

Baptist Banner

.....
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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VOLUME 13 GOODLETTSVILLE, TENN. 37072 JANUARY, 1979 NUMBER 8

World Wide Missions

Open Door

Home Missions

By H.C. Vanderpool

"For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries." I Cor. 16:9

The apostle Paul wrote the above words to the church at Corinth while at Philippi. Paul and Barnabas were sent out by the church at Antioch to do mission work. Upon their return home to this church



Brother Bob Pitt

from their first missionary tour, we have the following record: "And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles." Acts 14:27.

As doors were opened unto the early Christians, even in the face of adversity, so, today doors are being opened unto us. Last month an article appeared in the BANNER relative to the open doors before us in the matter of TV Stations that were making it possible for our Missionary Baptist Churches to telecast our services to a potential audience of 20 million in Tennessee, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and California.

(Continued on Page 2)

BIBLE LANDS PILGRIMAGE

Baptist Mission

By H.C. Vanderpool

A new mission work has begun in Denver, Colorado. Bro. Luther Jent and wife along with several others are now meeting each week for services. At present they are waiting upon the Lord to lead a minister to them for this work. The weekly services now consist of prayer, singing and Bible Study. Anyone having friends or relatives living in that area are asked to contact them and inform them of the mission. Those desiring to get the information there may contact Bro. Jent as follows: Mr. Luther Jent, 45 Garfield St., Denver, Colorado 80206. If you wish to call him the number is: (303) 377-5050.

(NOTE: Last month I reported on the first three days of our Bible Lands Tour which was Oct. 30-Nov. 10, 1978. We had been touring in Egypt.)

Thursday, November 2, 1978

On this date we were up at 2:30 A.M. This was due to our plane schedule to another country. They prepared breakfast for us there at the Rehab Hotel. We had our luggage out and on our bus at 3:30 A.M. and on our way to the Cairo airport. We made our usual customs routine and at 6:00 A.M. we boarded our plane, Egypt Air

Flight 814. At 7:50 A.M. we landed at the airport in Amman, Jordan. We checked through customs and boarded our bus to our hotel which turned out to be an up-to-date structure and the most modern hotel we had stayed in for some time. It was the Ambassador Hotel. We had from this time until lunch to relax and refresh ourselves before beginning our tour of Jordan.

After lunch we boarded our Jordanian bus with Mr. Adon Shaweesh, our guide, to see some of the country known as the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. We visited the Roman Theatre, Odeum and Forum. In the afternoon we also saw the Byzantine Gate, the Roman Walls and Citadel. Standing here I saw some school children passing by on their way home from school. As elsewhere in the world, they took time to stop have a fight and then continue on their way. I have a picture of this bout.

Another place of interest that we saw was the National Archaeological Museum. We took time to visit a Bazaar and do some shopping. As we made our way back through Amman to our hotel we viewed the guest palaces of King Hussein. At the hotel we had supper and retired for the night.

Friday, November 3, 1978

Instead of touring another day in Jordan, we go to Israel on this date and return to Jordan a week later before coming home for an additional day to Petra "The eighth wonder of the world."

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Missionary Baptist Literature Committee

By H. C. Vanderpool

Our Sunday School Literature Committee has been very appreciative of the churches that have been using our own literature for the past year. We plan to make our first annual financial report to the public in the March issue of the BANNER.

All work and cooperation is appreciated. However, we have a few churches that order late and this takes additional time, money and efforts to mail one order at a time. We would appreciate very much if each church could order by the date that is marked on your order sheet. All orders could then be mailed the same day.

Ordination

There will be an ordination service at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 5208 Nolensville Road, Nashville, TN, on Saturday afternoon, January 13th, beginning at 2:00 o'clock. The church has chosen Brethren Colin Dyer, Key Dillard and Harold Petty to be ordained as deacons of the church.

Mt. Calvary Church invites all Missionary Baptist Churches of the same faith and order to send their ordained brethren to assist in this ordination.

