all about the Lord's grace in this hard and stony field of

pagan land. What we need is to keep on the work for the Lord's name sake. We really appreciate your co-operation.

Let me tell you some more about our work of fourth quarter of 1980. A weekly evangelical meetings in Wakkanai, Hokkaido. (October); Cassette tape ministry; Bible schooling for Nagaishi twice a week; Tuesday morning service. (I do not hold now because of bad weather, and ones came to this regular meeting are coming to Sunday services. I want to reopen it from spring if the Lord's will); Hospital visitations and others.

"If the Lord's will, we shall live, and do this, or that throughout this year" is our desire. We would like for you to pray for us. We remember our dear friends in the Lord there in States in prayer that they have many blessings from the Lord throughout the year.

Following is the report of offerings received for the fourth quarter of 1980 with so much thanks.

Oct. - Calvary Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 100.00; Pleasant Hill Baptist, Portland, Tenn., 300.00; Mr. & Mrs. Bill Petty, Carthage, Tenn., 50.00; Plunketts Creek Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 373.14; North Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 180.10; Beckwith Baptist, Mt. Juliet, Tenn., 75.00; Cave Springs Baptist, Liberty, Tenn., 248.84; Grace Baptist, Hendersonville, Tenn., 50.00; Beckwith Baptist, Mt. Juliet, Tenn., 75.00; Faith Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., 73.85; South Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 107.90. Total \$1,633.83.
Nov. - Mr. & Mrs. Mike Collins, Bowling Green, Ky., 50.00; Plunketts Creek Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 354.32; North Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 161.21; Elder & Mrs. W. V. Deweese, Franklin, Ky., 150.00; East Side Baptist, Franklin, Ky., 276.00; Beckwith Baptist, Mt. Juliet, Tenn., 75.00; Faith Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., 45.78; South Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 153.70; Pleasant Hill Baptist, Portland, Tenn., 200.00; Calvary Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 50.00. Total \$1,516.01.

Dec. - Gay's Chapel Baptist, Statesville, N.C. 100.00. (Through Eld. John R. Blalock of Portland, Oregon); Eld. & Mrs. James H. Smith, Nashville, Tenn., 50.00; North Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 142.07; Plunketts Creek Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 332.49; Young Adult Class of South Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 100.00; Gay's Chapel Baptist, Statesville, N.C., 50.00; East Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 117.71; Jared Baptist, Buffalo Valley, Tenn., 100.00; Eld. & Mrs. J. Frank Carr, Gordonsville, Tenn., 10.00; South Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 128.45; Faith Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., 128.60; Four brethren of South Carthage, Carthage, Tenn., (Charlotte Grisham, Walter Stallings, Jean Nesbitt, and Hubert Culbreath Jr.), 20.00; East Side Baptist, Franklin, Ky., 150.00; Calvary Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., 50.00. Total \$1,479.32.

To Koi Baptist Church:
Oct. - McFerrin Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., 93.34; Mt. Calvary Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., 20.00; Lyons Baptist, Louisville, Ky., 150.00; New Friendship Baptist, Russell Springs, Ky., 443.49. Total \$706.83.
Nov. - Mr. & Mrs. Mike Collins, Bowling Green, Ky., 50.00; McFerrin Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., 82.58; Mt. Calvary Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., 20.00; Summer Shade Baptist, Summer Shade, Ky., 45.00. Total \$197.58.
Dec. - McFerrin Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., 81.82; Mt. Calvary Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., 20.00. Total 101.82.

May God richly bless you.

Yours truly in His name
Koji Tajima

Hope Within Us

(Continued from Page 2)

the Lord's followers came to the grave early the next morning they found it empty. This was the first day of the week. We will have more on this subject when we get to "The Christian Sabbath."

RECONCILING THE SCRIPTURES

I wish here to reconcile some of the scriptures related to the Lord's death, burial and resurrection. I have already given what Jesus taught concerning the three days and three nights. However, the question is often asked about the Sabbath that is mentioned elsewhere in the writings of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John on the subject.

We know there was the weekly Jewish Sabbath. There was an annual Sabbath observed by the Jews upon the 15th day of Nisan, a Lunar month, each year the lamb was to be killed in the evening of the 14th day of the month which was the preparation. Read this from Exodus 12:5-11. This annual Sabbath could fall on any day of the week, as July 4, your birthday, or any other annual day. When Christ was crucified, this annual Jewish Sabbath fell on Thursday. Let's note, "The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away." John 19:31.

