

Baptist Banner

Vol. 1

December, 1966

Number 7

Eternal Life or The Wrath of God

By Robert W. Gregory

(This is the fourth and final article on
this subject—Editor)

Believing on the Lord Jesus Christ is putting your confidence and your trust and faith in him. It leads you to entrust to Him your soul, and to entrust to Him your whole self. Believing that the Son of God will save you, go right to Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and say to Him, "Lord Jesus, I believe God's testimony about you, that you are God's Son, and that you bore my sins in your body on the cross, and that you rose again and are a living Saviour today, and I commit myself to Thee to save, and keep and guide and teach and govern, to do what you will with me. I put my trust in Thee to save me from the guilt of sin by Thine atoning death, I put my trust in Thee to save me from the power of sin day by day by Thy resurrection power, I surrender to Thee the entire control of my life and thoughts." (See Acts 2-21. Isaiah 55:6-7.)

It is this unreserved committal of yourself to Jesus Christ, that brings

(Continued on Page 2)

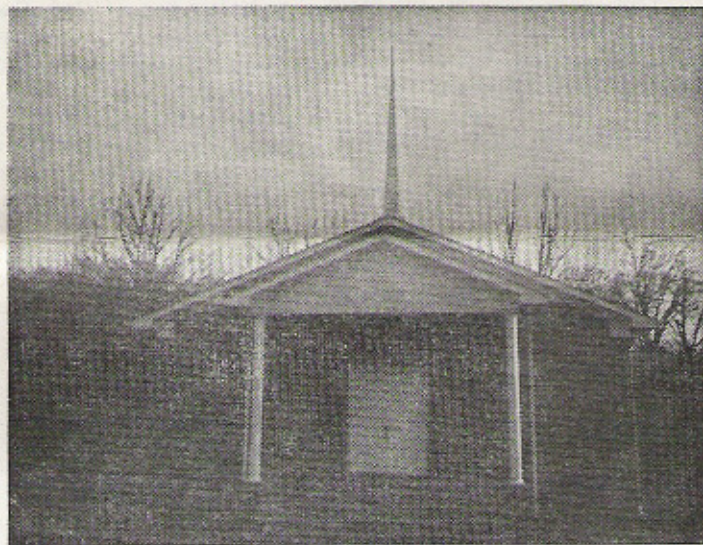
Returns To California



Eld. Raymond Gregory

Eld. Raymond Gregory has returned to Fontana, Calif. and accepted the call to the pastorate of New Bethel Baptist Church, 16566 Valencia Ave., Fontana, Calif. He succeeds Eld. Oakley Cook. Bro. Gregory served the church as pastor from 1960 to 1964.

Baptist Mission Building



BAPTIST MISSION, HIGHWAY 70N, CARTHAGE, TENN.

The Lord Moves In A Mysterious Way, His Wonders To Perform

Editor's Note: Following is a letter from a U. S. soldier in Viet Nam, to his sister in the United States. It was first printed in the Maranatha Baptist Newsletter.

"Dear Sis: I don't know where to start first. So many things have happened since I last wrote to you. Well, to begin with, I have escaped death at the hands of the enemy in a way so amazing I am still in a daze. You remember I told you I was going over armed with the Bible, too? That Bible is the reason I am still here and able to write this letter to all Americans. Here is the story:

"My buddy and I were sent out on duty with our equipment in the work I told you before was our job. We had just received information—the most important for weeks. But we were discovered by the enemy.

"I gave my buddy the information we had collected, told him to beat it, and prepared myself to face the enemy. It

(Continued on Page 3)

Pictured above is the new brick structure being used as the place of worship by the Mission of Old Union Baptist Church. The building is located on Highway 70N, about one mile east of Carthage, Tenn.

Old Union Baptist Church is in Warren County, Kentucky, and a number of Old Union members living in the Carthage area were authorized by the Old Union Church to operate as a Mission at that location with the right to buy property and erect a house of worship.

Through the leadership of the Holy Spirit, these brothers and sisters began to work for the Lord. The building, with Sunday School rooms, rest rooms and vestibule, was recently finished. Carpeting the floor and additional landscaping is yet to be done.

