

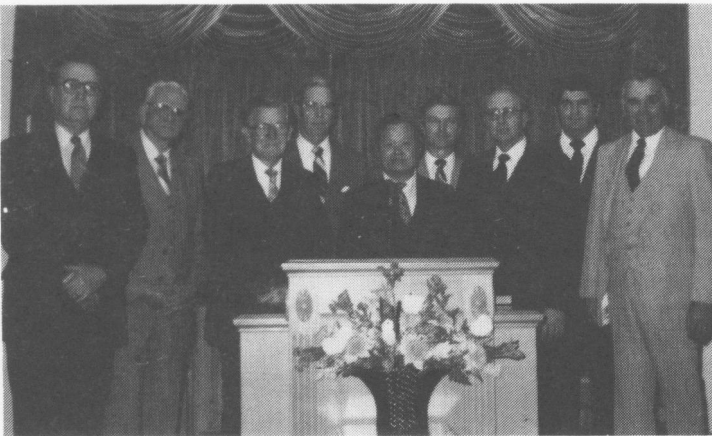
Baptist Banner

VOLUME 19

JUNE, 1984

NUMBER 1

BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP



During the spring revival at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, Tenn., Elder Koji Tajima of Hiroshima, Japan preached on Friday Night, April 20. It was also a good fellowship with other Baptist brethren.

Pictured above left to right Baptist ministers are: Pastor H. C. Vanderpool, Bro. Tom Eidson, Elder Levie Smith, Elder W. C. Johnson, Elder Koji Tajima, Bro. Jeff Brown, Elder Jackie Wilburn, Elder Benny Maggart, Elder Doug Curtis, the helper in the meeting. Bro. Tajima preached at several churches in various states and also attended the Old Union Baptist Ministers School at Bowling Green, Ky. before returning to Japan.

BAPTIST BANNER BEGINNING 19th YEAR

As reported in the last issue, the BAPTIST BANNER was completing 18 years of publication, having published and distributed 316,892 copies in the past 216 months.

With this issue we begin the 19th year of publication. Thanks to every church and individual who has assisted in any way to make this printed ministry a success. We ask your prayers and support for the future. - Editor

NOTICE

Due to increased responsibilities upon the editor, strict rules must be used in our deadlines. I MUST have your announcements or article by the 10th of the month preceding publication. If your article or announcement does not appear in the paper, you will know it arrived to late. We WANT TO print all your news. Please see Page 2, Col. 1, for additional information. - Editor



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CAUSES FOR MINISTERIAL INACTIVITY

"How can the church effectively say "Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfill it"? (Colossians 4:17)

The causes of ministerial inactivity are many; it is unlikely that we find a single remedy for many ills. If a church desires to stimulate its inactive ministers they must first discover the cause of despondency. They must realize that the work of the ministry is a great labor, filled with occasions of falling, and thus deal compassionately and sympathetically. "Moses' hands grew heavy in intercession, and Paul cried out, "Who is sufficient for these things?" Even John the Baptist is thought to have had his fainting fits, and the apostles were once amazed, and were sore afraid. To balance compassion with firmness, and sympathy with truth is no easy task, yet this will be required to edify the cause.

In the ministry, inactivity may reflect two natures. We shall first address its positive character and then contrast the negative. The young minister may well find seasons of inactivity. An atmosphere of expectation should not be created which would prompt him to over-zealous attempts

(Continued on Page 7)

ACHAN'S SIN

By Elder Darrell E. Hicks
Toledo, Ohio

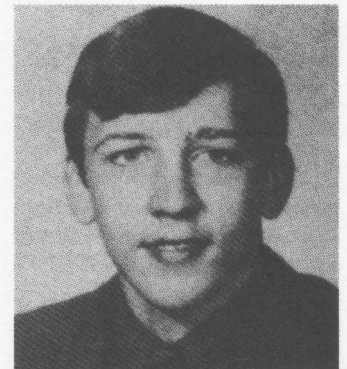
"Achan, ...took of the accursed thing; and the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel." (Joshua 7:1)

As our title indicates, our subject is not a pleasant one. The results of sin are never pleasant, although they may seem to be so for a season (Heb. 11:25). The account of Achan's transgression is a portrait of the consequence of sin.

Israel's first military campaign in the land of Canaan was a successful one. Joshua, and his army had obeyed God's commands and a decisive victory at Jericho was the result. God had appointed Jericho to destruction and none were to be spared (except Rahab and her house, who had hidden the spies). The Israelites were prohibited from taking any part of the spoils of battle, as they were consecrated to the Lord and designated for

(Continued on Page 4)

"Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin" (Psalm 51:2)



Elder Darrell Hicks

ADDRESS LABEL

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Goodlettsville, TN 37072

ATTENTION!