Done by the order of the church,
Henry Smith, moderator
Harold Petty, clerk

Open Door

My Trip To Japan

By James H. Smith

I promised that I would give some report of my trip and short stay to Japan before I left, and so I want to fulfill that promise. I left Nashville November 2nd and arrived



Elder J. H. Smith

in Japan about fifteen hours later by jet air plane. I had a nice trip and a safe one, and I experienced the nearness of the Lord while on this journey, and certainly I am very grateful to Him for letting me know that He was with me to give security and comfort. I stayed over night in Osaka, Japan in a hotel, and from there I boarded a Japanese bullet train to Hiroshima, traveling that two hundred miles in less than two hours by this fast train. I got on a street car at Hiroshima Station and went across town to West Hiroshima to where our church, Koi Baptist Church is, and where Brother Tajima and his family lives. They expected me to call from Osaka and let them know the time of my arrival, but I just decided I would like to have one more experience of riding on an

(Continued on Page 3)

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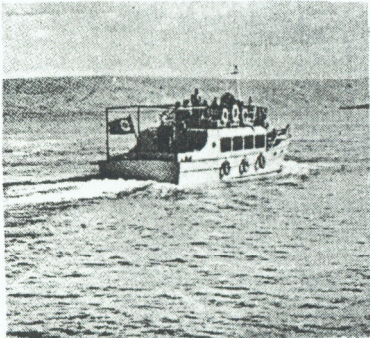
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Bible Lands Tour

(Continued from Page 1)

We leave our hotel by bus and make our way to the Jordan River where we cross the Allenby Bridge. On our way we look upon Mt. Nebo where Moses was allowed of God to go and view the Promised Land before his death. From here we could look westward across Jordan to the city of Jericho, the city of palm trees. Deut. 34:1-3



Sea of Galilee

We crossed the Jordan and went through customs. Upon our arrival on the Israeli side, I looked down the walkway to the bus waiting for us, and at once I recognized the guide coming to meet us. As I called out

(Continued on Page 4)

Revival Report

Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Bethpage, TN closed their Revival with three professions of faith and two additions to the church. Pastor Douglas Blankenship was assisted by Elder Leon Jones.

**Israel Shows the Way
In Use of Solar Energy**

Israel is leading the world in the per capita use of solar energy, mainly for water-heating. This was stated by Israeli scientists at an international conference—held at the Technion in Haifa last week—on the application of solar energy.

About 250 scientists from Israel and abroad attended.

Dr. Nathan Arad, director-general of Israel's National Energy Authority, said that 300,000 solar heaters provide one third of the country's domestic hot water, a saving of three per cent in our national electricity consumption.

The government was now making solar water heaters mandatory for all new housing funded by it. As a result of this ruling at least 600,000 homes, about 60 per cent of all houses, will be fitted with solar heaters within ten years, he said.

He also noted that good progress was being made in the development of solar energy air conditioning units and solar ponds for generating electricity.

He estimated that by the 1990s, eight to 15 per cent of Israel's total energy requirements would be supplied by solar energy.

Conference chairman Dr. Gershon Grossman, of the Technion, said that the conference was the third of a series, started in Israel in 1975, following the world energy crisis. This was the first international meeting to be held here.

Missions

(Continued from Page 1)

I am told by the Old Fashion Gospel Hour Telecast Committee, that a number of churches are sending in financial support. Many of our churches are voting to send a regular amount each month. **LET EACH CHURCH DO THIS AND GOD WILL BLESS OUR EFFORTS AND OPEN MORE DOORS TO US!**

Bro. Bob Pitt is the one who began this type mission work several months ago. The Old Fashion Gospel Hour Telecast Committee is composed of Bro. Bob Pitt, Elder William House and Bro. Wash Thompson. They met with the Advisory Committee on the TV work on Dec. 1, 1978 at Goodlettsville, Tenn. That Committee is composed of Elder Howard G. Taylor, Elder H.C. Vanderpool, Elder A.G. Gregory, Elder W.T. Russell, Elder Don Curtis, Bro. G.W. Hauskins, Elder William Johnson, Elder J.E. Shoulders and Elder James Oliver. A good fellowship was enjoyed and much interest manifested during the meeting. Eleven of the twelve brethren were able to attend.