The Mission recently enjoyed a wonderful two-weeks revival. Services were conducted by the editor. The Lord willing, the Mission is to be organized into a Missionary Baptist Church in the future. Let us all remember these faithful brothers and sisters as they labor for the Master.

BAPTIST BANNER

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Missionary Reports To Homeland

6770 Kongozan
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Japan
November 9, 1966

Dear Friends:

We are engaged in a meeting at our mission in Tokuyama this week. Brother Tajima, the Japanese pastor of Koi Baptist Church, is helping me in the meeting and doing all the preaching so far. This is the second meeting that we have conducted since we started last July. We are not having as good attendance this time as we did before. One of the purposes of this effort is to try to get some new ones started to coming to our services, but so far there has been only one new person come to the services. Brother Tajima and I have been going from house to house and calling on the people and giving them a personal invitation, but they don't seem to respond, not as yet at least. But there is some encouraging happenings, last night a man and his wife came and knelt for prayer, and both of them seemed to be under deep conviction. The man's wife has come before in other services. Our hearts go out to these dear lost people, and we desire and pray that they will be saved. Please join us in prayer for them. Pray that others may become interested and attend the services and hear the Word of God.

Our health seems to be fairly good, but a little run down from the strain in getting set up in a new location. I think we might be over the hardest now and

(Continued on Page 4)

Life or Wrath

(Continued from Page 1)

eternal life, and when you make it you can say with Paul, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." (II Tim. 1:12).

Will you take that decisive step? You have every reason for believing on the Son of God. The testimony that He really is the Son of God, God's own testimony to that fact, is unanswerable. Will you yield to the testimony and believe on Him?

Now what is the act by which we bring upon ourselves the wrath of God? Oh! the answer to that is so plain. Here it is: "He that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." The American Standard Version renders it, He that obeyeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." The truth is in both the Authorized and the American Standard, but neither the Authorized nor the American Standard give the exact force of the word which is translated "believeth not" in the one case, and "obeyeth not" in the other. The word so translated means to refuse to be persuaded, or to refuse to believe, so exactly translated it would be, "but he that refuseth to believe or, disbelieveth, the Son shall not see life but the wrath of God abideth on him."

The thought is that those who have heard of Him and do not believe are responsible for not believing, even the firmaments of the Heavens declare his glory, for they have refused to be persuaded by the evidence, they have refused to yield to the evidence, they have refused to believe. That is the exact truth about every one who goes on without believing on the Son of God, without putting their confidence in the Son of God, without seeking the Son of God, as their Saviour, their Lord, their King.

You have had abundant evidence that He is the Son of God. You have had abundant evidence that He can save from the guilt and power of sin, but through love of the world or love of sin or fear of man or for some other reason you refuse to believe, you will not believe on the Son.

Well, if you will not believe on the Son of God, Jesus Christ our Lord, if you continue to refuse to yield to the evidence that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, with that real faith that brings salvation, you will not get eternal life. No, not only that but you will get "the wrath of God."

Do you believe Jesus Christ? Do you believe Him with that real faith that

you may not be contemptible and mean; you may be refined, you may be cultivated, you may be highly cultured, you may be a university student or university professor, you may be amiable, you may be gentlemanly or ladylike, you may be true and kind and generous, but if you do not believe on the Son of God, if you refuse you to act upon what He says, with that faith that leads you to put your unhesitating confidence in His promises, and to yield unquestioning obedience to His commands, and to put your confidence in Him? If not "the wrath of God abideth upon" you. It makes absolutely no difference who or what you are. You may not be a criminal, you may not be a moral monster, you may not be low and selfish and dishonest, refuse to be persuaded by His words and to put confidence in Himself as your atoning Saviour, your risen Saviour, to obey Him, if you are not ready to act upon His every work, "the wrath of God abideth upon you."

The wrath of God, the deep, settled, intense displeasure of God is resting upon

(Continued on Page 4)

For The Children

By Mrs. Larry Snoddy
Adairville, Ky.