So, this high day (annual sabbath) came on Thursday, the day after Christ's crucifixion. Friday was the second day and then Saturday, the weekly Sabbath, was the third day. The doctrine that Christ was crucified on Friday and arose on Sunday morning is just another false doctrine of Rome. Some argue that a portion of a day was called a whole. Not according to Jesus, John 11:9. Just for argument sake, let's say that Jesus was buried Friday and was raised Sunday morning. What do we have? We have two nights and one day! Just one-half the time Jesus said there would be. Do you believe Rome or Christ?

THE IMPORTANT FACTS

The important facts are that the powers of death, Satan and the world could not defeat God's plan and purpose. Christ died for the sins of the world and was buried, but the watchmen became as dead men when God's power was manifested at the tomb. Christ arose! He lives! The Lord said to John on Patmos, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death," Revelation 1:18.

"Footprints in the sands of time are NOT made sitting down!"

* * *

Wise men are not always silent, but know when to be.

BIBLE VERSE



I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. JOHN 10:9



Editor and Mrs. H. C. Vanderpool among ruins at Baalbek, Lebanon.

BIBLE LANDS

(Continued from Page 2)

Loud) see (Ezek. 31:3-5; Ps. 92:12). This tree was known to grow to a height of 120 ft. and 40 ft. in girth. Only 650 of these Cedars remain in the country of Lebanon today.

As we traveled eastward we could look to the southeast and see Mt. Hermon with the snow covered peaks. Two of these rise above 9,000 ft. Mt. Hermon can be seen from Lebanon, Syria and Israel. It is almost certain that this is the mountain of transfiguration as Jesus and his disciples were in Caesarea Philippi a few days before (Matt. 16:13; 17:1-2).

We passed through Marijat into the Bekaa Valley. Soon we reached a small village where we had a rest stop. We spent some time here in the shops and then headed for Baalbek, Lebanon, a city of many ruins. The exact date of the foundation of this city remains lost between legend and vague history. Its traditional fame may be traced back to the Semite Canaanites who tenaciously clung to Baal and refused to be swayed by the Hebrew doctrine of Jehovah.

It was the Canaanites and later the Phoenicians who perpetuated the cult of Baal through ancient history by regarding Baalbakka (present day Baalbek) as the Mecca of his cult and worship. Baalbek was to them what Lhasa is to the Buddhists, Mecca to the Moslems and Jerusalem to the Christians, a sacred or pilgrimage city.

Since Baal was considered a sun god, Baalbek was invariably called the City of the Sun, and Baalbek's temple was referred to as the Temple of the Sun. In all, there were three temples erected to idols in Baalbek, they were the Temple of Venus, the Temple of Jupiter and the Temple of Bacchus. The erection of these began in the first century A. D. and 1,160,000 slaves worked during a period of over 200 years in completing them.

The Bible makes no specific mention of Baalbek although there are many references to the cult of Baal. None of the Biblical sites such as Baalgad in the

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ROCKY MOUND CHURCH

(Continued from Page 1)

1894; P. A. Meador, 1894-1897; C. B. Massey, 1897; W. J. Bradley, 1897-1900; P. A. Meador, 1900-1901; W. J. Bradley, 1901-1916; H. O. Cliburn, 1916-1918; R. C. Linville, 1918-1922; E. P. Meador, 1922-1936; R. C. Linville, 1936-1970; James H. Overton, 1970-1973; Dariel Meador, 1973-present.

Ministers ordained by Rocky Mound:

Eld. J. E. Overton, Jan. 11, 1890; Eld. J. Y. Freeman, Dec., 1896; Eld. C. B. Massey, June, 1896; Eld. A. J. Sloan, Eld. I. N. Knight, June, 1905; Eld. J. F. Overton, Aug., 1914; Eld. Joe McGuffee, Nov. 25, 1932; Eld. Herlie Linville and Eld. Willie Harris, Aug. 16, 1940; Eld. Halqua Overton and Eld. Billie Meador, March 19, 1954; Eld. James G. Beal and Eld. Charlie Alexander, April 28, 1956. Church records will show all ministers who have been ordained by this church since 1956, which the editor does not have.

