

# Voice of Baptists

**"The Voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."** **Isaiah 40:3**

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## DANIEL PRAYED

By James H. Smith  
Nashville, Tenn.

**"NOW WHEN DANIEL KNEW THAT THE WRITING WAS SIGNED, HE WENT INTO HIS HOUSE: AND HIS WINDOWS BEING OPEN IN HIS CHAMBER TOWARD JERUSALEM, HE KNEELED UPON HIS KNEES THREE TIMES A DAY, AND PRAYED, AND GAVE THANKS BEFORE HIS GOD, AS HE DID AFORETIME."**

**DANIEL 6:10**

Daniel prayed in times of crisis, but that wasn't the only time he prayed, he prayed whatever the conditions were; whether the sun was shining, or whether the storms were raging, he prayed three times a day, as he had before. It seems, by observation, that too many people wait till they get into trouble before they pray, but we had better let Daniel be a good example to us to pray every day, whatever the situations are. If things are going well with us, then thank the Lord that it is well; and after that pray for strength for that tomorrow when trouble might come, for it will come sooner or later. Above all pray for grace to serve God acceptably.

### DANIEL'S POSITION

Daniel had been promoted to a high position in the Persian Kingdom, next to the king, but as he served in this position he served the God of heaven. If all of our political figures today would put God first, as Daniel did, and then use their office to honor God as they serve the people. I'm sure conditions would be much better than they are. Daniel served in his position, not for wealth or praises of men, he didn't even ask for the high position that he had been promoted to; and all of this accounts for the reason that he didn't prove unfaithful when the

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## THEFT AND VANDALISM

By Rex Hunt  
Fountain Run, Ky.



May I give the definition of these words as I intend to use them. THEFT is to appropriate to one's self something that rightfully belongs to others. VANDALISM is the wanton destruction of something belonging to others.

In the business and political world these acts are common and considered by many as a display of wisdom. However, they are expected to operate in such way as not to have to give an account of their action.

There are two kinds of possessions, tangible and intangible (that which can and cannot be touched). Many engage in stealing and destroying the intangible, who would be very vocal in condemning those guilty of the same with the tangible.

In writing this article, I am not trying to express any feelings concerning my personal experience. There have been some occasions when I feel my loss was minor, but observed others as suffering a

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## THE PREACHER

By F. W. Lambert  
Westmoreland, Tenn.



(This lesson was originally taught by Bro. Lambert in Old Union Baptist Ministers School of Bowling Green, Kentucky)

Late attendance also needs remedying, and we need to always start our services on time. I've heard preachers say, "wait till Bro. So-and-So gets here, and maybe they are an half hour late. I feel the devil has an hand in many disturbances in the congregation. The banging of doors, the sharp fall of a walking stick on the floor, or the loud cry of a large child, or someone going to sleep and falling off the bench, or people talking out loud, or mumbling low. The devil will put it in the minds of cold, sleepy church members do do this. Now if the preacher has a dull, sleepy message, nothing will avail if you go to sleep yourself while you are preaching I suggest again that in order to secure attention all through a sermon, we must make the people feel that they have an interest in what we are saying to them. In fact, nobody sleeps if he expects to hear

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## WHY BE A MISSIONARY?

By W. R. Overton  
Madison, Tenn.



As I sit at my desk and write this article on "Why Be A Missionary," it is with deep humility and great hope that it will help some of our young preachers to think seriously on this subject of Missions.

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## Special Announcements

**FELLOWSHIP REVIVAL**

Fellowship Miss. Baptist Church of 1032 S. Holmes Ave., Indpls. will begin a series of revival services Sunday, April 1st.

Elder Floyd Ferguson will be the evangelist, and Elder Tommie Lankford will be director of singing. Elder Calvin Perrigo, pastor of church, invites everyone to attend these services beginning at 6 p.m. on Sundays and 7 p.m. on week nights.

