

Baptist Banner

Vol. 1

April, 1967

Number 11

Red River Baptist Church

The Red River Baptist Church, Adams, Tennessee, will be 176 years old on July 25 of this year. The church was organized on July 25, 1791, in the house of Samuel Wilcox, near Port Royal, Tenn. This old church is now in its fifth house of worship.

Eight churches have had their beginning through the missionary work of the Red River Church. They are: Eddy Grove, Princeton, Ky.; West Fork and Little River, Christian County, Ky.; Dry Creek, Trigg County, Ky.; Spring Creek, Montgomery County, Tenn.; Spring Creek of Red River at Barren Plains and Spring Creek of Sulphur Fork in Robertson County, Tenn.

The Last Cool Drink

By Bona Fleming

A young lady, just a sintelligent as any young woman, went to a revival meeting. The power of God was upon the meeting. Sinners were being saved and Christians were being revived. The power of God struck this young girl and tears began to roll down her cheeks. She took her handkerchief and wiped them away. Her father, a wealthy farmer, stood on the outside with others. Looking across the tent, he remarked to a friend, "If my daughter goes to that altar, I will wade in blood to my neck to take her out of there." But a young man was standing by her side and she did not go that night. The father got into his machine and drove home. The young man took the young lady home in the buggy. When she got inside she saw him—a big 240-pound father—walking the floor. She knew that something was wrong. She said, "Papa, what is the matter with you? Why are you not in bed?" He answered, "I have stayed up to

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For Thought



"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help." Psalms 121:1.

Orphans Home Services and Open House

Open house and all-day services are to be held at the Lafayette Baptist Orphans' Home on Sunday, April 30. Services begin at 10:00 A. M. Elder T. C. Jones will be in charge of services throughout the day. Bro. Glenn Thomas, the Home Superintendent, will conduct the singing.

Eld. T. L. Campbell, of McKenzie, Tenn., is to preach in the morning. After the noon hour, Eld. F. L. Ray, Goodlettsville, Tenn., will give a brief history of the Home.

The new brick addition to the Home, which has recently been completed, will be dedicated. Elder W. T. Russell, of Bowling Green, Ky., is to pray the Dedicatory prayer at 2:30 P. M.

Everyone is invited to bring lunch, which will be served at the noon hour.

Those brethren who are in charge of these services and the Home have invited churches and individuals who would like to help the home, to bring money, things for the Home, such as towels, bed linens, bath cloths, pillows, cook ware, single beds or any item you wish to donate. Churches are requested to announce this all-day service and preachers

Watch For Expiration Date



From the Mission Field of Japan

6770 Kongozan
Tokuyama City
Yamaguchi-Ken, Japan

Dear Brother Vanderpool and Friends:

We send our greetings from the mission field of Japan once again at the closing out of the cold, winter season. The Lord has been mighty good to us in more ways than we can possibly express in words. Though Japan has a very un-healthy climate, the Lord has protected us from all diseases, as far as can be detected at this time; He supplies our temporal needs through His churches; He supplies grace and comfort to meet all the trials that are common in a land such as this. Truly, we want to pour out our hearts to Him in thanksgiving. One of the precious Scriptures that the Lord has given me, for encouragement and admonition in a difficult mission, is Proverbs 3:5, 6: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not to thine own understanding; In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." I have found strength in these gracious Words many times since the Lord made them my very own.

Spiritual Situation in Japan

There seems to be a steady decline in the Japanese concern toward Spiritual matters as they continue to prosper in material goods of the world, and a very few will manifest any interest in the
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with radio broadcasts are ask to make the announcement. Everyone is invited. The Home is located two miles northwest of Lafayette on the Scottsville Road. If the crowd is too large to assemble at the Home, services will be held across the road at Maple Grove Baptist Church, if permissible, according to one of the Trustees. He also said they would be glad to have some special singers.

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H. C. Vanderpool, Editor

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Last Cool Drink

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give you your orders."

