

Da Mississippi Baptist

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White Elected New Arkansas Missions Director

from Baptist Trumpet

Paul White was unanimously elected at the Missionary Committee meeting last Thursday to succeed I.V. Hight as executive director of BMA of Arkansas Missions. He had been unanimously recommended by the Missionary Advisory/Search Committee after they had interviewed all applicants.

The two men will work together in the office for several weeks in order to facilitate a smooth



Paul White

transition. Bro. White expects to begin serving Aug. 2, and Bro. Hight will work with him until around the middle of September. As approved at last year's State Meeting, both men will receive the same salary and benefits during that period of time.

Paul White

After surrendering to the ministry July 17, 1987, he pastored churches in the Northeast Arkansas area, including Fairview Baptist Church at Jonesboro and his current pastorate, Prospect Baptist Church at Jonesboro. He also served for 10 years at Highland Hills Baptist Church in Highland Hills, which he organized while serving as a state missionary. He has also held several associational offices, including two terms as president of the BMA of Arkansas.

"Words cannot express how over-

continued on page 2

Thousands SOAR In Big D!

By Conference Director Donny Parrish

The twentieth edition of SOAR proved to be the best attended and one of the most Spirit-filled in the history of the event. Almost 3,000 students and their sponsors worshipped, listened, prayed, and studied God's Word at the Dallas Convention Center. Although beset with last-minute challenges the event came off without a hitch. Many said that it was the best SOAR that they had ever attended.

SOAR 2010 opened with an address by DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry Director, Donny Parrish, explaining why the event had been moved at the last minute from the downtown Sheraton in Dallas to the Convention Center. Those attending were asked to forget about the challenges and focus on making the arena a "holy place where God can move among us." The challenge was accepted and God's Holy Spirit moved all week in a mighty way. Dozens came to Christ. Many more made commitments and made the decision to become a disciple of Jesus. Several surrendered to full-time ministry. And hundreds left challenged to focus on making disciples in their local church.

Highlights from the week included messages by Darren Neely, a church planter in Little Rock, Donny Parrish, (Scheduled SOAR speaker Bobby Tucker was forced to have surgery the night before SOAR began. He is recovering nicely.), by Baptist Missionary Association Executive Director of Missions, John David Smith and by SOAR Producer, Steven Carroll. There was a concert by Know Hope Collective featuring members of Audio Adrenaline, and late-night fun with Comedian Thor Ramsey, Borders for Christ and the



A large crowd made its way to Dallas, Texas and the 2010 SOAR Event.

SOAR Village was a huge success under the direction of Jason Prewit and Andy Comer.

A new highlight for SOAR was an Interactive Prayer Room. This special feature was sponsored by BMA Missions, DiscipleGuide and Fellowship, Forney, Texas. Over 1500 students took the time to make their way through the stations of the prayer room. There were stations designed to allow students to spend time in praise, confession, intercession, meditation on God's Word and reflection. Many said that the Prayer Room was the most impacting aspect of the week.

In addition to enjoying SOAR, hundreds of students came in a day early to be a part of SOAR Serves. For the past two years SOAR has teamed with Mission Arlington to minister to the inner-city of Arlington and Dallas. BMA students were involved in all sorts of ser-

vice projects, letting their light shine so that people could see their good works and glorify their Father in heaven.

Jacksonville Baptist College and Central Baptist College both gave away scholarships to attend their schools! Almost all of the respective Association of Baptist Student College Ministries of the BMA were represented and were recruiting students for the fall. Missions, LifeWord, DiscipleWay and, of course, DiscipleGuide, were there to support students and promote BMA ministries.