**VICTORY ORDINATION**

Victory Miss. Baptist Church of 108 Eagan Circle, Madison, Tennessee has set Saturday, March 3rd, 2 p.m. as the time for examining Bro. Johnny Carver's qualifications for ordination to the full work of the ministry.

All Missionary Baptist Churches of like faith and order are invited to assist in this work.

**THEFT AND VANDALISM  
(Continued from page 1)**

major loss. My greatest concern in this article is the way Satan has been able to get some to disregard the rights of their brethren in the intangibles. There have been occasions when someone was entitled to opportunities or honors and someone appropriated them unto himself. Many times this is done by character assassination, through spreading lies, telling half truths and withholding the most commendable traits of the one being destroyed.

I have heard of occasions where a new pastor would willfully destroy the

reputation of some of the church leaders, in order to bring the church under his control. Sometimes the new pastor wants to destroy the prestige the former pastors have earned. Every pastor needs all the help of all leaders who have earned their leadership. The prestige others have earned cannot be willfully destroyed without one being guilty. There are at least three things that contribute to this kind of conduct: pride, selfishness and laziness. Some are so proud as to want all the honours for themselves and so selfish as to do all they can to prevent others who have earned the honours from receiving them. Some are so lazy they want the esteem without the dedicated service. We would do well to heed the teaching in Romans 12:9, 10, "Let love be without dissimulation, abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good, Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another," also 1 Thess. 5:12, 13, "and we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves."

There are many conflicts in the personalities of God's people. Sometimes these are the real issues that motivate action while claiming doctrinal principles as motives. In this way much destruction can be suffered, the Cause hindered and God robbed of the honour and glory due him. Sometimes we are ignorant or we ignore the devices of Satan and let him get an advantage of us. When we retain an unforgiving spirit, after there is evidence of repentance, Satan has the advantage of us. Anytime our motive is for a personal benefit, we have fallen into the snares of the devil. Anytime we repeat what we hear or take a position on an issue, it should be for the truth's sake.

As laborers together with God, we need each other in our respective places. It is just as much wrong, or even more so, for one of us to hinder our brother as for us to willfully neglect our work.

We do have the right motivation when our conduct is the result of following the admonition given in 1 Cor. 10:31, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." This is our mission that we should desire and seek to know the will of God and follow it to his glory.

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**"A Homemade Friend Is Better Than One You Buy."**

**WHY BE MISSIONARY****(Continued from page 1)**

To define the word MISSIONARY or MISSIONS - to send on a mission, a person sent out by his church to preach, teach. And let me say in the very beginning, that all the Lord sent out and is ending out at the present time, have been, and are men. I have the deepest respect and thanks to God for our good women, but God did not call them to preach. He did say for them to marry, bear children, and guide or rule the house (1 Tim. 5:14). To do missionary work is not something that we decide within ourselves to do. There was a man sent from God whose name was John (John 1:6). This man went into the wilderness with the greatest doctrine that man has ever heard, the doctrine of repentance (Matt. 3:1, 2). Without this doctrine first, we have absolutely nothing. And let me say now that God in his great wisdom does not call men to preach a false doctrine. There are large sums of money spent by good, hard working and sincere people, who think they are supporting a God-called and God-sent Missionary. Some go to see another part of our country or world at the expense of a church or group of churches. Others go because God has called them to carry the gospel message of truth to a lost and dying world. I would not give a plug nickel for a preacher that God did not call, and there is a place in the world for every God-called preacher.

There are too many preachers that say they have the call for mission work, but want it to be done in their own backyard, while untold thousands of people are starving all over our land for the truth. When Jesus sent out the twelve, he told them to go not in the way of the Gentiles or any city of Samaria enter ye not, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel (Matt. 10:6). Then he tells this little group (the church), to tarry in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high (Luke 24:49).