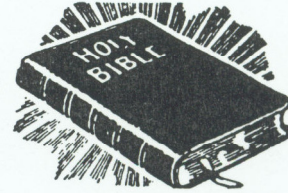
We are not begging funds away from Foreign Missions. **THE BIBLE TEACHES BOTH!** Please read the article on Foreign Missions in this issue by Elder James H. Smith. We appreciate the work Bro. Smith and others have done for many years in Foreign Missions. Please read his article and heed the advice he had given unto us to pray for and support the work in Japan. **WE SHOULD BE WILLING TO SUPPORT BOTH HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS AS THE LORD OPENS DOORS TO US!**

May we as pastors prayerfully support Missions and then we can rightfully stand in our pulpits and preach to others to do the same. Churches are not apt to support Missions if their pastors don't show any interest in the work. Send your money for the TV Missions to: Old Fashion Gospel Hour Telecast Committee, c/o Elder William House, 934 W. Delmas Ave., Nashville, TN 37216.

If you have money to send to Foreign Missions in Japan, send it to: Elder Koji Tajima, Hiroshima Nishi, P.O. Box 62, Hiroshima 733-91, Japan.

OLD UNION BAPTIST MINISTERS SCHOOL

SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION — MARCH 28, 29, 30, 1978



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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1978

- 9:00 A.M. — Devotional
- 9:45 A.M. — Missions — J. H. Smith
- 10:30 A.M. — Intermission
- 10:45 A.M. — The New Testament Church - In Prophecy - H. C. Vanderpool
- 11:30 A.M. — Lunch
- 1:00 P.M. — Apostolic Gifts — W. T. Russell
- 1:45 P.M. — Intermission
- 2:00 P.M. — Bible Revelation - F. W. Lambert
- 2:45 P.M. — Announcements and Benediction

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1978

- 9:15 A.M. — Devotional
- 9:45 A.M. — Baptism of The Holy Spirit — W. T. Russell
- 10:30 A.M. — Intermission
- 10:45 A.M. — The New Testament Church - On Earth — H. C. Vanderpool
- 11:30 A.M. — Lunch
- 1:00 P.M. — The Two Natures of Man — F. W. Lambert
- 1:45 P.M. — Intermission
- 2:00 P.M. — Better Things of Christ in Hebrews - Part I — J. H. Smith
- 2:45 P.M. — Announcements and Benediction

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1978

- 9:15 A.M. — Devotional
- 9:45 A.M. — The Intermediate State between Death and the Resurrection — F. W. Lambert
- 10:30 A.M. — Intermission
- 10:45 A.M. — Better Things of Christ in Hebrews - Part II — J. H. Smith
- 11:30 A.M. — Lunch
- 1:00 P.M. — The New Testament Church - In Glory — H. C. Vanderpool
- 1:45 P.M. — Intermission
- 2:00 P.M. — The Gift of Tongues — W. T. Russell
- 2:45 P.M. — Presentation of Certificates and Benediction
- 3:00 P.M. — Refreshments



Elder and Mrs. Koji Tajima and daughter Kyoko

Singing

There is to be a Singing at Old Paths Missionary Baptist Church, Watertown Rd., Lebanon, TN on Sunday, Jan. 14 at 2 P.M. The featured group will be the Hap-pyairs. Everyone is invited.

Visit To Japan

(Continued from page 1)

old trolley car. So I fulfilled that desire, and they didn't have to bother about coming to the station to meet me. They were a little surprised when they saw me come walking through the gate. My arrival in Hiroshima was on Saturday, and so the next day being Sunday and time for services at Koi Baptist Church, I was with the church for my first time in about six years. I tried to give a testimony in Japanese after Brother Tajima preached, but it was quite a struggle, because there were so many words that we use in worship that I had forgotten. Anyway, it was good to be present and see the brethren and sisters, and have their fellowship once more.