The BAPTIST BANNER wishes to be helpful in any of various work endeavors of our Missionary Baptist Churches. That is, if you have reports, announcements, articles or any information or news items concerning Revivals, Debates, Singings, Ordinations, Special Meetings, Singing Schools, Announcements for help, or assistance in any of these endeavors, Works of Charity, Associations, Church Organizations, Missions, Mission Reports, Sunday School, Bible Studies, Ministers Schools or Meetings, T V Work, Radio Programs, etc. YOU ARE INVITED to send them to the BANNER for publication. They should arrive in the BANNER mailbox by the 10th of the month preceding publication. - Editor

BOOK WANTED

If anyone has a copy of Twentieth Century Baptist that you would be willing to sell, contact Mr. G. R. Knight, 515 Brevard Ave., Franklin, KY 42134; or call him at (502) 586-6101.

NEW BAPTIST MISSION

Elder Edward Rader is trying to begin an Old Fashion Missionary Baptist Mission in the Cookeville, Tenn. area. Anyone who could be of help to him in finding a place to meet, or could be helpful in any way in this mission work, it would be greatly appreciated.

Anyone wishing to help in any way may contact him at: Elder Edward Rader, 201 Glenrose, Nashville, TN 37210; or call him at (615) 832-5155.

HOMECOMING

White Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Louisville Highway, Goodlettsville, Tenn. will be having their annual homecoming on Sunday, June 10. Sunday school will be at 10:00 A.M. and preaching at 11:00 A.M. by the pastor, Elder C. B. Massey.

Lunch will be served at the noon hour.

There will be singing in the afternoon. Featured groups will be the Nance Family from East Tennessee and the Wolfe Family from Kentucky. Everyone is invited.

COLORADO CHURCH REPORT

The Colorado Missionary Baptist Church, Denver, CO reports the following sums that they have received in the past month. Mrs. Christine Green, Nashville, Tenn. \$100.00; Noel and Casey Gladden, Boliver, MO, \$100.00; Mt. Juliet Missionary Baptist Church, Mt. Juliet, Tenn. \$50.00; Haysville Missionary Baptist Church, Lafayette, Tenn. \$45.00. Total for the month \$295.00. We understand more money could be used at present for continuing the work on their building. This is a worthy cause for those who wish to support true Missionary Baptist work.

Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not?
 ISAIAH 55:2



EDITORIAL NOTES MISSIONS

By H. C. Vanderpool

The Lord's Church has continued to sponsor the preaching of the gospel of Christ for the past twenty centuries. The gospel is the means whereby God has ordained to reach the unsaved of the world (Romans 10:10-17; Matt. 28:19-20).

There are worthy missions throughout our country as well as foreign countries. It is a policy of the BANNER to encourage the prayerful and financial support of these missions. I think you can tell from time to time by reports in this publication the ones you and/or your church feels you should support.

To our sorrow, we have experienced some discouraging setbacks in some of those sent out to do mission work in years past. This has caused us to be cautious in supporting missions. When you or your church feels we have a sound, true Baptist minister on the field, then do all you can to support him with your prayers and financial means. This publication will not support questionable work.

SIN

If you haven't already read Bro. Darrell Hicks' article an "ACHAN'S SIN" please do so. There are many of us who can think of those who hinder the Lord's work and the churches in general by living the way he has mentioned. When many people keep asking what's wrong with the churches and the power we once saw manifested, tell them the answer is in this article written by Bro. Hicks. It has editorial endorsement.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

In recent months many hours of hard work, prayer and money has gone into efforts to see how much interest there is among our people



Revival Reports

Lyons Missionary Baptist Church, Louisville, KY. Two professions with six additions. Pastor D. C. Barton was assisted by Elder Billy Moran.

Union Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Gallatin, TN. Three professions and three additions. Pastor W. C. Johnson was assisted by Elder Doug Curtis.

Old Union Missionary Baptist Church, Bowling Green, KY. Five professions with five additions. Preaching by Pastor Paul Bryson.

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, TN. Pastor H. C. Vanderpool was assisted by Elder Doug Curtis. Three professions with four additions.

Salem Missionary Baptist Church, Bargersville, Ind. Two professions with one addition. Pastor Lewis Holland was assisted by Elder Bobby Gann.

