

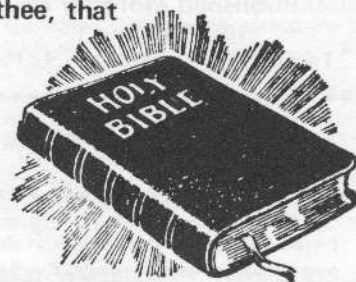
Baptist Banner

COBBLETSVILLE, TENN. 37072



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

Psalms 60:4



VOLUME 9

TOMPKINSVILLE, KY.

DECEMBER, 1974

NUMBER 7

BETHLEHEM, ISRAEL

Micah 5:2; Matt. 2:1-5



WISEMAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION CONVENED

The Wiseman Baptist Association convened with Liberty Hill Baptist Church, Bethpage, Tenn. in its 83rd annual session on October 25 and 26, 1974.

Officers elected were Elder F. L. Ray, moderator; Elder W. T. Russell, clerk and Elder A. G. Gregory, Treasurer.

A number of subjects relative to our Baptist work was discussed during the two-day session. The Introductory Sermon on Friday was preached by Elder H. D. Linville and on Saturday the Doctrinal Sermon was delivered by Elder W. T. Russell.

A good association and fellowship was enjoyed by all present. The next session will be held on October 24 and 25, 1975 with Rock Bridge Baptist Church, Sumner County, Tenn.

O, Little Town Of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep,
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark street shineth,
The ever lasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years,
Are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem!
Descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today!
We hear the Christmas angels,
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Im-man-u-el!

BIBLE STUDY AT LAFAYETTE

There is to be a Bible Study at Lafayette Missionary Baptist Church, College St., Lafayette, Tenn., each Thursday night for ten weeks beginning on Thursday night, January 2, 1975 and closing on Thursday night, March 6, 1975.

The study is to begin each night at 7:00 P. M. and Elder W. T. Russell, pastor of Fairview Memorial Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. is to be the teacher. Everyone is invited. Elder Charles R. Moore is pastor of the Lafayette church.

A FAMILY NEEDS HELP

A few weeks ago the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Graves of Sumner County, Tenn. burned and they lost the home and furnishings. An offering was taken for them at the Wiseman Baptist Association while convened at Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Bethpage, Tenn. in October in the amount of \$203.84.

Any individual or church wishing to give to this family may send it to Elder Clyde Grizzle, 108 Sherry Circle, Gallatin, Tenn. 37066.

GALLATIN CHURCH NEEDS FUNDS

East Side Missionary Baptist Church, Gallatin, Tenn. is now worshipping in a rented building on Prince St. in Gallatin. They have begun a new building and have the roof on but are about out of money to finish the work.

Any donations helping this church may be sent to the pastor Elder Raymond Sutton, 809 Maplewood Lane, Nashville, Tenn. 37216. Any help will be appreciated by this church and pastor.

ATTENTION

Anyone who might have any knowledge of an old-fashioned Missionary Baptist Church in the Raleigh, North Carolina area is asked to write to Mr. Robert O. Langford, 6421 Malibu Dr., Raleigh, N. C. 27603, informing him of the church. This would be appreciated.

BAPTIST BANNER

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

We want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. We are thankful that we both found in our early lives the true meaning of Christmas, and that was when we were saved and received the greatest of gifts, the gift of eternal life. (Rom. 6:23; II Cor. 9:15)

We trust those of you who have enjoyed this gift of eternal life will share its joy with others and that you who are yet in sin will seek the Lord and find Him precious to your souls, and by so doing will enjoy more than ever the true spirit of Christmas.

Editor and Mrs. H. C. Vanderpool

ATTENTION—NEW POLICY

In recent months I have been announcing in the BANNER the singings in the Nashville area or elsewhere as I had knowledge of them. I have learned sometimes after the announcements had gone to press that the date had been changed, the featured group was being replaced by another, or the Sunday in the month and hour of time had been changed.

Beginning in January 1975, I will make singing announcements each month for churches—and will be happy to do so—if each church will let me know each month your Sunday, time and featured group by the 15th of the preceding month. This means if you want your singing announced in January, let me know by December 15. If you want it announced each month, let me have the information monthly. The announcements are free. You may write or call me at (615) 859-5780 Editor.
(615) 859-5780



New Year's Eve Singing

There will be a New Year's Eve Singing at Rayon City Missionary Baptist Church, 205 Keaton Ave., Old Hickory, Tenn. The featured singers will be the Temple Trio of Glasgow, Ky., Messengers Quartet of Greenbriar, Tenn. and the Dixon Quartet of Collingwood, Tenn. The public is invited to attend.