After World War 1, and 2, so many of our people went to the industrial cities to find better ways of earning a living for themselves and their families, and many migrated to the Motor City (Detroit) in the North. There they found work, but not the spiritual foods they were used to having in their home country. But God saw their need, and every once in a while you would hear someone say, "I sure wish God would send us a preacher." Then in August, 1951, a young preacher, his wife and son set out to visit relatives in the big city of Detroit, Michigan not thinking of much except the visit and having a good time for a few days. However, while in this city, the word got out

that a preacher was there, and two brethren that were yet holding on came to see this preacher and ask him to preach for them while he was there, because they had no regular pastor. They had bought a building, were in debt \$15,000, and had a total membership of 16. This preacher tried to just dismiss their situation from his mind and come on back south to two good churches that were good to him, and had already elected him unanimously. But while in the living room of a good man that's now gone to be with the Lord, the answer came. This same preacher had to come back south and tell the people he loved that he was leaving. Then packed up and moved to the big city, where he only knew a handful of people. The Lord was there as he had promised and people began to hear the word and be saved. Don't ever doubt the Lord my brethren, because the joy of seeing people come to the Lord is worth far more than any sacrifice we make in carrying the good news to those that are in darkness.

**"...yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel" (1 Cor. 9:16)**

#### THE PREACHER

(Continued from page 1)

something to his advantage. I have heard of some very strange things, but I never did hear of a person going to sleep while a will was being read, if he expected a share; or a prisoner before a judge.

Deacons and sextons trotting over the place are a torture never to be patiently endured. Kissing and hugging someone you haven't seen in a year while the preacher is trying to preach should be omitted. If we do not touch the heart, you will soon weary the ear. Clothe yourself, then, with the Spirit of God, preach to men as those who must soon give an account to God; and, that their account may not be painful, but that it may be to the glory of God. Brethren, may the Lord be with you as you go forth in His name and cry, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." He will never do for us what we can do for ourselves. If we can study and do not, we won't be able to feed the flock as they should be fed. All sermons ought to be well considered and arranged by the preacher; and as much as possible, with much prayer for heavenly guidance, enter fully into his subject exerting all his mental faculties in original thinking. You may be called upon to preach at a moment's notice. The pastor may be sick. If we go to the pulpit in the spirit of the Master, having been in prayer and in study of the word, we can feed the flock. The greatest need of human society today is preaching that will move men

God's way. Preachers must be born-again believers. No man can successfully preach a thing he doesn't possess. Morality is one thing and spirituality is another. There must be a personal affair between the soul and God. He must know God! "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves, be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves" (Matt. 10:16). These solemn words of Jesus are perhaps the greatest words of warning ever uttered for ministers of the gospel. There are human wolves scattered along the pathway who delight to make preachers their victims. Jezebel and Judas are two such characters, even though their natures were poles apart. Jezebel vowed to slay Elijah, the prophet of the Lord, and had the great Elijah on the run like a jack rabbit. Most of our churches have some distant kinfolk to Judas and Jezebel. They keep a pastor on his toes. Every preacher needs this. Remember what happened to a few of God's great men when they were no longer alert and on their toes. Adam, Noah, Moses, David, Solomon, Jonah, Peter, and the prophet killed by the lion (1 Kings 13:11). No preacher can afford to become lax and careless in his business, even though we sometimes do it. The pastor who knows that the watchdogs are on his trail has an added incentive "to walk the chalk-line." It is a shame to have to confess it, but many preachers do need this added incentive. The mentally, morally, spiritually, physically alert preacher has little to fear from Jezebel or Judas. They force the preacher to use his brains rather than his brass.

Brass comes a great deal cheaper than brains. Jezebel and Judas may be mean as the devil, but they are not dumb. They may not think spiritual things, but they think - which is more than some of us preachers do much of the time. They bend the knees of a prayerless preacher. This is more than pastorates of peace can do for some of us. **PREACHERS DON'T PRAY ENOUGH!** We are too busy doing good things to take time to do the best thing. How much time do you spend in prayer each day? Embarrassing isn't it! Yet prayer is the key that opens the door of heaven for God's servants. Anything that will make a preacher pray, he needs. Is it not true that some of your greatest prayer experiences came when you were under greatest pressure? Only God could intervene and save the situation. You prayed on your knees in sobs and groanings; you, like Jacob of old, wrestled with God in prayer, and prayed through to victory. But how many times do we pray in like manner, when things are lovely and running good! SEE!