HOMECOMING

On Sunday, June 10, Enon Chapel Missionary Baptist Church will have homecoming services. The church is located at Highways 31-E and 231 in Trousdale County, Tenn. Sunday school will be at 10:00 A.M. and preaching at 11:00 A.M. by the pastor, Elder Bobby Gann.

Lunch will be served at noon.

There will be singing in the afternoon with the Spiritual Crusaders of Lafayette, Tenn. being the featured group. Everyone is invited. The revival begins that night. See revival announcements on Page 5.

for TV work and Christian Education. We are thankful for the interest shown and appreciate all those individuals who have let us know they endorse these needed moves. However, it is appalling when it is revealed that there are those who are not interested. Some excuses that are given for not sup-

(Continued on Page 5)

REPORT ON MOVE TO CALIFORNIA

By
Elder Henry Smith
Ventura, California

Apt. #1508
6600 E. Telephone Road
Ventura, California 93003
April 24, 1984

Dear Brother Vanderpool:

We would like to report through the Banner of our having arrived in Ventura, California safely. There was some rough driving on the way because of strong winds. The wind was very strong, and sometimes violent, through four states, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and through the desert of California. The dust, or sand storms were rather bad at some points in the desert, but the Lord took good care of us, and we came through in pretty good health. The car gave no trouble, even though we were traveling against the wind, and that held us back some, and the car didn't get as good gas mileage as it usually does, but all in all we made out just fine. And we are so grateful to the good Lord that He was traveling with us, and we could see His hand moving in our behalf. We had to stay over on the way for four nights, but I expected it to take just three days, or some over on the forth.

We have been staying in a motel since we arrived, but yesterday we signed up for an apartment. And we are sure the Lord was in this, because the apartments for low income people usually have a long list in waiting, but as our church members searched they came to this place where somebody had applied for and had died - So it was available; and the lady in charge said to Sister Mashburn, "This must be the answer to prayer" and Sister Mashburn said that she had been doing a lot of that. So we thank the Lord that He was working in this matter also.

The weather in Ventura is hot but chilly at night, and so the climate is very good, and we are feeling pretty well after resting up for these few days. We went to church on Sunday and Sunday night, I preached and had good liberty and good feeling services. There were fourteen in attendance on Sunday morning but two or three short of that at night. The members seem very eager to see the church build, and I tried to encourage them to work, all of us together get people to come. We sincerely request that the churches and all people who read this to pray for us and the work here. Anybody back there having people in this area, relatives, friends or whoever, let us know about them so we can make contact.

We hope that everyone will see our address in this letter and correspond with us, we would be glad to hear from you. God bless you one, and all.

Prayerfully yours,
Henry and Annie Laura Smith

The very worst calamity which could befall any human being would be this—to have his own way from the cradle to the grave; to have everything he liked for the asking, or even for the buying. Never to deny himself, never to work, never to exert himself, never to want. That man's soul would be in as great danger as if he were committing great crimes.

—Charles Kingsley

BOOKS

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

Write To:
**CHURCH HISTORY
RESEARCH AND
ARCHIVES**
220 Graystone Drive
Gallatin, TN 37066
Phone: (615) 452-7027



Elder and Mrs. Henry Smith

MISSOURI RESIDENTS VISIT BIBLE LANDS

1518 E. Smith
Springfield, MO 65803
April 14, 1984

Dear Elder & Mrs. Vanderpool:

We have been reading about the trip to the Holy Lands in the Baptist Banner and enjoyed it so much and we have visited with and seen the slides that Bro. Keith Frieze took while on the trip. Keith and Shirley are members of our church and we were so glad that they could go to Israel. Keith is so knowledgeable of the Bible but he said it just opened up all the land and places that he so wanted to see.

We wanted to share our experience with you and your wife of a trip we took in 1980. Our son and his wife were teaching in Izmir, Turkey and invited us to visit them. So with suitcases packed, two Ozarkians set off for a trip of a lifetime. Turkey is difficult to travel in due to the language that not many speak English as in Israel. We landed in Istanbul and flew on to Izmir where our children met us. There our fears left us as all the sights, sounds, and food were so different and exciting to us.

While in Turkey for four weeks we saw many Biblical places. It was Asia Minor in the Bible, and very rich in teachings. We saw ruins of three of the seven churches mentioned in Revelations. They were Ephesus, which is the largest of the ruins, also we traveled to Pergamos (Bergama) and Smyrna which is Izmir now. Near Ephesus we saw where Diana - Greek Goddess was worshipped. Artemis was one of the seven original man-made wonders of the world. Everything had been removed except a part of a pillar.