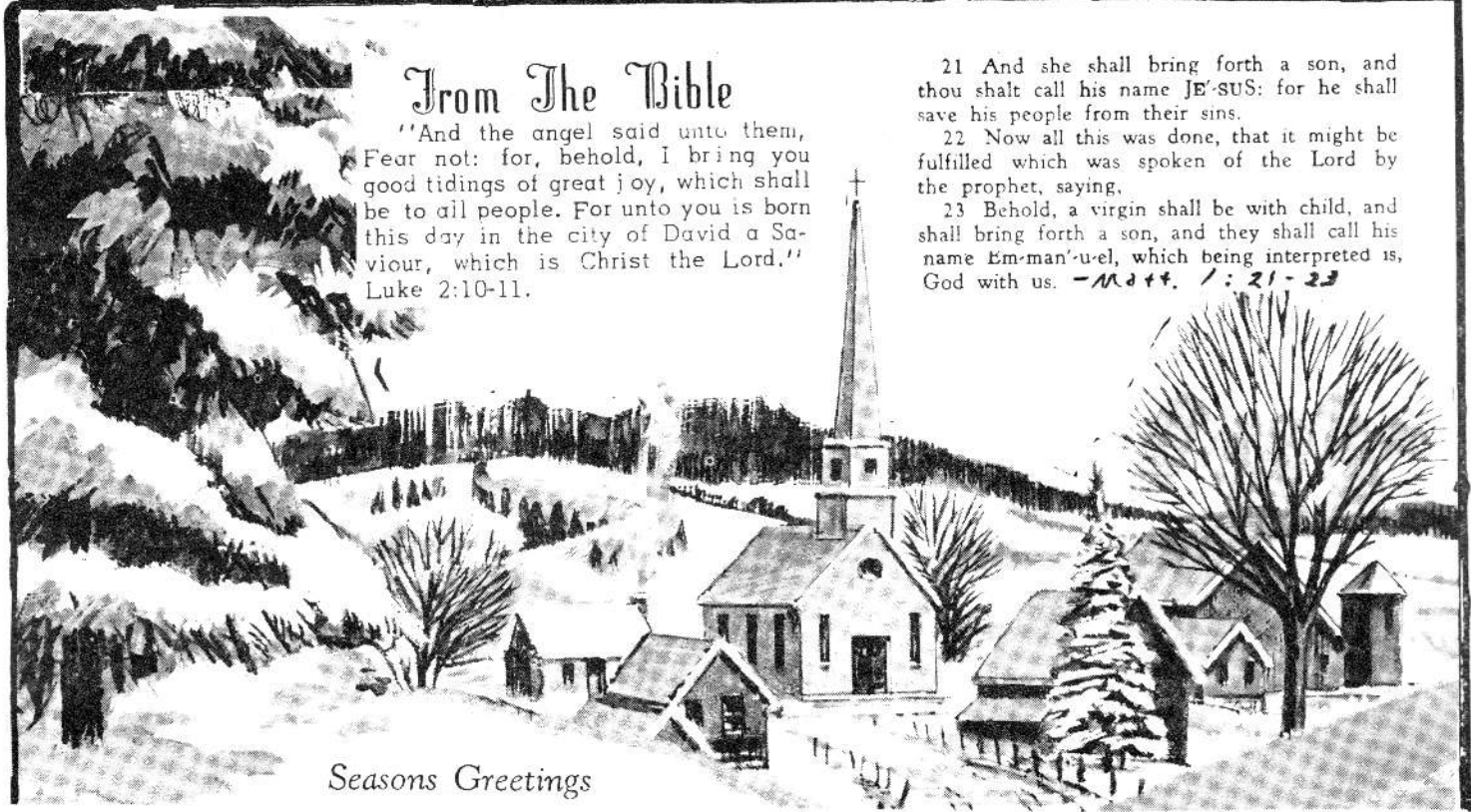
From The Bible

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."
Luke 2:10-11.

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JE-SUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Em-man'u-el, which being interpreted is, God with us. —Matt. 1: 21-23



Seasons Greetings

One Baptism—In Water

DISOBEDIENCE TO DIVINE COMMANDS IS NOT
A WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

By **ROSCO BRONG**
Dean, Lexington Baptist College

"There is . . . one baptism." (Eph. 4:4, 5)

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into (with reference to) Jesus Christ were baptized into (with reference to) his death?" (Rom. 6:3.)

"Our fathers . . . were all baptized into (with reference to) Moses in the cloud and in the sea." (I Cor. 10:1, 2.)

Use of scriptural terms in an unscriptural sense is a favorite trick of modernists that has been adopted by some so-called interdenominationalists who pride themselves on their supposed orthodoxy or fundamentalism. So it has become fashionable in certain circles to speak of a "spiritual baptism" of which the Bible tells us exactly nothing.

