

Baptist Banner

ED. H. C. VANDERPOOL
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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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Some of the tour group as we walked through Jerusalem.

Editor Reports On Second Tour

By H. C. Vanderpool

(Reports and pictures are being published in the BANNER of my second tour of Bible Lands which was Nov. 29-Dec. 8, 1971, in Cyprus, Turkey, Lebanon, Syria, and Israel. In the three previous issues Nov. 29 through Dec. 3 was covered in the reports. This is article four and beginning with the sixth day of travel.—Editor).

Saturday, Dec. 4, 1971—After breakfast on our ship, we go ashore to our Israeli busses. We were not to return to the ship this night as we would be staying in hotels in Jerusalem, touring there also on Sunday and would come back to our ship at Haifa on Sunday night.

We drive south through the Valley of
(Page Three)

Clinging To The Altar

I Kings 2:28-30

God meets with people at the altar. David was saved at the altar and he was a mourner. Psalms 116:3-4 "I found trouble and sorrow. Then called I upon the name of the Lord; O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul." Every man, woman or child, who has been saved was a mourner. God said in Matthew 5:4 "Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted." Psalms 34:18 "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."

We will note in the Bible there are degrees of belief. It is one thing to believe about something and another to believe in something. Philip told the Ethiopian, "if thou believest with all thine heart,

(Page Two)

Missionary Report From Israel

P. O. Box 7305
Jerusalem, Israel
February 8, 1972

Dear Brother Vanderpool & Friends:

We send our greetings to all of you from Jerusalem in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We thank the blessed Lord for the love that binds us together, though we be oceans apart. There is no such thing as distance with the Lord, distance is just for the human race. He who touches us can touch you at the same time, and I am quite sure that He does this so many times.

The weather is real wintery in Jerusalem right now. We had a heavy

(Page Two)

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Report From Israel

(Continued from page 1)

snow fall Sunday night and Monday, February 6th and 7th, there looks to be about five inches on the ground. We have also had floods, strong winds, thunder and lightening. Many people come to Israel thinking that this is a warm climate, but I guess they soon change their minds after they get here. I couldn't even get my car out of the drive way this morning because of the heavy snow.

I should like to relate a true story just here that might be of some interest to the readers. A young Arab girl of sixteen years old was saved here at our house last fall, as I have written before. This girl attends one of the public schools in Ramallah where the Moslem religion is predominate. She told us one day that the teachers wanted the students to recite the Koran, the Moslem scriptures, in their classes each day; and she asked us what she should do about it. I said don't do it, whatever you do, don't do such a thing, for that would be a terrible sin for you. So she began to stand up against them at school. A few days ago she and thirty of the students were having a discussion about their religions, and those Moslem students made fun of her. But she stood her ground. She said to them that you are serving one who is dead, but we Christians serve One who is alive

forevermore and is seated at the right hand of God in heaven. I am quite sure that she said that, because the head mistress of the school wrote me a letter and told me that she said just that. Well, most of the teachers wanted to expell her from school, but the head mistress kept them from their purpose. However, when the girl received her report card the other day, she found they had lowered her grades far below what she had been getting. But we told her she should count it a joy to suffer for the Lord's name sake. We request that you remember this girl in prayer. Anybody who will stand for anything near the truth in this land will be belittled and ridiculed.

May the dear Lord bless our people in the homeland. Judging from news that come to us from there, conditions are getting worse and worse by the day in about every phase of life. We must be living in the evening of time. I pray that the Lord will give us grace to stand the test, whatever it may be.

Financial Report for third quarter of the year 1971:

JULY: Jordan Baptist Church, Oak Lawn, Ill., \$25.00; Friendly Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich., \$200.00; Long Fork Baptist Church, Lafayette, Tenn., \$167.93; McFerrin Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., \$115.33; Russell Springs Baptist, Russell Springs, Ky., \$50.00; Shiloh Baptist, Chicago, Ill., \$20.00; Lyons Baptist, Louisville, Ky., \$150.00; Brother and Sister Wade Watson, Pickens, S. C., \$30.00; Sulfer Fork Baptist, Gallatin, Tenn., \$10.00; Hendersonville Baptist, Hendersonville, Tenn., \$88.34. TOTAL FOR MONTH — \$856.60