We went to the Greek Island of Patmos one day and saw where John lived in a cave and wrote the Revelations. We had intended to take a trip to Cappadocia but terrorist trouble there caused us to cancel that trip. We would have seen Philadelphia sight along the way. Our son and his wife told us that Cappadocia is the most unusual place in Turkey they had been. Sardis is very near Izmir but somehow we failed to notice that when we were there, just a day's trip and our son and his wife went there later and said the ruins were excellent. Turkey doesn't have money to improve or excavate these ruins, therefore they remain just ruins (no churches are built over them). In Istanbul we were privileged to have two Turkish students show us around.

We traveled far from the many interesting mosques to one that was being restored. The mosaic was works of the Bible and truly a wonder

(Continued on Page 8)

ACHAN'S SIN

(Continued from Page 1)

His treasury. The whole city was therefore accursed to the Israelites, and they were forbidden to own anything from Jericho.

With Jericho destroyed, the next objective was a fortified city of the Canaanites called "Ai". Again spies were sent, and on their advice Joshua sent only 3,000 soldiers against it. This small city delivered an unexpected defeat to Israel, and killed 36 of their men in the battle. In distress, Joshua sought the Lord for the reason of the defeat, and God replied there was sin in the camp of Israel. Someone had taken spoils of Jericho and God was explicit in His requirement - "Neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you." (Joshua 7:12)

The defeat at Ai showed God's displeasure with Israel. It is doubtful that anyone beyond Achan's immediate family knew of his deeds, yet the whole nation was held accountable. Achan sinned, but the scripture says, "The anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel". Was God just in letting the whole nation suffer because of one man's sin?

To answer this question let's consider a legal principle known as **Corporate Responsibility**. This principle exists and is acknowledged in many forms with man. When a child injures or offends a stranger by a mischievous deed, the child must be dealt with through the parents. Although the parents did no personal wrong, were unaware of their child's actions, and could not have reasonably prevented the incident, all that the family possesses is subject to legal reparation.

Other forms of this principle are enforced in our criminal codes. If four men enter a store, and one of them robs it, all four may be charged with the crime. The others are considered accomplices, even though they did not hold the gun. In business, a company is liable for the actions of an employee while he is in the service of the company, even though the company did not authorize the action in question.

Among nations this principle is recognized in diplomatic affairs of state. An ambassador may be insulted only at the risk of offending the nation he represents. During W.W. I, Germany sank the Lusitania and our nation entered the war holding that nation responsible for the death of each U.S. citizen on board. It was not just a matter between the families of victims and the attacking crew. Examples could be multiplied as corporate responsibility is recognized as a just principle by tribes, clans, courts, nations, companies, and families, and is no less just when God enforces it.

God may in mercy suffer the wicked because of the Righteous, as Abraham pleaded for in Genesis 18:32. He may deliver the Righteous from among the wicked, as exemplified in Ezekiel 14:13-16. Then again he may allow the many to suffer for the deeds of the few, as in our text. Far from being improper, all must see a form of this principle in the statement, "As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (1 Cor. 15:22)

Many complain of unspiritual and feeble churches, and analyze problems with seldom a mote in the congregations' eyes being missed. It is true that many who attend services regularly are not spiritual, do not contribute as they should, have a vision of the work which lacks adequate faith regarding the future of the church, have lost their zeal, etc... Such complaints often surface when speaking to inactive or delinquent members. We can honestly admit that many of these problems exist, yet, how many delinquent members will honestly admit that most of these problems may be traced to their conduct?

It is not uncommon for a church to have on its role 100 members, and yet count only 25 members as regular attenders - with an additional 25 in semi-regular attendance. This may also be true in offerings and support. With only one fourth of the congregation rendering reasonable effort (though not flawless), and another one fourth rendering occasional effort, is it any wonder that those who are trying to carry the load become discouraged, unspiritual, and lack zeal?

Should a committee be appointed by the church, or a brother or



THE JEWISH CEMETERY

On the slopes of the Mount of Olives is the oldest and largest Jewish cemetery in the world. Many Jews came to Jerusalem in order to die and be buried near the Valley of Jehoshaphat.

sister take the initiative to investigate rumors of unchristian conduct or delinquency of a member, who has not been seen for months, even years, they are liable to receive a resentful, even indignant reception. Few will spare the brother or sister, who after years of faithful, sincere service, has had the gall to say something harsh or condemning toward a member whose misconduct is known not only to the church, but to the whole community. For my part, I am more sympathetic to the brother whose efforts, meager as they may be, are directed towards reconciliation and correction of the problem, than the member whose conduct has caused it.