Koi Baptist Church seems to be holding its own pretty well, the attendance being about the same as it was when I was there last. People get saved occasionally but others move away, and so it goes as it has been in the past. But one very important and good condition I still found, and that is the Lord's presence was still evident. Brother Tajima asked me to preach on the second Sunday that I was there, on November 12th, I had been trying to brush up on my Japanese up to that time. So I spoke that Sunday morning on some of my favorite passages in the Bible, and the Lord gave me good liberty to speak that time, and He truly blessed my soul. I had many precious memories that day of the past when I would struggle to get a message over to the people and how the Lord would bless, and how He would touch sinners and save them; and I would be pri-

vileged to hear their testimony of saving grace. I can not stress too much how I would like for our people here at home to pray for the Lord's work in Japan. During the years that Annie Laura and I spent there I thought sometimes that I would sweat blood trying to learn language so that I could preach the glorious Gospel to the Japanese and establish a true witness for our Lord there. I know that He answers sincere and earnest prayers of His people. So would you make this a special object of prayer. I realize that discouraging things happen, and we feel let down, but this is no excuse to give up in any sense of the word; for God doesn't accept excuses. What we sometimes think to be a tragedy proves to be a blessing anyway. In past history when some men fell by the wayside God had somebody just as good, or even better, to take that one's place. So don't say that we might as well forget foreign missions and concentrate on home missions. Both are to be carried on at the same time. (Acts 1:8) When we don't have missionaries, let us pray that God would call some. There is one sin that so many Christians are guilty of, and that is limiting the Almighty; doubtful, gloomy children of God.

On Thursday, November 9th, I went with Brother Tajima to an island called Oshima to begin a mission there. He had been invited to come and hold services in a widow woman's house, and I was privileged to go with him for the first service. Oshima, I would guess, is about fifty or sixty miles from Hiroshima, and the island has thirty thousand inhabitants. This woman said that they used to have a church on the island but the pastor became old and couldn't preach anymore, so they closed the doors. I was impressed very much with this small beginning; but "Who hath despised the day of small things?" This elderly woman was, without a doubt, hungering for the Word of God. So she invites a Baptist preacher to come and hold services in her house. And she had invited some other women to come for the service, and two other women came and so there were the three of them, five of us in all, for this first meeting. The sister wanted to talk some at first and tell some of her Christian experiences. I couldn't understand much of what she said, but I could very well feel the witness of the Spirit in her testimony. We sung some hymns, had prayer, and then Brother Tajima preached to these hungry souls. Please pray for this new mission effort, that it will grow and that it will be permanent work for the Lord.

We went from Oshima to a town called Hikari and spent Thursday night with a member of Yamaguchi Church, and on Friday we went to Yamaguchi for a service in the afternoon. Attendance there was very small, because being a week day, some of the members that usually attend were working.

One other good experience I had while in Japan was my visit with a man who was

the first to be saved after our arrival in Hiroshima in the year 1951. He was a very young man at that time and a student at Hiroshima University. Back at that time he made several personal visits to our place and attended services regularly at the house. He got convicted after hearing the Word of God for a few months and went down by the sea shore one afternoon after school hours, and there he prayed to the true God for the first time, and the Lord saved him. He became a school teacher after graduation and had to leave Hiroshima to find a place to teach. He is now a man in his late forties and has two grown children. He learned that I was coming to Japan and requested that I come to his home and stay as long as I wished. I went and spent two nights with them, brother Kiyama and his family. He hadn't attended church for many years, and I could tell that his heart was hungry for spiritual food. He asked me to pray while I was there, and we talked about the Lord and the good days we used to spend in Hiroshima together. Brother Kiyama is an English speaking Japanese, and he used to after he was saved, interpret for me, and we would go many places to preach and distribute Bibles.

While I was with Brother Kiyama another member of Koi Baptist Church, who has been away for many years, and who lives in the same community, came, he and his wife to visit. This man's name is Brother Fukuo; and he too was a student at Hiroshima University when he came to the services in Hiroshima and got saved back there in 1951. Both of these men were very helpful to us back in those days, because both of them could speak English and could interpret the Word of God for me. I asked both of them if they would go back to Koi church and help out. They live about a hundred miles or so from Hiroshima, but it takes only about an hour to go by the fast trains they have. They promised me that they would go as often as they could. They are able even financially to help a lot if they would go. I have longed for the time when Koi Baptist Church could become more self supporting, for I know that God would bless them more and they would get more out of the service of the Lord if they would and could. I talked to them about this while I was there, and I had talked to Brother Tajima about it in the past. I know, however the way everything is now, all the inflation, high prices, I have never seen anything like, it would be hard for Brother Tajima to make it without some help from here. But let us pray as we try to help them, that they will try a little harder and make sacrifices for the Lord's sake. My heart goes out to them, and I would not so anything to hinder, but I only want to do what I think is best for the work that is so dear to my heart. Please make this a special object of your prayers.