Truly, an education may be a bless-

ing or a curse to a minister. Times and circumstances in this modern day make it almost imperative that the minister be one of the best educated men in the community. Keen minds and trained hearts cannot long sustain their respect for the man of God who is happy in his ignorance. A preacher should not only be able to expound the word of God effectively, but he should also be able to match wits with and out think the best minds the devil has in the community. If there is a man who should know a little about everything, it is the preacher. If there is any man who should know everything a man can know about one person, Jesus Christ, it is the preacher. Pastors should be equipped to minister to the executive in the mansion as well as to the tramp in the hovel. Consider the attitudes of the anti-educationites. These, of course, are the men who are not willing to pay the price for intellectual growth. It is interesting to hear the arguments of these men as they seek to justify themselves in their mental and spiritual laziness. "If the Lord calls a man to preach, he will give the man something to say." These men insist that God will fill a man's mouth with words to preach if he calls him to preach. They ignore 2 Timothy 2:15, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, rightly dividing the word of truth." God uses study as a means of filling the mouths of the men whom he calls to deliver his message. A free flow of words is not preaching. God never fails a man whom he has called into his service, but he never intended to have a lazy pastor who allows his brain power to remain idle. Study the Bible for it is your best book. Some preachers think God has no place for an uneducated preacher. Surely God knows his business. Many of these men are, year after year, winning and baptizing more people than some college man; and their converts are saved by grace. It is better for a man to murder the King's English and love God, than for him to master the King's English and love only self. It is better for a preacher to say "aint" with power than for him to say "are not" with poise, but without power. It is more effective for a surrendered minister to say "they is" in humility than for his educated brother to say "they are" in pride and selfishness. Do your best with what you have, where you are, as long as you live. Hold up your head! You are GOD'S MAN, IF GOD CALLED YOU, AND YOU ARE TO BOW TO NO MAN. BE SENSIBLE, EVEN IF YOU ARE EDUCATED!

**"Reputation Is Precious, But Character Is Priceless."**

**DANIEL PRAYED**

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severe test came. He hadn't been bribed, and he didn't bribe anybody, and certainly he didn't sell out to anybody; he stood fast, even though it could have meant his position, and even his own life.

(Read all of the 6th chapter of Daniel)

This prophet of God serving there in exile and being so favored of God, and even King Darius, was too much for his enemies. So they plotted against him, they were so jealous of this man, who was a genius and full of the Spirit of God, that they just had to do something for his downfall. They searched to see if they could find any fault in him with regard to the kingdom, but they found none; and they acknowledged that they could find no fault in him, except they find it against him concerning the Law of his God. (Daniel 6:4-5.) So they tricked the king into signing a decree to the effect that if anybody was found asking a petition of any god or man for thirty days, except the king, would be cast into the den of lions.

The king signed the decree and sealed it with his signet, and I would guess that these enemies of Daniel were jubilant, because they were looking for a chance to destroy him; and they thought this was their chance. Now, they find Daniel praying, and I believe that they expected to find him praying, and no doubt they knew where to find him praying, because anybody who prays two or three times a day will be seen or heard sooner or later, even though the person who is doing the praying is not doing it to be seen or heard.