AUGUST: Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Holland, Ky., \$100.50; McFerrin Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., \$127.39; Bethel Baptist Church, Indianapolis, Ind., \$22.50; Jordan Baptist Church, Oak Lawn, Ill., \$25.00; Brother and Sister George Hefner, Phoenix, Ariz., \$50.00; Old Union Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky., \$77.14; East Main Baptist Church, Hartsville, Tenn., \$100.00; Drakes Baptist, Franklin, Ky., \$98.87; Salem Baptist, Russell Springs, Ky., \$89.19; Shiloh Baptist, Chicago, Ill., \$20.00; Sulfer Fork Baptist, Gallatin, Tenn., \$10.00; East Side Baptist Church, Franklin, Ky., \$75.00; Hendersonville Baptist, Hendersonville, Tenn., \$102.50; Brother James Vance, Mexico, \$25.00; Fairview Memorial Baptist, Bowling Green, Ky., \$71.45; Fairview Baptist, Woodburn, Ky., \$40.00; Harmony Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$25.00; Sulfer Fork Baptist, Gallatin, Tenn., \$10.00. TOTAL FOR MONTH — \$1,069.54.

SEPTEMBER: McFerrin Baptist

Church, Nashville, Tenn., \$169.68; West End Baptist, Gallatin, Tenn., \$147.72; Mt. Tabor Baptist, Pleasant Shade, Tenn., \$15.00; Becker Drive Baptist, Louisville, Ky., \$20.00; Old Pleasant Point Baptist, Ingle, Ky., \$31.00.; Parkwood Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$52.65; Meadorville Baptist, Lafayette, Tenn., \$76.00; Liberty Baptist, Barberton, Ohio, \$75.00; Shiloh Baptist, Chicago, Ill., \$20.00; Jordan Baptist, Oak Lawn, Ill., \$25.00; Cedar Bluff Baptist, Westmoreland, Tenn., \$31.80; Fellowship Baptist, Indianapolis, Ind., \$300.00; Mt. Tabor Baptist, Pleasant Shade, Tenn., \$14.80; Old Hopewell Baptist, Gallatin, Tenn., \$50.00; Grace Baptist, Detroit, Mich., \$100.00. TOTAL FOR MONTH — \$1,128.66.

The offerings listed above are reported in the month in which they were received. I think that I have acknowledged each one with a letter to each church and individual. If by chance I have overlooked anyone, I would appreciate you letting me know.

Thank you again for your support. Really I don't deserve it, but we thank you just the same. May the Lord richly bless you.

In His Love,
J. H. Smith

The Altar

(Continued from page 1)

thou mayest" Acts 8:37. So we see there are degrees of belief.

Can a sinner pray? We see in John 9:31, that God heareth not sinners but who said this? A sinner, not a saved person. If God will not hear a sinner pray, then all men are lost. The Bible in Psalms 14:1 says "the fool hath said in his heart, there is no God." If we are not saved at prayer, surely we know that a hand-shake or baptism will do no good. We see that one must be a mourner so the place from which they mourn is their altar or mourner's bench. It is not the mourner's bench that people object to, but the mourner. God's word declares "You must be born again." John 3:7. So you must be a mourner and the place for the mourner is at the altar. Every true church will provide such a place where sinners can come and die to sin and be born again and not a place for a preacher to deceive them by reading or talking them up. A man who will deceive anyone is a mean man and is dangerous because the soul is at stake

Repentance is toward God, Acts

(Next page)

The Altar

(From page 2)

20:21. So why not have an altar or a mourner's bench where one can come to repentance toward God, without preachers interfering. Repentance is more than a change of mind. Repentance and faith can not be separated. When one repents, he is a new creature, II Cor. 5:17. One must be broken hearted to repent. The mourner's bench is for such people. Which was saved, the Publican or the Pharisee in Luke 12? How do we know when we are saved? Because we love the brethren. Is that a feeling or not? God has not changed, Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8. The Bible has not changed II Tim. 3:17-19. Salvation has not changed. It is still by grace Eph. 2:8. It is still eternal Heb. 5:9.

In years past, all Baptist Churches used the altar or mourner's bench but we are now living in an age when aliens and strangers have taken our Churches, Lam. 5. They are being lost to people who I am afraid are not God-called preachers. They are discarding the altar or mourner's bench and replacing it with strange doctrines such as socialism, decisionism and premillennialism. Our Churches of yesteryear knew nothing of committee rulers or pastors that received their "call" from the seminary. These jet-age practices are resulting in our Churches losing the power of God and few souls being saved. I grant that God will hear sinners pray other places besides the altar. I have heard numerous experiences of people being saved at home, in an automobile, etc. But when the altar is removed from the Church, the simple plan of salvation is discarded.

Therefore, it behooves us as true Baptists to follow Jacob's example in I Kings 2:30 and "die at the altar."