She said, "Papa, what in the world have I done?"

He replied, "I looked across that tent tonight and I saw you weeping, saw you with your handkerchief up to your eyes. Mae, if you go to the mourner's bench, I will wade through blood up to my neck to get you out of there and when I get you home I will wear out a hickory over your back." He put it down so strong that she knew he meant what he said.

She began to weep and went to her room. There in the darkness she settled it that she would not go to God. She was a beautiful girl between nineteen and twenty years of age. She clenched her fists and said, "O God, I will never seek thee! O God, take this feeling away from me! O God, lighten my heart! I do not want to feel this way! Lord I will never seek thee! I will never go to that altar! Take this burden away from my heart!" God heard her prayer. The Holy Spirit left her and conviction was gone.

She went to bed and went to sleep. Because you can go to bed and go to sleep, do you think you are saved? Many people go to bed and go to sleep to whom God will never speak again. The next morning this young lady got up and went to school, came back and went to the service that night. Her father stood in the same place as the night before and kept his eye upon her. When the altar call was given, he looked across and saw her standing with a young man laughing. He took his neighbor by the arm and said, "Look at my daughter. I conquered her

last night before I went to bed. She will never go to that altar." So this girl laughed and giggled while other folks wept and got saved.

But listen! The meeting closed on Sunday night and settled the destiny of dying men and women. The tents were taken down and the preachers left the grounds. On Monday morning this girl went back to school as usual and went all that week.

The next Monday morning as she started, she said, "Mamma, my head is hurting me."

The mother said, "Mae, go no to school." Mae went, but returned in two or three hours and said, "Mamma, my head is hurting me so that I couldn't stay."

She went to her room and went to bed. She had been in bed three days, when on Thursday afternoon, she sent for her mother to come up, and said, "Mamma, I am sure that you and papa do not know of my condition. I want you to send for a doctor. I am in an awful condition and I am going to die."

The mother was excited and she said, "I will, I will!" She had the family physician come.

He felt her pulse and took her temperature. He touched the big strong father on the shoulder and asked him to come outside to the automobile. He loved the family for they had been so kind to him. He said, "You have been true to me and I must be true to you. You have called me too late. Your daughter may soon be in eternity, and if you have anything to tell her, tell her at once. It is no use for me to tell you that I can help her or to call for more doctors. In a few hours she will be gone."

The neighbors a mile away heard that father. What do you suppose was the first thing he thought of? It was the night he conquered his daughter and made her settle with God. He left the automobile and came in wringing his hands. He fell at her bedside and said, "Oh, Mae! O Mae! Seek the Lord. Mae, pray. Give your heart to God. Pray, Mae, pray!"

She put her hand on his face and said, "Papa, please do not taunt me with the name of God—please do not mention His name to me. My heart has been like a stone since that night you gave me my orders. I went to my room and asked God to leave me and God took me at my word." Then she told him that she was conscious, that her doom was sealed and that from the beginning of her illness she knew she was going to die. She said, "Papa, what time is it?"

He answered, "four o'clock in the aft-

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Deacons Ordained

An ordination service was held at Old Union Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. on Sunday, March 19. Services began at 2:00 P. M. Six brethren were ordained to the Deaconship. They were: Dr. Clifford Hayes, Jr., Dumont Stringer, J. P. Doss, Fite Hughes, Sr., Eugene Agee and Charlie Hughes. The three latter named will be charter members at the Mission of Old Union when organized into a Baptist Church. This Mission is located at Carthage, Tenn.

Eleven churches were represented in the presbytery by 28 ministers and deacons. Eld. H. C. Vanderpool, pastor of the church, served as moderator, and Eld. C. B. Huddleston, clerk. The sermon was delivered by Eld. Odell Willoughby, after which Deacon Coy Allen presented the candidates.