Satan has never introduced among God's people a heresy so ridiculous but that he has been able to find men willing to prostitute some degree of scholarship in its defense. So it has been with the practice of baby baptism, pouring, and sprinkling as substitutes for believers' baptism. There have been a few scholars of limited ability or honesty, or both, who have tried to justify these unscriptural practices by perverted interpretations of scripture.

A LOST BATTLE

But among competent scholars the scriptural meaning of "baptize" and "baptism" is no longer a matter of debate. Everyone knows that the ordinary literal meaning of baptize in the New Testament is to dip, plunge, or immerse in water—and whatever figurative meaning the word may occasionally have must be derived from and based upon this literal sense.

Martin Luther, John Calvin, and John Wesley, whatever their doctrinal errors, were at least, unlike some of their followers, scholarly enough to admit that scriptural baptism was immersion, and that sprinkling in its place was an innovation for the sake of convenience rather than obedience.

FIGURATIVE BAPTISMS

An elementary principle of honest translation and interpretation is that the literal or ordinary meaning of a word is always to be preferred if it makes good sense in the context; figurative or unusual meanings are to be adopted only when demanded by context.

Undoubtedly in Mat. 20:22, Mk. 10:38, and Lu. 12:50 Jesus was speaking of a figurative baptism or immersion in the sufferings of the cross. So the baptism in fire mentioned in Mat. 3:11

and Lu. 3:16 is evidently not a dipping in water. Some interpreters think the reference is to the "fiery trial" of I Pet. 4:12; others refer the language to the lost in the lake of fire (Rev. 20:15), in which case the baptism is quite literal, except that it is in fire instead of water.

IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Bible also speaks of a baptism in (NOT "with") the Holy Spirit. Mat. 3:11; Mk. 1:8; Lu. 3:16; Jn. 1:33; Acts 1:5, 17:34—these six times and nowhere else do we read that Jesus was to baptize in the Holy Spirit. This baptism in the Holy Spirit took place on the day of Pentecost, symbolizing the dedication and accreditation of the church as an institution, even as baptism in water symbolizes the dedication and accreditation of the individual believer.

Just as an individual believer is scripturally baptized in water only once, so the church as an institution was baptized in the Holy Spirit only once, that is, on the day of Pentecost. The additional manifestation in the house of Cornelius was simply to convince Peter and other Jewish church members that Gentile believers rightfully belonged in the same church.

NOT AN INDIVIDUAL

Never in all the New Testament is a single individual said to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This was a baptism of the church as such, not of single believers as such. Let us not confuse fillings with the Spirit or gifts of the Spirit with baptism in the Spirit.

If we are members of a scriptural church, in scriptural succession from that first (Baptist) church in Jerusalem, then our church was baptized in the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, once for all. If we have not such a church, no fake "Pentecost" will change the fact.

BAPTIZED "INTO" MOSES

A preposition is a weak peg to hang a doctrine on, but the phrase "baptized into Jesus Christ" in the King James version of Rom. 6:3 has long been a favorite with baptismal regenerationists. They are conveniently or willfully ignorant of the fact that identical translation of the same Greek preposition *eis* in I Cor. 10:2 makes "our fathers . . . all baptized into Moses."

Of course, nobody is ever dipped into Christ, any more than anybody was ever dipped into Moses. The Greek preposition in both these passages should be rendered "with reference to" or "because of," either of which translations will give good sense, while "into" gives nonsense.

WILD WUESTERN WHIMSY

A reader wants to know what I think of the so-called "expanded translation" by Kenneth S. Wuest of Rom. 6:3 and Eph. 4:5. I quote:

"Do you not know that all we who were placed in Christ Jesus, in his death were placed?" (Rom. 6:3.)

"One Lord, one Faith, one placing into [the Body of Christ by the Holy Spirit]." (Eph. 4:5, brackets included.)

I answer: that is not translation, expanded or otherwise: that is mere wild Wuestern whimsy.

The Greek word transliterated baptize does not mean to place or place into in any such free and easy sense. It means to dip, plunge, or immerse in water—unless the context obviously demands another element.

No reputable Greek scholar ever dreamed of such "translation" in former years, but now, driven to desperate expedients to promote the "invisible church" fantasy, modernistic Bible dictionaries and commentaries of pseudo-scholarship are chirping a chorus of "spiritual baptism"—a thing as invisible and nonexistent in the Bible as the invisible church itself.

"SHUT UP TO MOSES"

Amusingly consistent only in its inconsistency is the same Wuestern "translation" of I Cor. 10:2:

"And all had themselves immersed, surrounded by the cloud [above] and the sea [on both sides], thus shut up to Moses [as their leader]." (Brackets are part of quotation.)