Finally, those attending SOAR gave over \$22,000 to help DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry produce Pastors Oasis and other events during the coming year. Conference Producer and DCM Student Ministry Consultant, Steven Carroll, said that SOAR exceeded his

more SOAR on page 2

Midyear Brotherhood Report

by Roger Jefcoat, President

Our Midyear brotherhood meeting was held at Oakland Baptist Church, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

After opening remarks and business, a Galilean Report was given by Brother Mark Jones. The state camp was great and he encouraged other churches to participate in next years camp. The theme will be "Give Me Your Eyes". He introduced

our Senior Mr. Galilean Dalton McMillian. Dalton told about his what the Galilean Program has meant to him and how important it is for each local brotherhood to sponsor the Galileans. Brother Jones encouraged any church without a Galilean Program to start one. He and Brother Larry Trammel are available to assist if needed.

Matt Hudson gave a report on

the National Brotherhood and encouraged all churches to give to the National Brotherhood Project which the Moral Action.



Roger Jefcoat

Roger Jefcoat reported that our Disaster Relief Ministry had carried a pickup load of supplies to Yazoo City after a tornado destroyed a number of homes and businesses. He encouraged other brotherhoods to help with this ministry and challenged other associations to match the Big Creek Association in giving \$3,200.00 to the Disaster Relief Ministry.

Bryson Haden introduced Neal Broom for the program. Broom is a financial consultant with Financial Solutions 6:24. He shared his heart by emphasizing that God needs to be the focal point of our life. He challenged us to look at our giving and then arrange our finances so that our bank accounts would be open to God.

House of the Lord." Special guest, Bro. Bob O'Neal, preached from II Timothy 4:1-4, encouraging ministers not to quit and be instant in season and out of season.

A wonderful meal was served and our hearts were blessed with the spiritual service.

Bro. Bryan Wilson, moderator
Wanda Parmer, Reporter

Sharon, Laurel to hold revival

Sharon Missionary Baptist Church of Laurel will begin revival services July 25-28. Bro. Harold Floyd will be the evangelist. Pastor Joe Watson invites all to attend and to remember them in prayer.

Annette Welborn, Reporter

Harmony report

The July meeting of the Harmony Association was held at Emanuel Baptist Church in Tupelo on July 9th. The service opened with congregational singing and prayer. After a warm welcome from the host pastor and special music, Bro. John Adams introduced Bro. Richie Hester, of 1st Mantachie for the evening message. He had recently surrendered to the ministry.

After the message, regular monthly business was conducted. The meeting was attended by 7 churches with 52 present and 5 visitors. The next meeting will be at Farmington Baptist with speaker Bro. Tim Nall and alternate Dr. John Adams. Dr. Medrick Savell reported for Southeastern College, Dr. Adams gave a report on his work with the Moral Action Committee, and Bro. Doyle Moore reported on his work in the Philippines.

The church is to be commended for the food and fellowship that preceded the meeting.

Bob O'Neal, Moderator
Tony Marolt, Reporter

From DiscipleGuide Ministries Deadline Nears For Holy Land Classic

The registration deadline for joining this fall's Holy Land Classic sponsored by DiscipleGuide Church Resources and hosted by Kirk and Toni Shelton is August 15th. Holy Land Classic is an eleven-day tour of some of the most prominent Biblical sites in Israel including Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Jericho, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee, Megiddo, and Masada. The trip also includes an overnight stay at a Dead Sea Resort.

"Toni and I are extremely excited about this trip to the land of the Bible," said Shelton, Pastoral Ministries and Church Growth Consultant for DiscipleGuide. The trip, scheduled for November 2-12, has participants from Texas, Arkansas, and Mississippi. Included in the group are several BMAA pastors and wives.

Anyone interested in joining the group must act quickly. For more information contact Kirk Shelton at 972.935.6898 or kirk@fellowshipforney.org.

See Holy Land Ad on Page 7

SOAR In Big D!

from page 1

wildest dreams. "You know, I had to wonder what God was up to the weeks preceding SOAR. We'd never had so many issues... major issues. What God was up to was proving Himself mighty in everyone's eyes! His presence was felt in every part of SOAR, from start to finish. This was one SOAR that I was sorry to see end."

There were hundreds of others who felt the same way.