Pastors, would you, from the pulpit, request your people to pray for our Japanese work.

EDITORIAL

The Antioch Church Sounded Forth Missions, Acts 13:1-4.

They were founded upon missions, and grounded upon missions; it wasn't anything but natural for them to begin sounding forth missions. Barnabas, Saul, and the other brethren named were vitally concerned about missions in other places and as a result, three things took place very shortly.

A. Missionaries were sought, verse 1-2a. They didn't place a notice in the Want Ads for missionaries; rather they sought them from the Lord. These men believed in a divine call to the ministry and to missions so they prayed to the Lord of the harvest. Surely when they prayed for missionaries, they must have considered the possibility that anyone of them might be chosen of the Lord for the work. When we pray for workers and Missionaries, we can only pray aright when we are willing to go ourselves.

B. Missionaries were separated, verse 2b. As these men prayed, ministered, and fasted, the Holy Spirit revealed God's will by choosing Barnabas and Saul to be separated or set aside for mission work. What a solemn occasion — men prayed and God called! Surely the hearts of these men were humbled before the Lord. God's method of choosing missionaries (or preachers for that matter) has not changed one iota since that early day.

C. Missionaries were sent, verses 3-4. they fasted and prayed again; then they ordained them as missionaries through the laying on of hands. Then they sent them forth with their prayers and support behind them. Saul and Barnabas left Antioch and went by land to Seleucia from whence they set sail to the island called Cyprus. Thus began Paul's first missionary journey.

CONCLUSION—Because of a mission-minded group of men, the Antioch church was organized. Begun with a missionary zeal, the church at Antioch soon became the home base for the mission work of Paul, Barnabas, Silas, and many other men of God. Is your church a "base" for mission work? If it is, pray that it will continue to grow in that direction; if it isn't pray and work that it may become one.

BIBLE LANDS PILGRIMAGE

March 5-15, 1979

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Our tour group at Memphis, Egypt

Bible Lands Tour

(Continued from page 2)

"Shep" he looked up and came to meet me. He was Mr. Shabiai (Shep) Levanon the guide I had two years ago. I learned that our Holy Land guide that we had last year, Mr. Adel Odeh, and Arab, had died May 10 with a heart attack. We were sorry to hear as all our tour group loved him. He was a great guide.

We loaded on to our Israeli bus and made our way to Qumran to the Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found in 1947. This was an early settlement of the Essenes and Jerusalem archaeologists have been working here since 1951.

We then go to Jericho where we have our lunch. We visit a large succamore tree the only one left in Jericho. We view Elisha's



Cana

Well, the Mount of Temptation and archaeological findings of ancient Jericho. Then we made our way down to the Jordan River which is always an experience for anyone.

We then traveled north through the Jordan Valley and into upper Galilee where we come to the Sea of Galilee. While crossing this historical and Biblical body of water, we conducted a service. The large boat was brought to a standstill by those in charge while we had the service. The Spirit of the Lord was certainly manifested and we were able to rejoice together. From the Sea we lifted our eyes to Tiberias on the west, where we were to spend the night, to the Mount of Beatitudes and to Capernaum where we left our boat and went ashore to walk among the view

the ruins of a city where Jesus' ministry centered.

For the first and only time during our entire tour, a gentle rain came across the

Jordan Valley which added new life to the vegetation and the crops which were growing for that season. Rain falls in the Holy Land during the winter months, and then again later in the year with a mid-year season without rain. Deut. 11:14.

We drove back into the city of Tiberias on the western sloped of the Sea of Galilee where we spent the night at Ginton Hotel. We always enjoy the fellowship that our tour groups have in the hotel lobbies. We usually meet, take and discuss our past day's experiences and look forward to the following day and its blessings.