All have seen campaigns which have been launched to solicit votes of inactive members, who have not been to church since Easter Sunday, Mother's Day, or the last Pastor's election, in order to pass a choice motion or prevent an action by the active membership. This while brassily boasting that they are still members like everyone else and have the right to vote; passing decision which they have no intention to live with from week to week as must the other members. These "members" are strangely unavailable when special collections, revival efforts, or work projects are to be dealt with. These are but a few of the deplorable situations created by harboring inactive members. Many hold a position on church discipline which amounts to ignoring the disobedient or unfaithful members. It is said, "If they don't come, they hurt nobody but themselves" or "we can get by without their money or help." We believe it to be self-evident that the discouragement which arises through delinquent membership surpasses the consideration of private feelings. Beyond the initial wrongs of forsaken responsibilities lie other considerations.

A practical aspect of this subject must be viewed through the loss of fellowship and communication. When a member is absent from church for six months, 1 year, or in some cases, 10 years, we not only lose his support and assistance, we lose an awareness of his conduct as a christian. How can the church conscientiously vouch for his character? When a church has a 50% delinquent, inactive membership it is not only reasonable, it is a well known fact that many have returned to the sins and ways of life they practiced before being saved. Is it then any wonder that a church is suffering in spiritual depression, unable to entreat God to revive their congregation with half of the membership doing who knows

(Continued on Page 7)

REVIVALS

FRIDAY - JUNE 1

Fairview Memorial Missionary Baptist Church, 1150 Fairview Ave., Bowling Green, KY. Pastor Billy Moran is to be assisted by Elder Thomas Armstrong. Services each night at 7:00. You are invited.

SUNDAY - JUNE 3

Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Woodbury Highway and I-24, Manchester, Tenn. Pastor Bobby Pitt is to be assisted by Elder A. G. Gregory. Everyone is invited. Services at 7:00 nightly.

McFerrin Missionary Baptist Church, 1208 McFerrin Ave., Nashville, Tenn. Pastor Howard Taylor is to be assisted by Elder Kenneth Massey. Sunday night services at 6:00 and week-nights at 7:00. The public is invited.

SUNDAY - JUNE 10

Enon Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Highways 231 and 31-E in Trousdale County, Tenn. Pastor Bobby Gann is to be assisted by Elder Doug Curtis. Services each night at 7:30. Everyone is invited.

Old Paths Missionary Baptist Church, Watertown Rd., Lebanon, Tenn. Pastor Edgar Copeland is to be assisted by Elder Pete Porter. Everyone is invited to the services each night at 7:30.

Rayon City Missionary Baptist Church, 209 Keaton Ave., Old Hickory, Tenn. Pastor L. W. Smith is to be assisted by Elder C. L. Russell. Services nightly at 7:30. You are invited.

SUNDAY - JUNE 17

Faith Missionary Baptist Church, Rose and Burbank Sts., Nashville, Tenn. Pastor A. G. Gregory is to be assisted by Elder Charlie Patterson. Services each night at 7:30. Everyone is invited.

Sulphur Fork Missionary Baptist Church, Portland, Tenn. Pastor Bobby Earps is to be assisted by Elder Bobby Hale. Everyone is invited to the nightly services at 6:00 on Sunday nights and 7:00 on weeknights.

SUNDAY - JUNE 24

Harmony Missionary Baptist Church, 1044 East Trinity Lane, Nashville, Tenn. Pastor Clay Grizzle is to be assisted by Elder Steven Brooks. Services each night at 7:30. You are invited.

Lula Missionary Baptist Church, 17th St. and Batts Blvd., Springfield, Tenn. Pastor James Gardner is to be assisted by Elder Hilman Duncan. Services each night at 7:30. The public is invited to attend.

The church is the noblest and best organization in the world. It furnishes the best examples of righteous living, the finest specimens of character, of which the world has any knowledge; exercises the largest influence in the work of reform; promotes honest, progressive, and beneficent government, and more than any other thing makes and maintains the home as a place of virtue, love, righteousness, brotherly kindness, and sacred honor.

Christ gave His best for you. Give Christ your best through His Church.

—The Baptist

EDITORIAL NOTES

(Continued from Page 2)

porting worthy causes of the Lord, and the apathy manifested, is pathetic.

WE SHALL CONTINUE

We shall continue to work for the advancement of Christian and

Ministerial Education among true Missionary Baptists. The Bible teaches it, I believe it, and that settles it! I expect to continue working for this worthy cause.