The interrogation was led by Eld. W. R. Overton, and Eld. W. T. Russell prayed the ordination prayer. The charge to the new deacons was given by Eld. C. W. Borden, after which Eld. Edward Rader gave the charge to the church. The Bible was presented by Eld. C. B. Huddleston. An enjoyable time in the Lord was experienced by those in attendance.

For The Children

CAIN AND ABEL

- (1) Cain and Abel were the sons of _____
- (2) Abel's work was to _____
- (3) Cain's work was to _____
- (4) Cain brought _____ as an offering to God.
- (5) Abel brought _____ as an offering to God.
- (6) Was God pleased with both their offerings? _____
- (7) Did Cain kill Abel, or did Abel kill Cain? _____
- (8) Why did he kill him? _____
- (9) What did Cain tell God when he asked where Abel was? _____
- (10) Was Cain punished for killing Abel? _____

(Answers on Page 4)

From Mission Field

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Gospel of Jesus Christ. When we set up in a new place we have a pretty good turn out, but as time goes on the number starts to dwindle, and finally, if we have eight or ten people to attend our meetings, we think its fairly good. Some come at first just for curiosity, just to see what it's all about; but anyway, whatever their motive, we have the privilege, and also a responsibility, to preach the Word of God to them. Japanese are an extremely polite people, and they won't make any fuss about our approach to them with the Gospel, they just go on their way and ignore it. Usually when we hand them a Gospel tract, they take it, and with a deep bow, they thank you for it and go on their way.

The other day Annie Laura and I were out in town here in Tokuyama giving out bulletins, with the announcement of our services printed on them and Gospel tracts folded inside, and everybody received them so politely, and you would think, if you didn't know their nature, that they would all come to our meetings. Anyway, we must continue to give them the Gospel and trust the Lord to bring forth fruit from it.

Our Tent Work

The warm season is coming on now, and we want to soon begin with our tent work. I bought a new tent last summer, very late in the summer, but never got a chance to use it; but the Lord willing, we want to be busy in this kind of work during the coming summer. Brother Tajima and I hope to work together. Having him with me will certainly be a great help. Please remember us in prayer.

May the Lord richly bless you there in the homeland.

Sincerely in His Name,
James H. Smith

Catholic Priest Plans To Marry

LONDON — Another British Roman Catholic priest said recently he intends to marry and will campaign for the right of other priests to wed.

The Rev. Arnold McMahon, 27, Society of the Divine Word missionary, said he will marry an American girl he met while studying in the United States four years ago.

He said he is aware he faces excommunication and suspension from the priesthood for breaking his vows. His bride-to-be will be excommunicated too, he added.

Qualifications For Preachers

By Robert W. Gregory

Bishops, means overseer of or superintending the work of the church.

He must be blameless. This means divested of personal feeling in the matter of discharging God's will, of which is his duty toward God and his church.

As I have observed through the history of the Church of our Lord, this is one of the great reasons for divisions among churches. Preachers not having been blameless but self-willed, and lead the members to do the same.

Number 1. He must be the husband of one wife. Here are a number of questions often asked me:

1. Should he have a wife at all?
2. Can he have had more than one wife in his life time?
3. Can he have more than one wife at a time or at the time that he is ordained to the work of the ministry?

Let us see what would have been Paul's objection. If we would note customs of the Heathen in Paul's day, I think we could get an insight in the reasoning of the apostle in this matter. The custom was to have as many wives as you could afford to keep up—which if each given any attention, there would not have been any time left to attend to the job of administering the word of God. These people (the pagans) had gotten saved, united with the church, claimed their calling to the ministry; but still wants to obtain their many wives. This, Paul condemned. He said, "It would be better to remain such as I" (That is unmarried.) But he said it would be better to marry than to burn. (That is, burn with sexual desires.) So, I think that even Paul would have approved of a man being a Bishop, if he had been scripturally divorced, as in the 19th chapter of Matthew.

I think that Paul was teaching that no man could take care of the work of the Lord with two or more wives to claim his attention, as well as children by one or both wives while discharging his duties as a Bishop or preacher.