Rocky Mound first represented in Long Creek Baptist Association. After this association dissolved, the church united with Wiseman Baptist Association in 1893. The association met with Rocky Mound in 1901, 1933, 1951. In 1952, the Wiseman Association became so large that it was felt best to divide and organize another association for the best interest of all the churches. This peaceful move took place and on Nov. 23, 1952, at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Allen County, Ky. all the churches formerly of the Wiseman Association, which were located north of Highway 52, running east and west, in northern Tennessee, formed the Siloam Baptist Association. Rocky Mound Church was one of those churches. They represented in that Association for several years. The Siloam Association met with them in 1962 and 1973.

In recent years two additional building projects have taken place resulting in four additional Sunday School rooms. Bro. Dariel Meador is the present clerk and is also serving the church as Sunday School superintendent. Bro. Earl Keen is Treasurer of the church. The church voted to go full-time, which began on Dec. 1, 1980. Elder James (Pete) Porter, who had been pastor one-half time since 1977, began a full-time pastorate of the church on the above date, Dec. 1, 1980. The present church membership is 320 and there are 118 enrolled in Sunday School, meeting in five classes.

Great men are they who see that the spiritual is stronger than any material forces.

Balanced Ministry

(Continued from Page 2)

ners we would be building of dead stones, dead material. True Baptist churches believe in a regenerated membership. We believe in this because this is what the Bible teaches, and we take the Holy Scriptures as our only rule of faith and practice. I realize when we are trying to build up a house of the Lord and build out of material such as the Bible says to build of, it is some what slow, especially in these times, when there are so many so-called churches that make it so easy for people to be members. It seems that

many are out to get the number on roll, have the credit of having done this and that, and to build up a big budget. I know that it is a great thing to build up a great number, and to build up a big financial nest egg, if we build out of the right kind of material; that is, built up out of living stones. God dwells among His people, not in the midst of sinners.

FOR WHAT PURPOSE?

1. Peter tells one of God's purposes is for building up a Spiritual house: "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a Spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." Under the Old Testament priesthood the Jews offered animal sacrifices in the temple to point forward to the coming of the Christ, and when He came He fulfilled the types and shadows. So there was no more need for those kind of sacrifices. When Jesus died on the cross the veil in the temple that separated the Holy place from the Most Holy was rent in twain from top to bottom, thus signifying that the temple services and the offerings made by the priest were fulfilled in Him. But there are sacrifices for God's people to offer in His Spiritual temple, the church; but these are not slain animals, dead sacrifices, but they are Spiritual, living, sacrifices offered by Jesus Christ. God's people in His churches are a priesthood in a sense, in that they offer Spiritual sacrifices, but Christ Jesus Himself is the High Priest and is yonder in the presence of God the Father, and we offer our sacrifices of Thanksgiving and praise to God by Jesus Christ.

FOR GOD'S DELIGHT AND GLORY

God didn't build His church for a social club, or a place of worldly activity, but He built it for His habitation through the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 2:22); and churches in the world today that are carrying on after the Scriptural order have an unseen Dweller, the great God in the person of the Holy Spirit. He is delighted and is honored when His people offer their Spiritual sacrifices unto God by Jesus Christ; and He is pleased to manifest His great power in blessing His people, answering their prayers and convicting sinners and saving them. In Old Testament times, under the ceremonial Law, and before that, burnt offerings were made and a sweet savour would go up to the Lord, and that sweet savour pleased Him, and He would accept the offering. Genesis 8:21; Exodus 29:18; and many others. Well, all of that has been fulfilled; but still in the church when real prayers are offered in the name of Jesus it is like a sweet savour going up to the throne of God. He is well pleased, and He answers. He accepts that offering. I have heard prayers offered when I was just sure that God was well pleased.

God is delighted and glorified in the preaching of His Gospel, and in the witnessing of His churches. Jesus said, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:19-20. Jesus commanded what to be done by His church, and then He said I will be with you. I believe this is conditional, that is, if a church would have His presence with it today it would have to do what the Lord commanded. Anyway, it is so great to have the Lord's wonderful presence when we meet to worship and to adore His matchless name. "Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end." Ephesians 3:21.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



Those pictured above are as follows: l. to r.: Deacon Tony Waisner, Mrs. Tony Waisner, Pastor Charles Patterson, Mrs. Doug Matthews and Elder Doug Matthews.