NOAH AND THE FLOOD

1. How did God destroy the earth the first time?
2. How many days did God make it rain?
3. Who found grace in the eyes of God and was not destroyed?
4. What else was not destroyed?
5. How were they saved?
6. How old was Noah when the earth was destroyed by the flood?
7. How long did the water cover the earth?
8. How did Noah know when to come out of the ark?
9. When did Noah leave the ark?
10. Will the earth ever be destroyed by water again?

Check answers on page 4 after finishing with questions.

QUOTES

"The Christmas bells that some like best are on cash registers."

* * *

"Christianity helps us to face the music, even when we don't like the tune."

Needs Help



Miss Amy Napier

Pictured above is Miss Amy Napier, 711 E. Locust St., Scottsville, Ky. 42164. She is shown in her wheel chair. Being an afflicted person, she is dependent on others. Miss Napier related to the editor that she was a Missionary Baptist, was baptized by the late Elder L. A. Stewart into the fellowship of the old Puncheon Camp Baptist Church several years ago. She later moved her membership to Fifth Street—Now Fairview Memorial Baptist Church—in Bowling Green, Ky., and then to Faith Baptist Church, also in Bowling Green.

The editor would be happy to receive donations for her and to turn them over to her at Scottsville. You may also send letters and Christmas cards to her at the above address.

Parkwood Church Calls Pastor

Elder Ray Smith, Gallatin, Tenn., was recently called to the pastorate of Parkwood Baptist Church, 244 Ewing Lane, Nashville, Tenn. He is to begin the work the first of this month, December, 1966. He succeeds Elder Robert W. Gregory, who has served as pastor since the organization of the church on December 30, 1962, a period of four years. He resigned from the church sometime ago and has continued his labors until the new pastor was called.

Bro. Smith had been serving the Sulphur Fork Baptist Church, Sumner County, Tenn. He was ordained by McFerrin Ave. Baptist Church, Nashville, on May 31, 1958.

Greetings from California

Dear Bro. Vanderpool:

It has been my intention to write and tell you of my location and work. My time as pastor at New Bethel in Fontana expired in August and our intentions were to return to our home in Lafayette, Tennessee, after being here for twenty months. We had already made some arrangements to return home. Before we got on our way, a delegation from Gloria Gardens Missionary Baptist Church in Downey, California, came to see me about moving down here to preach for them, and they informed me that it was a vast mission field.

After sincere prayer and consideration, I felt the Lord desired me to continue my mission work in this needful field. So, in the meantime, my wife and I moved here to Downey and have settled down on this new field of labor.

On this field is this little Baptist Church where I preach each Sunday and Sunday night and we have Prayer Meeting each Wednesday night. I work among four cities: Downey, South Gate, Paramount and Hollydale, all south of Los Angeles. I visit homes and places daily and have prayer and tell them of Christ and invite them to come to our services. Our attendance has shown some increase.

We do not know of another church within fifty miles that worships as we do. Our attendants come from twenty to fifty miles. My wife and I want to thank God and the churches and our personal friends for their offerings that have for the past two years been our livelihood, and made it possible for me to spend my time warning lost souls and trying to strengthen the Christians.

We want to thank you all for your prayers which have meant so much to us. Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labors to this field.

Your Bro. in Christ,
Oakley Cook,
8115 Gardendale St.
Downey, Calif. 90242

Baptist Fellowship Meeting Held

A Baptist Fellowship Meeting was held at Old Union Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky., on Friday night, November 18. The meeting was enjoyed by ministers, deacons and laymen. The sermon was delivered by Elder Ray Smith and was timely and well delivered. Other matters of interest were discussed.

The next Fellowship Meeting is to be held with Fairview Baptist Church, Woodburn, Ky., on Friday night, January 13, 1967. Everyone is invited.

The Lord Moves

(Continued from Page 1)

was the first time I had been face-to-face with the necessity of pointing my gun at a man to shoot the life from his body. I thought fast; then I said, 'Lord, it's your responsibility.'