Elder Bobby Sutton
17970 Glendale
Roseville, Michigan, 48066

Report On Tour

(From page one)

Meggido and on to the village where Jesus cleansed ten lepers (Luke 17:11-17). Next we come to the Valley of Dothan. This is the place where Joseph's brothers sold him to the Ishmeelites (Gen. 37:17-28). This is also the place where Elisha was staying when the king of Syria wanted to capture him (Kings 6:13).

As we continue on our journey we saw Arabs working in their fields which was a

portion of the land taken by Israel during the Six Day War of June 1967. On one side of the road was a man plowing bare-foot with an ancient looking plow. He had a burro and a cow teamed together. Across on the other side of the road was another Arab with a large modern tractor. The Arab men have six and seven wives who do all the work in the homes and on the farms except the plowing.

The men buy their wives from the girls' fathers and the girls have no say as to whom they will marry. If for some reason the husbands decide the wife or wives have proved unworthy for some reason to remain his wife he says to her, "You are divorced, You are divorced, You are divorced," and according to their law this constitutes a legal divorce and the woman then has to leave and find another place to live.

When the Arabs and their wives are walking the men go in front and the women follow behind. They never walk beside or in front of him. If there is a burro to ride, the man rides and the woman walks behind them. You see this often. Once when we passed a couple like this someone gave the woman a bag of candy and she quickly handed it to her husband. We hear a lot about "women's lib" in America. If the American women would all go and see for themselves what I'm writing about they would realize they had already been liberated.

Our travels now take us through another valley to Nablus (Shechem) where Jacob's well is. This valley is between Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim. When the children of Israel came into the promised land six were to stand on Mt. Gerizim to bless the people and six on Mt. Ebal to curse (Deu. 27:12-13). We visited Jacob's well (John 4:5-6) and drank from it to satisfy our thirst. This place was also called Sychar.

Here we saw many beautiful flowers. The weather was warm and the sunshine added to the enjoyment and inspiration of the day. On our busses again we now make our way to Jerico a city of palm trees (Deu. 34:3). Even though this was December the temperature and the fresh breezes gave the impression it was late spring or early summer. Here we saw many palm trees, banana groves, lemon and orange trees as well as other fruits. In fact, for the Israeli people this is a resort area in their months. We ate lunch here.

Looking west from Jericho we viewed the mount of temptation where Christ was for forty days after his baptism by John the Baptist (Matt. 4:1-2). Elisha's spring is here. This is where he called for the salt to throw into the bitter water so the people could drink it (II Kings

2:18-22). This was after he had been on the east side of the Jordan River where Elijah ascended into heaven and he had come back to Jericho. One of the two remaining sycamore trees left in the Jordan Valley is in Jericho. We were able to get a picture of this one. Here is the place Zacchaeus climbed up into a sycamore to see Jesus (Luke 19:1-5).

Traveling south we went to the cave of Qumran. Here the Dead Sea Scrolls were found in 1947. Looking east we looked upon Mt. Nebo the mountain range where God directed Moses to come and view the promised land before his death and burial in a valley in the land of Moab (Deu. 34:1-6).

Our tour busses now head for Jerusalem by way of Bethany. We did not stop here at present but will return tomorrow. We went to the garden of Gethsemane. We conducted a devotional service here. One minister read some scripture and asked me to lead in prayer. As we kneeled down there and prayed the Spirit and power of the Lord came down upon us. Truly, truly, this was an experience never to be forgotten. We went across the Kidron Valley into Jerusalem and visited the area where Christ was tried and sentenced to death. We had the privilege to walk down the hillside where Christ walked the night he instituted the Lord's Supper and then went to the garden to pray.

Leaving Jerusalem we went south to Bethlehem. Visiting the area where Christ was born and nearing the Christmas season, our entire group sang Christmas songs which was a blessing to us. Looking from Bethlehem we looked out over the fields of Boaz and the shepherds' field (Ruth 4:1-13; Luke 2:8-16).

We return to Jerusalem. We stopped at a shopping area and bought some things and got some refreshments. On our arrival in Jerusalem we went to the Ritz Hotel for the night. Our entire tour group was assigned rooms in four different hotels. After getting settled at the Ritz I called Bro. Henry Smith, one of our missionaries in Jerusalem. We made arrangements with him to pick some of us up later to visit their home.