On Sunday, February 15, 1981, an ordination service was held at Rayon City Missionary Baptist Church, 209 Keaton Ave., Old Hickory, Tenn. Services began at 2:00 P.M.

Bro. Doug Matthews was ordained to the full work of the ministry. He had been called to the pastorate of Fairview Missionary Baptist Church, Woodburn, Ky. where he began his work the first of 1981. Bro. Tony Waisner was ordained to the deaconship.

Twenty-four churches from Kentucky and Tennessee were represented in the presbytery by 24 ministers and 40 deacons. Elder Charles Patterson, pastor of Rayon City, was elected as moderator, and Elder Don Curtis was elected as clerk. Elder D. W. Story presented the candidates to the presbytery, and Elder Hilman Duncan led the interrogation. Elder Howard Taylor prayed the ordination prayer, and Elder Henry Smith gave the charge to the newly ordained minister and deacon. The charge to the church was given by Elder Paul Bryson and Elder Kenneth Davis presented the Bible.

This was a large presbytery and the church building was very crowded. The fellowship was wonderful as the Spirit of the Lord was manifested. This was truly a great service for Rayon City Missionary Baptist Church and their pastor.

NOTE OF THANKS

In answer to an announcement in the BANNER a few months back, which related to the many hospital confinements Mrs. Edgar Copeland had had, a number of churches and individuals sent love offerings that, so far, have amounted to \$2,596.00. Bro. and Sister Copeland want the people to know that every dollar went directly to the medical expenses, which amounted to several thousand dollars. Since the announcement in the BANNER, Sister Copeland was again admitted to the hospital for 26 days. They are using this publication to express their thanks and appreciation to each church and individuals for their offerings. Should others wish to contribute to this worthy cause, send your offering to: Elder Edgar Copeland, 121 Forest Retreat, Hendersonville, TN 37075

TODAY

Look well to this one day
For it, and it alone, is life.
In the brief course of this one day
Lie all the verities and realities of your
existence,
The joy of growth, the splendor of
beauty, the glory of action.
Yesterday is but a dream, and tomorrow
is only a vision.
But today well lived, makes every
yesterday a dream of happiness,
And each tomorrow a vision of hope.
Look well, therefore, to this one day
For it, and it alone, is life.
Such is the salutation of the dawn.

—From the Sanskrit.

BIBLE LANDS

(Continued from Page 3)

Valley of Lebanon or the vineyard at Baal-Hamon could be identified with Baalbek.

After touring the ruins of the temples and enjoying many lectures by our guide of the history related to them and understanding the contrast of these to the temples which had been built in Jerusalem where the true and living God was worshipped, we left Baalbek and returned to the village where we had stopped on our way that morning and there ate our lunches.

In the afternoon we traveled eastward on our way to Syria. We passed through the towns of Mayslum and Dimas. We crossed the border between Lebanon and Syria and had to go through two check-points. We were now on our way to Damascus. As we came near the city we rode close by the two rivers that Naaman wanted to dip in instead of the Jordan. "Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because of him the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valor, but he was a leper." (II Kings 5:1). Naaman had this to say, "Are not Abana and Parpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage." (II Kings 5:12). These two rivers were near the highway just before we entered Damascus.

Arriving in Damascus we had to transfer to Syrian busses, and have a Syrian bus driver and guide. The guide's name was Abdul. Syria has a population of 6,000,000 and 1,000,000 of these live in Damascus.

As we toured this city we came to a cross street and saw a large group of soldiers marching and knew that there was some military activity. We soon learned that the Vice president of Egypt was there and in the parade and was meeting with Syrian officials near where we were visiting a Moslem mosque.

We went down "the street called Straight" and also the place of "the house of Ananias" (Acts 9:10-17). I had many thoughts concerning the Apostle Paul and the journey he made here from Jerusalem and the preaching he did here at Damascus (Acts 9:27). We visited some shops here before returning to the place for our reboarding our Lebanese busses. After changing busses—it is now night—we travel westward across Syria, through the check-points and back into Lebanon. We drive back to Beirut and go back onto our ship.

After supper the ship sails southward on the Mediterranean. The next morning we were to be in the port of Haifa, Israel.