**DANIEL'S FAITHFULNESS**

Some people seem to be faithful under normal conditions, but when some severe test comes it is a different story. Any weakling can float down stream, but it takes a strong man to swim against the current; and Daniel was truly one of the strong ones, let come what may, he was determined to remain faithful to his God. It is very interesting to note just what Daniel did when he knew that the writing had been signed by the king. He didn't just ask for help from God in such a trying time, but he gave thanks to his God in a time when many people would find it very hard to do so, that is under such trying conditions. "Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being opened in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime." Daniel 6:10. Most of us would be driven to our knees under such pressure to ask for deliverance, but how many of

us would be thanking and praising God at such a time? We have had it so easy for so long that most professed Christians can't hold up under the least of trials today. It is a sad day when God's people can't stand up under, even a little criticism, let alone standing at the threat of death. Certainly Daniel knew that hard times were coming for him, but he knew also from where he could find strength that would make him not afraid. When a person knows from whence cometh his help why not just keep coming to that source of help, whatever the situation. Anybody who has tried the Lord and has found out that He is faithful and that He will not let us down, why shouldn't we be faithful to Him whatever He might call upon us to face, or whatever He might permit to come our way. Maybe some people think that God is a used to be, and that He could do that for Daniel but not for us. The only reason that I can think of that God doesn't do for us as He did for Daniel and others of his day is simple enough, we are just not as faithful as men of their day. Faithfulness to our God has much to do as regards to what He will do for us, when it comes to blessings received in this life and the rewards in the hereafter.

**DANIEL'S ATTITUDE**

It is such a remarkable thing to me, and truly an encouragement to me also, to simply take a look at this man of God's attitude, when I know and you know that most Christians today could not, or would not, maintain such a lovely state of mind and heart as did this great servant of God, Daniel. He didn't show any signs of feeling sorry for himself, he just went to his chamber and kneeled upon his knees and prayed. That was simple enough! But you say no, it is not simple; I would cry my eyes out, and I would worry myself to death; I would feel that I was having the hardest time of anybody. It is a good thing to be emotional and tenderhearted, but it isn't such a good thing to turn all of our feelings to self. Let us look further at Daniel as he faced the crisis: He manifested no ill feelings against anybody, not even against those who conspired to destroy his life, to cause him to be cast into a den of vicious lions; but he took the matter to the Lord in the sweet hour of prayer. Daniel prayed, he simply prayed. And again, as we view this situation, we see that Daniel didn't even go to the king and beg that he change his decree, but he prayed, he prayed morning, noon and night.

**DANIEL'S DELIVERANCE**

Great is the Lord and worthy to be praised! He permits his enemies to go a long way at times, even to the point to

where we might think that things are beyond remedy, but He watches over His own, and no situation is out of hand, as far as He is concerned; and He will not allow His enemies the final victory. God permitted Daniel to be cast into the den of lions, but God went in there with him, and He locked the jaws of the lions so that they could do His servant no harm. Notice, if you will, what happened after Daniel had spent the night with the lions. The king came down the next morning to see what had happened, after spending a restless and sleepless night, for he was worried because he admired Daniel (Daniel 6:18-19), he had just been deceived by flattery from his wicked ministers to make his decree, and he cried with a lamentable voice, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God whom thou servest continually able to deliver thee from the lions?" Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live forever." Daniel 6:20-21. That was enough to satisfy the king for he was exceeding glad, (6:23) and Daniel must have been happy and beaming with joy as he came from the den of lions. The sunshine after the shadows, the sweet after the bitter. This is God's way sometimes in showing to us that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord. Remember, if you will, Daniel prayed.

**"Stick To Your Job Until One Of You Is Done."**

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**OLD UNION  
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MINISTERS SCHOOL  
MARCH 28-30**

Make your plans now to come and enjoy three days of excellent instruction and unforgettable fellowship.

For more information, you should write Elder Paul Bryson, Route 2, Alvaton, Ky. 42122.

**DENVER MISSION**

A group of Baptist people living in or around the Denver, Col. area have began holding meetings for the purpose of organizing a Baptist Mission.

If you can offer any assistance to this work, please contact Bro. Luther E. Jent, 45 Garfield St., Denver, Colorado 80206, Telephone No. (303) 377-5050.

"Too many people are ready to give us advice, when what we need is help."

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**"Prayer Is Not A Last Extremity; It's A First Necessity."**