Saturday, November 5, 1978

From time to time, the breakfasts that are served in various countries make good and lasting impressions on the tourist. On this morning we were really blessed. (I can prove it by Bro. Pete Shepherd.) We had so many things to select from, radishes, green onions, fish, boiled eggs, two or three kinds of cheese, pickles, butter, hard bread, preserves, jelly, olives, cucumbers, fruit juice and coffee.

After a blessing of this nature, we soon boarded our bus and began our drive further up the Jordan Valley into upper Galilee. Looking eastwardly we viewed the land of Moab in Jordan and the Golan Heights which was once a part of Southern Svria before the Six-Day War.

We travelled to Cana of Galilee where Jesus performed His first miracle. John 2:1-11. Then we went to Nazareth where Jesus was brought up. Our next stop was Meggiddo. Here you see for miles and miles across the Valley of Jezreel to Mt. Gilboa where Saul, King of Israel was slain, and his three sons. I Sam. 31:1-6. Next you look upon Mt. Moriah, Judges 7:1, where Gideon won his battle with 300 men. Mt. Tabor lies farther to the north. What a view! What an experience to stand here and view the crossroads of the Middle East.

After viewing some of Solomen's stables and troughs where his horses fed, we descended the tel by way of stairs leading to a spring and out the back of the hill to our bus which had been brought around by George our driver. We then went to Haifa and climbed Mount Carmel where we were to have lunch. On the way up we stopped to view the Haifa Bay Harbor, one of the most beautiful harbors in the world. Here

on Mt. Carmel, Elijah had his encounter with the prophets of Baal, I Kings. 18:19.

We now leave the mountain and head south to Caesarea. We stopped at an olive wood factory where many items were bought. The business place is shipping all the things to us which involves about ten weeks. We went down to the Mediterranean Sea, sometimes in the Bible called The Great Sea. It was here at Caesarea that Cornelius and his household lived. Peter came from Joppa about thirty miles from the south, now the southern part of Tel Aviv, to preach to the Gentiles. We walked about the Roman Theatre and other ancient ruins before taking our bus for a long ride by Tel Aviv into Jerusalem where we would be staying for several nights.

For most of our tour group this was the first time to see the capitol of the religious world. The Holy City, the City of David, the place where God said He would dwell—Jerusalem. Again, as we were at the same hotel two years ago, we went to St. George Hotel. After rooms were assigned, shopping in nearby shops, we came in for supper. We then retired for the night in the Promised Land, the Holy City, to dream of the past day and to awaken to another which the Lord was to make.

(To Be Continued)

A Wonderful Lesson

By Laura Gregory
Franklin, Ky.

In the 12th chapter of Ecclesiastes there is a wonderful lesson to the young and the old.

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." Ecc. 12:1.

The Greek word — ekklesia — means an assembly or church as in the New Testament. In verse 3, the house refers to the physical body. The keepers of the house are the hands which shake and tremble in old age. The grinders are the teeth which become fewer as the years pass on, while those that look out the windows are the eyes which grow dim toward the end of life.

The doors in the streets are the ears which often lose their keenest in riper years. The daughters of music are the vocal chords of those who sing. The almond tree may hint at the appearance of gray hair, the grasshopper may symbolize any trifling weight which to old people may seem heavy.

The silver cord is the spinal cord, the golden bowl to the skull, the pitcher is the heart, the wheel broken at the cistern or other parts of the body which give way during failing years.

Verse 7, "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." And finally we look at the two last verses. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter; Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

HISTORY

Carbon 14 dates 8 olive trees in Garden of Gethsemane 2300 years old. Shimon Lavi directs Orchard Dept. of Volcani Institute and is a tree expert.

Says they're 1600 to 1800 years old or more. One is near 20 ft. around. They were likely in the garden in which Jesus prayed on eve of crucifixion.

SUBSCRIBE

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Optimists Honor Youth



NASHVILLE, TENN— Fifth District Congressman-elect, Bill Boner, presents the Optimist's Clubs Youth Week Appreciation Award to Cathy Claunch of Goodlettsville High School, and Gregory

Graham of Joelton High. Bro. Graham is a member of Harmony Missionary Baptist Church in Nashville and is a song director and faithful member of his church. Congratulations Greg!