All the help and support we get from sister churches, ministers and laymembers will be appreciated. Those who wish to criticize, to hinder, to speak falsely of our efforts, can go on doing so. (Romans 14:10-13).



John Cole saved in Israel baptized into Baptist Church.



John Cole was one of 93 people who went on the Bible Lands Tour last October with Pastor H. C. Vanderpool. On Friday, October 28, 1984, while crossing the Sea of Galilee in a large boat, a very Spiritual service was conducted. In the picture above you can see John in the lower center praying. After returning home he told of being saved in that service. He united with New Bethel Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, Tenn. and was baptized into the fellowship of the church by Pastor H. C. Vanderpool on Sunday, Feb. 19, 1984.

CUMBERLAND VALLEY SCHOOL OF GOSPEL MUSIC

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The time is near for the second annual session of the CUMBERLAND VALLEY SCHOOL OF GOSPEL MUSIC. We are looking forward to another good year at the school. All indications at the present time show we will have an increase in enrollment this year.

Being in its infancy, the school is still dependent upon contributions from individuals and churches. The \$25.00 registration fee is the only part of the enrollment expenses that goes to cover the expenses of Cumberland Valley School of Gospel Music. The rest of the expenses go directly to Cumberland College for the use of their facilities. Therefore, the contributions are imperative to pay expenses for books, piano rentals, and etc.

We appreciate any support that you have already given us, and we desire your prayers. We appreciate those from your church who plan to attend the school this year. Thank you again for any support you may give us.

Yours in Gospel Singing,

Key Dillard, President
Bob Vanderpool, Pub. Chairman

ARKANSAS BAPTIST MISSION REPORT



CHURCH



Missions Is



Our Business

Dear readers of the Baptist Banner:

It's time to make another report of the donations we have received.

February

Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Holland, Ky.	\$100.00
Bethel Baptist Church, Indianapolis, IN...	\$100.00
Fairview Memorial Baptist Church, Bowling Green, KY	\$152.17
Red Hill Baptist Church, Holland, KY	\$ 20.00
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Franklin, KY	\$ 25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Don Gregory, Franklin, KY	\$ 15.00
Mr. & Mrs. G. R. Knight, Franklin, KY	\$ 10.00
Mr. & Mrs. James Goad, Franklin, IN	\$ 20.00

Total for the month of February \$442.17

March

Bethel Baptist Church, Indianapolis, IN	\$100.00
Kokomo Baptist Church, Kokomo, IN	\$ 30.00
Red Hill Baptist Church, Holland, KY	\$ 20.00
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Franklin, KY	\$ 25.00
Mr. & Mrs. G. R. Knight, Franklin, KY...	\$ 10.00
Mrs. Ethel Smith, Lafayette, TN	\$ 10.00
Mrs. Edna L. Vantrease, Lebanon, TN	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Jackson, Ochelata, OK	\$ 25.00

Total for the month of March \$320.00

April

Bethel Baptist Church, Indianapolis, IN	\$100.00
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Franklin, KY	\$ 25.00
Red Hill Baptist Church, Holland, KY	\$ 20.00
Colorado Baptist Church, Aurora, CO	\$ 10.00
Mr. Forrest Mammack, Westmoreland., TN	\$ 20.00
Mr. & Mrs. G. R. Knight, Franklin, KY	\$ 10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Jackson, Ochelata, OK	\$ 25.00

Total for the month of April \$210.00

Total for the three months \$972.17

We greatly appreciate what each church and individual has given.

Our mailing address has changed temporarily. We hope to have our permanent address by the end of the year.

Elder M. V. Hammack
Route 1, Box 180-A
c/o Reid Brock
Bald Knob, AR 72010

SUNDAY SCHOOL

LITERATURE

Missionary Baptist Churches across the United States are now using this material. It has grown from year to year and we continue to have additional churches order each quarter. The schedule of quarterlies are as follows: **Spring Quarter:** (March, April, May); **Summer Quarter:** (June, July, August); **Fall Quarter:** (September, October, November); **Winter Quarter:** (December, January, February).

NURSERY	Ages 0-3
KINDERGARTEN	Ages 4-6
PRIMARY	Ages 7-9
INTERMEDIATE	Ages 10-12
JUNIOR HIGH	Ages 13-15
SENIOR HIGH	Ages 16-18
ADULT	Ages 18-Up

Any church wishing to investigate this material and would like for us to send samples, please write to the address below, or call, (615) 859-5780.