We know that churches usually run into trouble when they are in the process of ordaining either a preacher or a deacon that has two wives.

But of equal importance are the other qualifications, like in First Timothy, 3-2 First part, blameless—Second part—Husband of one wife, and Third part—Vigilant. Vigilant means watchful, alert, cautious, wakeful, attentive, not sleepy not indifferent toward the word of God nor His people. Not a lazy or a sluggish

Christian. If a man to be ordained does not having this quality, the church would have nothing after he was ordained.

Fourth part—Sober or prudent means he must be temperate and use moderation in eating and drinking, and in mind is modest, humble, and has sound judgment. He must also have a good understanding of the job that he is about to assume and of the word of God; and is not wise above that is written in the word of God, courteous to all men, beautiful in his life and conversation.

Fifth part—He must be given to hospitality to strangers and to the entertainment of them, especially the saints and fellow ministers who are exiled or are traveling for the sake of spreading the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Then he is to assist them by his advise and council and with the necessities of life according to what his abilities would allow.

Sixth part—He must have the ability to teach, (that is gifted to teach, one who has a considerable knowledge of God's word), and is capable of interpreting the scripture to the edification of others. He is able to explain, lay open, and illustrate the truths of the gospel and defend them and refute errors. He must be a man who is not only able, but ready and willing to communicate to others what he knows and can convey the truth in plain, legible language. Men may know a lot but not be able to communicate to others.

Item 1—A Bishop or deacon must not be given to wine, for he is to understand what kind of wine that is here meant—go to Proverbs 23:31 and First Timothy 5:23. "A little wine for the stomach's sake . . ." One that is often a partaker of the wine. (Meaning wine unfermented)

Item 2—He is a non-striker—one whose hand is not swift to strike. The abriac version renders it. Or he is not swift to strike back with his tongue. This is, of course, in keeping with the words of Jesus while hanging on the cross. Luke 23-34. "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." Being sharp with admonitions and reproofs of weak brethren.

Item 3—He must not be greedy of filthy lucre; not greedy of getting money, of amassing wealth and riches together, or desirous of a popular applause and glory of men.

Item 4—But he must be a patient man, one who patiently bears all reproaches and injuries, puts up with abuse for the sake of the cause of Christ. He is one who does not bear hard on those who have offended.

Item 5—He can not be a brawler, not

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Qualifications

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a quarrelsome person and not given to fighting; either with fist or sword; see Luke 22-49. The disciples asked Jesus, "Lord, shall we smite with the sword?" One of the disciples cut off the ear of the servant of the high priest, but the Lord touched it and he was made whole.

Item 6—He can not be covetous, not a lover of money or for money—in an immoderate way. Also, he can not be greedy of worldly substance and riches or seeking his own things and not the things of Christ. It can not be just his gain and not the good of souls. See Exodus 20-17, The Ten Commandments. "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's."

Item 7—He must be one that ruleth well his own house, his family and his wife and children and servants. He is one having his children in subjection with all gravity. The children are to obey his commands, especially the rules of God's word. See and Read I Samuel 2-23. Eliza did not use discipline to his children and it is easy to see the results.

Item 8—The Father not only is the head of the house but the master of his house. If men show lack of mastery of the house before their wives and children, these same women and children will soon lose respect for them. There soon will be no discipline as the children grow up. There will more likely be delinquent, unruly, mean, deceptive children.

If a man know not how to rule his own house, how can he take care of the house of God?

Item 9—If a man know not how to rule his own house, which is an affair of less importance and more easy to be done, not requiring so much resolution, prudence, care and thought, how shall he take care of the church of God? It is his duty to preside over it, rule over it, rule in it, provide for it and see that everything is in its proper place and done according to the will of God.

Item 10—He should not be a novice. What is a novice? He is one just starting out as a minister or a Christian. This does not mean that God won't call a novice to preach. We should not suddenly lay hands upon any man, but first let him be tried. He should not be made a pastor or deacon—why?