"As I reached for my carbine, a shot from one of them struck me in the breast and blasted me down. But my buddy had not obeyed my order. He had not gone. Thinking I was dead, he turned for me, grabbed my carbine as well as his own, stood astride my body, and blasted away with both guns. He was hit, too—his knees with three bullet wounds. But when he finished there was not one of the enemy left.

"He was amazed when I rolled over and tried to get up. The force of the bullet had only stunned me. Dazedly, I wondered why I pulled that little Bible out of my pocket and in utter muteness looked at the ugly hole in the cover . . . It had ripped through Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, through Samuel, Kings, and kept going. Where do you think it stopped? In the middle of Psalms 91, pointing like a finger at this verse—'A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee.' Sis, when I read that verse, it raised me off the ground. I did not know there was such a verse in the Bible, I'd been reading mostly in the New Testament. In utter humility I said 'Thank you, precious God.'"

This soldier goes on to relate in his letter to his sister, that when he got his buddy back to the post, his buddy called him over to say, "This convinces me. I want to get right with God." He wouldn't even let them tend his wounds saying "Nothing matters now but this." Falling on the knee with the three wounds he prayed until his body became almost numb. But he wouldn't give up. And when he knew the Lord had heard his cry, and had come into his heart and saved him, he ran outside and shouted to the whole camp.

Continues this soldier's letter, "since that time I have talked with the boys, held meetings, and prayed with them. Twenty-five of the men have come out for God. God has even reached my General.

I tell you Sis, prayer is going to win this war. Not guns alone. Fervent, agonizing prayer.

"Pray Sis, pray as you have never prayed before. Tell everyone to pray. Tell all America to go on its knees.

"Until nations and people have paid in blood and tears for thrusting God out

Missionary Reports

(Continued from Page 2)

will be able to relax a little. Don't forget us in your prayers.

Sincerely in His great name,
James H. Smith

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THIRD QUARTER — 1966 JULY 1966

McFerrin Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn. _____	\$ 61.63
Faith Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn. _____	30.00
Rocky Grove Baptist Church, Lebanon, Tenn. _____	25.00
Liberty Baptist Church, Barberton, Ohio _____	27.00
Concord Baptist Church, White House, Tenn. _____	27.09
White Hill Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, Tenn. _____	25.00
Shiloah Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill. _____	20.00
Union Hill Baptist Church, Gallatin, Tenn. _____	25.00
Drakes Creek Baptist Church, Franklin, Ky. _____	30.00
Saline Baptist Church, Somerset, Ky. _____	36.91
Siloam Baptist Church, Westmoreland, Tenn. _____	28.00
Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, Pleasant Shade, _____	18.23
Faith Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky. _____	50.00
Total _____	\$403.86

AUGUST 1966

Faith Baptist, Nashville, Tenn. _____	\$ 30.00
Lyons Baptist, Louisville, Ky. _____	450.00
Becker Drive Baptist, Louisville Ky. _____	5.00
Bethel Baptist, Indianapolis, Ind. _____	22.50
Friendly Baptist, Detroit, Michigan _____	90.00
Shiloh Baptist, Chicago, Ill. _____	20.00
East Main Street Baptist, Hartsville, Tenn. _____	64.15
Prater's Creek Baptist, Pickens, S. C. _____	11.78
Saline Baptist, Somerset, Ky. _____	30.00
Salem Baptist, Fonthill, Ky. _____	76.34
Parkwood Baptist, Nashville, Tenn. _____	101.52
Maple Grove Baptist, Lafayette, Tenn. _____	66.08
Becker Drive Baptist, Louisville, Ky. _____	5.00
Cedar Bluff Baptist, Lafayette, Tenn. _____	16.36
Fairview Memorial Baptist, Bowling Green, Ky. _____	58.11
Mt. Tabor Baptist, Pleasant Shade, Tenn. _____	5.52
(McFerrin Baptist, regular offering _____	42.82
(McFerrin, for my wife's passage to Japan _____	514.20
	\$1,598.38

SEPTEMBER 1966

McFerrin Baptist, Nashville, Tenn. _____	\$ 82.22
Faith Baptist, Nashville, Tenn. _____	30.00
Saline Baptist, Somerset, Ky. _____	42.00
Fairview Baptist, Woodburn, Ky. _____	40.00

The Lord Moves

(Continued from Page 3)

of their hearts, out of their homes, nations and lands, this war will not end.