MISSIONARY BAPTIST LITERATURE COMMITTEE

P. O. Box 1001

Goodlettsville, Tennessee 37072

1984 BIBLE LANDS TOUR

DEPARTURE: OCTOBER 30, 1984

Our 1984 Bible Lands Tour is to begin October 30, 1984. Several reservations have been made already.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!

HOSTED BY:

Pastor H. C. Vanderpool

P. O. Box 1001

Goodlettsville, Tennessee 37072

Phone: (615) 859-5780

ACHAN'S SIN

(Continued from Page 4)

what? One look at Achan's sin will remove such illusion. It seems more likely that an erring brother will be regained through discipline, even though imperfectly practiced, than by not dealing with the brother at all.

It is unfair in the eyes of some to discipline members who have forsaken the church shortly after joining it, and thereby not having time to mature and come to understand the ways of God and His church. Yet I would pose this question - Is it fair to leave such under the deception that they are, in the eyes of God and the church, **members in Good Standing?** I believe the practice of the first is preferable to the second.

We would plead one final consideration. How can a church grant a **Letter of Recommendation** to a sister church, stating that a brother is in good standing, and encouraging their reception of him into their membership, when they have not seen the said brother in years? (Granting ill health, old age, armed service, or such special circumstance as exceptions). In business an employer would not give a recommendation to an employee who left without a notice or explanation. He would also justly be called a liar for recommending an employee who would not come to work, did not fulfill job responsibilities, or had been forced to leave by rumors of general misconduct. Many churches have unknowingly received members who have created havoc in a sister church through the use of "Broadman Press membership cards". I am of the opinion that a letter which told the story as it is would be much preferred. Even if it simply said, "We have not seen the brother in two years, yet are unaware of misconduct". This might prompt an inquiry which needs to be made. If a candidate objected to an unfavorable letter, he could state his side of the situation, and it is always the prerogative of the receiving church to decide whether to accept him into their membership based upon the evidence presented.

We are living in a day when many complain, and justly too, that the legal system in this country is too concerned with the rights of the criminal and too little concerned with the welfare of the victim. Thus, while truly sympathetic to the problems which cause delinquent membership, and desiring to seek their reformation and restoration, I am more concerned with the welfare of the churches who have perhaps unknowingly become victims of discouragement, unspirituality, and disunity, through an even increasing multitude of secret and uncovered sins in the camp.

Friends are life's priceless treasure; he who has none is a social pauper.

The best way to get rid of an enemy is to make a friend of him.

This church flings wide its doors like welcoming arms and invites you to come in. This is your Father's house. Why should not one feel at home and welcome in the house of his Father?

Let us not come into this auditorium for the purpose of enjoying ourselves, or for listening to good music, or for hearing sermons. Let us come to worship Almighty God, our great Father; to exalt the name of Jesus Christ, our great Saviour; and to listen to the silent voice of the Holy Spirit, our great Guide.

Someone rises to remark that the attendance at the morning service tests the popularity of the church; the attendance at the evening service tests the popularity of the minister; and the attendance at prayer meeting tests the popularity of the Lord.

Now is the time for all good men, women, boys, and girls to come to the aid of their church.

There are some in every congregation who merely receive the sermon and place it on file.

-Oliver Wendell Holmes

CAUSES FOR INACTIVITY

(Continued from Page 1)

to prove himself. A new recruit is not sent on the most dangerous mission in the army, nor expected to bare the responsibilities of leadership that befall a seasoned officer. The Lord may place the young minister as an understudy of an experienced pastor, where he will feel little desire to set out on an individual work. Far from being criticized, this practice should be promoted by our churches as an invaluable opportunity for education and counseling.

Lack of opportunity is another cause of inactivity. This may have several bases.

1. Isolation - Being a member of a church located in a remote area, away from sister churches.
2. Jealousy of peers - Occasionally a young minister is not only unused by the pastor, but feared.
3. Unrecognized talents or gifts - Many churches have little interest in a minister who excels only in teaching, writing, evangelism, radio ministry, etc. A church must recognize the causes first, then seek the remedy. The members may offer additional financial help to allow travel to the isolated minister. Also, promoting him through recommendations to other ministers or churches. Members may intercede for the minister with the untrusting pastor by encouraging his use while reassuring the leader of their support. Lastly, the membership of a church may encourage a man best by being interested in the work to which he feels called. All ministers are not meant to be pastors and must not be made to feel unsuccessful if they labor outside the pastorate.