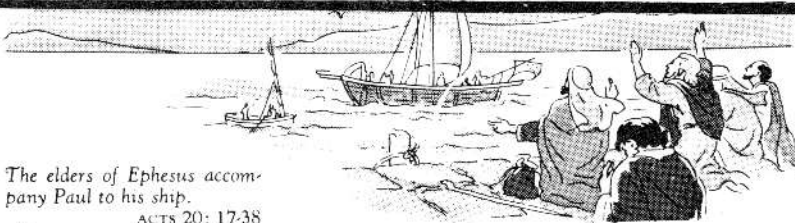
"Shut up to Moses," indeed. At least, thank God, we are not shut up to Wuest. If that is translation, a dozen generations of formerly respected English translators missed their calling.

ONLY ONE BAPTISM

According to the Bible (Eph. 4:5), there is only one (literal) baptism, and that is the baptism in water instituted by John the Baptist by divine commission, received by the Lord Jesus, and by Him committed to His church to be observed as an ordinance for disciples (believers) only, as a first act of obedience, to be followed by the observance of all His commandments.

When men speak of a fictitious "spiritual baptism" not mentioned in the Bible, and belittle the one baptism (in water) that is taught in the Bible, we can be sure that their strange doctrine is not the work of the Holy Spirit.

• • • Ashland Avenue Baptist



The elders of Ephesus accompany Paul to his ship.
ACTS 20: 17-38

OLD UNION BAPTIST MINISTERS SCHOOL

THIRD SESSION

March 26, 27, 28, 1975



Elder F. W. Lambert



Elder James H. Smith



Elder F. L. Ray



Elder H. C. Vanderpool



Elder W. T. Russell

SUBJECT	TIME	TEACHER
Foreordination, Election, Predestination	(2 hrs.)	W. T. Russell
Person and Office Work of The Holy Spirit	(1 hr.)	W. T. Russell
Divine Sonship and Humanity of Jesus Christ	(2 hrs.)	F. L. Ray
Church Ordinances	(1 hr.)	F. L. Ray
Missions	(1 hr.)	J. H. Smith
Security of Believers, Positive and Negative	(2 hrs.)	F. W. Lambert
Hell	(1 hr.)	F. W. Lambert
Honoring the Divine Call of God	(1 hr.)	H. C. Vanderpool
Hospital Ministry	(1 hr.)	H. C. Vanderpool
Review of the Declaration of Faith	(1 hr.)	H. C. Vanderpool

For enrollment and lodging arrangements write to: Old Union Baptist Ministers School, c/o Eld. Kenneth Massey, 2416 Shamrock Drive, Bowling Green, Ky. 42101 or call (502) 843-1590.

LYONS BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is to be a singing at Lyons Missionary Baptist Church, 904 Gagel Avenue, Louisville, Ky. on Saturday night, December 14, beginning at 7:30 P. M. The featured singers will be the Masters Quartet, Harvesters Quartet and the Hymn Time Quartet.

New Year's Eve Singing

The New Year's Eve singing at Lyons Baptist Church is to begin on December 31, at 7:30 P. M. The featured groups will be the Melody Makers of Bowling Green, Ky., The Cook Family of Bonneville, Ky., The Lighthouse Quartet of West Point, Ky. and the Lighthouse Singers of Louisville. The public is invited to attend, especially all singers.

Appointments Open

Beginning in January, 1975, the fourth Sunday night of each month will be open for visiting ministers at Lyons Missionary Baptist Church. Any minister of like faith and order who would like to have an appointment may contact the pastor, Elder Kenneth Davis, 7106 Gageland Rd., Louisville, Ky. 40258 or call him at (502) 937-7382.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BAPTIST BANNER

Country Parson



"People ought to be able to change their opinions without changing their morality."

NEW YEAR'S EVE SINGING

There will be a New Year's Eve Singing at McFerrin Missionary Baptist Church, 1208 McFerrin Ave., Nashville, Tenn. on December 31, beginning at 8:00 P. M. and continuing until after midnight. There will be plenty of congregational singing and some groups of singers are expected. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the fellowship and the gospel singing.

RADIO BROADCAST TIME CHANGE

The radio broadcast of New Bethel Baptist Church, Old Dickerson Rd., Goodlettsville, Tenn. has been moved from Saturday afternoon to Sunday morning at 8:00 A. M. These programs are under the direction of Elder H. C. Vanderpool, pastor of New Bethel Church, and are over station WNAH, in Nashville, 1360 on the dial. Everyone is invited to hear these broadcasts.

NOTE: (More changes in time and ministers will be made in the next issue of the BANNER. An effort will be made to bring them all up to date. Any church or minister having a broadcast which has not been published, is asked to send me such information.)—Editor