1. He would not know how. I can very well remember how it was when I first started out to preach, even when I took my first church. I was not prepared for this task. It was a struggle—I made many

mistakes. I may still be a novice in the minds of some because of my having gone to other churches too soon. It is every church's duty to train its own preachers and lay members. We should be very careful lest those we send out be novices and be lifted up with pride.

Moreover, he must have a good report of them which are without the church. A man that is just beginning to learn the operations of the church, a man that has just been saved, that was sinful while in the world, a man that does not have a good report of them that are of satin, would be of no benefit if he was not respected of those that he was to try to win to Christ.

For The Children

By Mrs. Larry Snoddy

ANSWERS:

(Answers to Questions on Page 2)

- (1) Adam and Eve. Gen. 4:1-2.
- (2) Keep the sheep. Gen. 4:2.
- (3) Till the ground. Gen. 4:2.
- (4) Fruit from the ground. Gen. 4:3.
- (5) The fattest lambs. Gen. 4:4.
- (6) No, only Abel's. Gen. 4:4-5.
- (7) Cain killed Abel. Gen. 4:8.
- (8) Cain was jealous because God was not pleased with his offering. Gen. 4:4-8.
- (9) "I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?" Gen. 4:9.
- (10) Yes. Gen. 4:12-15.

Ordination and Revival

There is to be an all-day service at Rossville Missionary Baptist Church, Rossville, Ill., on April 15. These services are for the purpose of ordaining Brethren Willie B. Elrod and Mitchell Rigby to the full work of the ministry.

A revival begins at the church on Sunday night, April 16.

Public Debate

There is to be a public debate held at Westvue Church of Christ, 316 Kings Highway, Murfreesboro, Tenn., on April 17, 18 and 20, 21. This place is located on the west side of the city, just off of Highway 96.

The hours of services were not listed but is believed to be about 7:00 o'clock each night.

The propositions are to be the general church questions with Thomas O'Neal affirming and Eld. F. L. Ray denying the first two nights. On the two last nights, Eld. F. L. Ray will affirm and Thomas O'Neal will deny.

The public is invited to attend.

Last Cool Drink

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ernoon."

She said, "How slowly these hours are passing by! But think, I am going to a place where there will be no time."

They had built a new home out on the pike and their old home stood back in the field, with the old moss-covered well and the moss-covered bucket. She said, "Papa, go the old moss-covered well and bring me a fresh drink of water, for I will soon be in a place where I can get no water."

He went and brought the water and put it to her lips and she drank it. Her mother was praying, her unsaved brother was praying, and her two unsaved sisters were down on the floor praying. I have heard the loudest prayers from sinners praying for their loved ones, that I have ever heard from anybody's lips. I have heard louder prayers around a corpse than I have ever heard around the altar.

This dying girl said, "Papa, put your arms under my arms and pull me up in this bed. My feet are on fire. My feet are slipping." He put his arms beneath her and drew her up in bed. Again she said, "Papa, my feet are slipping. Take my feet out of the fire."

He said, "Mae, I have done all I can do." She said, "Papa, go back to that old well again and bring your daughter another drink of water." He started for the water but before he got back his beautiful daughter had gone into eternity.

Listen; friends! That father goes to town to buy hardware or groceries and he stands over the counter like a maniac and the merchant has to talk to him to find out what he wants. He goes to the field to plow but he does not plow. He goes to salt the cattle but forgets to take the salt. When he goes to market, he stands there and does not know what he wants. Every one who knows the story knows what is the matter with the father; they know what is on his brain.

May this be a warning to parents, not to obstruct the way of their children and keep them from this free and full salvation that was purchased for us by Jesus Christ on the cruel cross of Calvary, which fits and prepares us for heaven and the glory world.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked. For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." (Gal. 6-7.)

"He that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed and that without remedy." (Prov. 29:1.)