Regarding negative characteristics, inactivity because of a lack of leadership from God is often a cover for lack of surrender and willingness. These should be encouraged and even pressed into service. Inactivity because of former labors is another consideration altogether. If a minister demonstrates an ill spirit, inability, misconduct, or slothfulness, he may well find himself in short demand among the churches. Wisdom will teach that such a one must evidence a change of attitude before encouraged to new labors. Otherwise we will be courting mischief.

A closing consideration is important to this subject. Upon owning a call to the ministry, a man must prove himself among those who know him best - his home church. Upon their satisfaction of his calling they may endorse him by issuing a license to preach. At this point his conduct and activity are no longer that of a private member, but as a spokesman or representative of the Baptist ministry and churches at large. If his conduct should bring reproach upon his church or brethren in any unabated form, his home church should withdraw their endorsement. The license may be withdrawn without disciplinary action regarding membership, as requirements of members and ministers differ. Extended inactivity may change a church's judgement regarding a man's call, his sincerity, and spiritual ability to serve as an instructor and leader. Failure to act upon such cases will doubtlessly lead to their and other churches' detriment.

We may all approach a discussion of ministerial qualifications with personal apprehensions, yet neglecting to do so is more to be feared. As was said by William Staughton during the 1807 Philadelphia Baptist Association:

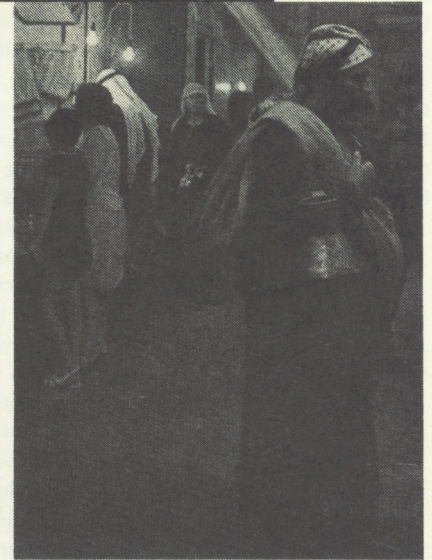
"The question is an important one, inasmuch as, on a proper reply, depend not only on the ability of a candidate for the office of the ministry to examine himself, and of the church with which he is connected to judge of his talents, but also the discriminating between those who are in truth 'ministers of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God,' and those who are such only in name.

Submitted to the 1983 Bethel Association by Elder Darrell Hick, Brother Tim Binion, and Brother Steve York.

Sweet the moments, rich in blessing,
Which before the cross I spend;
Life and health and peace possessing
From the sinner's dying Friend.

-Walter Shirley

LOOK AT JERUSALEM



THE OLD CITY MARKETS

MISSOURI RESIDENTS VISIT BIBLE LANDS

(Continued from Page 3)

to us. Looking at these scenes they showed all the wonders and works of Jesus in picture form in mosaic. We could see the true religion had been there first. After looking at the ceilings and walls for several hours we left feeling the love of God in our hearts in this land of Moslem faith. God is everywhere but it made us sad to know that this is the land where the teachings had begun of Christ and salvation and to see it now. We were warned the first day we arrived in Turkey by our son **not to** mention religion or politics.

We traveled to Israel alone. We stayed in a Hospis inside the Old Walls of Jerusalem just inside the Jaffa Gate, an Anglo owned hospis, very clean and had our meals too. We made our tour connections there and for a small fee too. One day the guide took us inside the walls to all the places. Another day we went outside the walls to Kidron Valley, Mt. of Olives, Burial place, etc. We went to Bethlehem also. A long day tour took us to Jericho, Dead Sea area, Bethany, Good Samaritan, etc. Another day we went to Nazareth, Jacob's Well, Sea of Galilee area. The guide would stop at many places along the way and quote scriptures of what took place there. Later at night we would read the Bible and we

can never tell you the blessing it was to us reading about the places we had traveled that day. We spent 12 days in Jerusalem and days we had free to rest we would walk or take the bus to places of interest by ourselves.

Almost every Sunday in services we are reminded of our trip in some of the scriptures we study or hear preached. We hope to go back someday because we know we just barely touched the surface of Israel. Due to my working in the school system as an elementary secretary it isn't possible for us to go during the fall or school term.

Ever since we started reading about your trip we have wanted to tell you that our trip was relived each time the Banner came out. So many people here say they don't care to go to Israel because it isn't like it was in Bible days and I guess we felt that way also **before** our trip there **but we wouldn't trade that trip for anything now.**

Last summer while on vacation in Colorado we visited the little church in Colo. where Bro. Gary Duncan was preaching. We got to go two Sundays and were glad we had gone because we felt the Spirit there.

May God bless you in your work.

Sincerely,