We ate supper at the hotel and then went to visit the Garden Tomb and Calvary. Due to our tight schedule we had to go at night. I had been here before but it was a great joy to return. Bro. and Sister Smith were waiting for us and we went to their home for a two hour visit. This was a joy for all of us and after refreshments, prayer and fellowship, they took us back to our hotel for the night.

(Continued next month)

Bible Summaries

By G. H. Dillard

JOY

1. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
2. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, —
3. Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.
4. And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.
5. Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice.

MANNED SPACE—CRAFT CENTER NEEDS YOUR LETTER

In December, 1968, the astronauts read their Bible as a Christmas message to the world while orbiting the moon.

Madeline Murray O'Hare who is an atheist crusader claims she has 27,000 letters protesting the action of the Bible reading and plans to present them to the Space Center so the astronauts will be censured from expression of their faith.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration is hopeful that they may receive 100,000 letters approving the action of the Astronauts to offset Mrs. O'Hare's efforts. She is the one who got the support to stop prayer in schools. Will we stay silent while ungodly people use their time and means to continue their work against God?

WRITE A LETTER TO: Astronaut Office, Manned Space-Craft Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Houston, Texas 77058.

Your letter may be short, but just tell them you are backing them and the astronauts in their Bible reading.

BOOKS FOR SALE!

Elder Rex Hunt, Austin, Ky. 42123 has 8 copies of "Welsh Baptists," by J. Davis. The suggested sale price was \$3.50 per copy.

"Having Done All-To Stand," is a new 33 page book written by Elder F. L. Ray. For individuals who wish to order or a church which wishes to buy several for distribution the price is as follows; 1 copy \$1.00; 15 copies \$12.00; 25 copies \$18.00; 50 copies \$30.00. 100 copies \$50.00. Order from Elder F. L. Ray, 510 Alta Loma Rd., Goodlettsville, Tenn. 37072.

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Country Parson



"Kids sure can embarrass parents —when they do in public what they learned to do at home."

Watch For Expiration

HELP NEEDED!

I received a letter from a member of Old Hopewell Baptist Church, Bethpage, Tenn., where Eld. and Mrs. Raymond Gregory are members, that Sister Gregory has had major surgery and is in Sumner County Memorial Hospital, Gallatin, Tenn.

The writer says that Bro. and Sister Gregory have both been in ill health for some time and are very much in need of financial help. That he is unable to do but very little work.

The writer requests that donations by individuals or churches be sent to Elder Raymond Gregory, Bethpage, Tenn. 37022. — Editor

Gospel Singing At Old Union

BOWLING GREEN, KY.

There is to be a singing at Old Union Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky., on Saturday night, April 8, beginning at 7:30 P. M. Old Union church is located about ten miles south of Bowling Green on Highway 240, between Allen Springs and Woodburn.

The featured group will be The Scottsville Echoes of Scottsville, Ky. There will be additional singing. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival Announcements

FRIDAY NIGHT, APRIL 7

Lyons Baptist Church, 904 Gagel Ave., Louisville, Ky. Services each night at 7:30 p. m. — Sunday nights, 7:00 p. m. Pastor H. C. Vanderpool is to be assisted by Elder L. W. Smith of Detroit. Members of the church will be in charge of the music and singing. Everyone is invited to attend.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, APRIL 12

Old Union Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. Services each night at 7:30 p. m. Pastor Kenneth Massey will be doing the preaching. The singing and the music will be conducted by the members of the church. The public is invited to attend.

BOOKS WANTED!

If anyone has the 17-volume set of "An Interpretation of The English Bible," by B. H. Carroll, new or used, and would sell them please get in touch with me by phone or letter, or write Elder A. G. Gregory, Route 4, Gallatin, Tenn. 37066. You may call Bro. Gregory at (615) 452-2779. Editor

BIBLE LANDS TOUR

OCTOBER 16—25, 1972

Visit Tel Aviv, Joppa, Jerusalem, Calvary, Garden Tomb, Kidron Valley, Wailing Wall, Jericho, Qumran, Dead Sea, Bethlehem, Shepherds' Field, Cana of Galilee, Capernaum, Tiberias, Ride on Sea of Galilee, Haifa, Caesarea, Mount Tabor, Hebrew University, Mt. of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Jordan River, Ashkelon, Beersheba, Mt. Carmel, Mt. Hermon, Nazareth, Mt. Moriah, Samaria, Galilee, Mt. Zion, Israel Museum, Jacob's Well. Then jet to Athens, Greece for tour of that ancient city, Corinth, Mar's Hill.

For brochure and full information write to:

H. C. Vanderpool, Host
1527 Glenrock Rd., Louisville, Ky. 40216