"Tell them to send Bibles and more Bibles. A Bible will give a soldier the confidence that God is with him. Try to get this letter on the air, in the papers, in anything that is printed. Make copies of it. Send it from coast to coast. Tell them the Army wants prayer—and Bibles."

And this soldier boy, hoping his letter will reach all America, writes further addressing his remarks to complacent, bridge-playing, fox trotting, cocktail drinking mothers, asking: "Why didn't you teach your sons about God instead of handing them a cigarette, a cocktail glass, and a dance program? Get on your knees and ask God to forgive your sins and save you.

"And you dignified preachers—why didn't you teach your people to pray, to follow God instead of standing before them in your silken robes and reading them a ritual.

"I could go on, but I am so tired, so weary. But, in all, so happy to see them coming to God one by one. So tell them to pray—and keep praying. And when you send things to your boys, send Bibles. They want to hear God speak."—Contributed

Grace Baptist, Detroit, Mich. _____	191.00
Parkwood Baptist Sunday School, Nashville _____	25.00
White Hill Baptist, Goodlettsville, Tenn. _____	25.00
Shiloh Baptist, Chicago, Ill. _____	20.00
Brother Kenneth Woodall, Gallatin, Tenn. _____	25.00
Saline Baptist Church, Somerset, Ky. _____	38.82
Dixon Creek Baptist, Dixon Springs, Tenn. _____	31.84
Meadorville Baptist, Lafayette, Tenn. _____	32.65
Siloam Baptist, Westmoreland, Tenn. _____	18.00
Total _____	\$600.93

These offerings were recorded in the month in which they were received. Thank you for your support of our work in Japan, and May the Lord bless you richly.

James H. Smith

Special Christmas Menu

Grace — Kindness — Bread of Life — Living Water — Sweet Thoughts — Tender Memories — Heart (Whole) — Happiness (Unmeasured) — Cup of Joy (Running Over) — Charity (Served with Discretion) — Fruits of the Spirit.

Life or Wrath

(Continued from Page 2)

every man and woman, young and old, who does not put confidence in Jesus Christ as the Christ, the Son of God, and stand ready to act upon His every word. "He that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." Oh! it is awful! awful! awful!

If we could represent God's wrath by a black thundercloud, and could see things as they really are, we would see a blacker storm cloud than human eye ever beheld hanging over the head of many a man and many a woman in this world today. Break away from Satan now, while it is yet time.

Lest the wrath of God abide upon you. That awful storm cloud full of lightning, thunder, death, shame, woe, despair, hangs over your head today ready to burst. But God is longsuffering and merciful, He "is not willing that any should perish" (II Pet. 3:9), and holds back the execution of His wrath. He offers you eternal life, real life, fullness of life, perfectly satisfying life, life of highest knowledge, complete life, His own life, endless life, infinite life, life of measureless joy and beauty and power and glory instead.

Which will you have, eternal life or the wrath of God? Do I hear some one mutter, "I do not like that kind of preaching. I do not believe it!" Then you are giving the lie to God; for it is not I, it is God who says, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

Oh! men and women, there are two possibilities open before you today, one infinitely glorious, the other inconceivably appalling. Eternal life or the wrath of God; which will it be? Paul told the Phillipian Jailer believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.

For The Children

Answers to questions on page 2.

1. Flood (Gen. 6:17)
2. 40 days and 40 nights (Gen. 7:4)
3. Noah and his family (Gen. 6:8-10, 18)
4. A male and female of every living animal. (Gen. 6:19-20)
5. Noah built an ark. (Gen. 6:14-16)
6. 600 years old (Gen. 7:24)
7. 150 days. (Gen. 7:24)
8. He sent a raven and a dove out to find land. (Gen. 8:7-12)
9. Only when God told him to. (Gen. 8:15-17)
10. No. (Gen. 8:21-22; 9:3-17)