SOAR 2011 is scheduled for July 4-6 at the Marriott Rivercenter in San Antonio, Texas.

she has a cold. Yours truly,
Annette. Age 9, Albany

Dear Pastor, Please say a prayer for our Little League team. We need God's help or a new pitcher. Thank you.
Alexander. Age 10, Raleigh

Dear Pastor, My father says I should learn the Ten Commandments. But I don't think I want to because we have enough rules already in my house.
Joshua. Age 10, South Pasadena

Dear Pastor, I liked your sermon on Sunday. Especially when it was finished.
Ralph, Age 11, Akron

Arkansas Missions Director

from page 1

whelmed and truly humbled I am to be given this opportunity to serve our association once again," said Bro. White. "Without reproduction, a species will cease to exist and I believe the future of the BMA of Arkansas as well as the BMA of America depends on their success in planting new churches... I pray that I will be able to build on the solid foundation that has been laid by those who have preceded me. Bro. I.V. may be small in stature, but he has some mighty big shoes to fill."

I.V. Hight

The committee also voted the following severance package for Bro. Hight — one week's base salary for each of his 11 years of service; the car he has been driving (which has approximately 100,000 miles on it); and the computer in his office.

"The last 11 years have been some of the most enjoyable years of my life, and the future is bright," said Bro. Hight. He also stated that he is not stepping down for health reasons, but because he feels it is what God wants him to do and what is best for the work of State Missions. "Pray for me as I seek God's will in my service to Him," he said.

CHURCH NEWS

News articles should contain information that will be of interest to the general public who are not members of the church that is reporting.

Revival at Hopewell

Hopewell Baptist Church, Dorsey, Mississippi, will hold revival services July 25-28. Sunday services will be at 10:45a.m. and 1:15 p.m. with week day services at 7:00 p.m. Evangelist Tim Hudson of Mathiston, Mississippi, will be bringing the messages. Pastor Matt Hudson invites the public to attend.

Big Creek Revival

Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, (10 miles west of Laurel on Highway 84) will hold revival services from Sunday July 18 to Friday, July 23.

Bro. David Watkins, pastor of First Church, Magnolia, Arkansas and former president of the BMA of America, will be the speaker. Services are at 7:00 p.m. each evening. The public is invited to come and worship with us.

Don Brown, pastor

Tombigbee Association Report

Our June meeting was held at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Tupelo. Host pastor Bro. Parmer welcomed everyone and brought a short devotion. A total of 63 was present. Bro. Joseph gave a report from Columbus. Their attendance was up and 8 souls have been saved. Bro. Freeman gave reports from several mission points.

Bro. Parmer sang, "In the

Partnership With BMMI

by Ralph Izard, M.D.

Do you as an individual, Sunday School class, study group, or a church have the same interest as the BMMI? Our interest is to respond to the Great Commission in support of the missionary working on a mission by showing compassion to those that come to a BMMI medical clinic with their acceptance of Jesus Christ as their Savior being the end result.

Each year, several churches partner with the BMMI for medical mission trips to a country where the BMAA has a mission project. The BMMI is part of the Department of Missions of the Baptist Missionary Association of America. Therefore, we are in a position to know the needs of each mission field and what would be required to have a successful short term medical



Dr. Ralph Izard

mission trip. Also, we are able to supplement the personnel of the team in the event that the church does not have the needed medical professionals for a high standard of care. A concerted effort is also made to have communications with the Ministry



BMMI Director Dr. Ralph Izard ministering during a BMMI trip.

of Health of the proposed country and also the local medical community.

A short term medical mission trip is an exciting way to learn firsthand about a particular mission field that you support with your offerings to BMAA

Missions. You are able to meet the people with whom the missionary is working and see the living conditions of the people there.

A lot of long range planning is needed for a successful mission trip. Passports, flight arrange-

ments, tickets, hotel rooms, food, transportation, medicine, and immunizations required to obtain a visa, are all matters with which the BMMI office can give assistance.

The opportunities are great, the need is great, and I believe the time is short before the return of Jesus Christ. To learn more about how your church can partner with BMMI to support our missionaries and carry the gospel to an unsaved and dying world, please call Doris at the Missions office (501 455 4977). I would be excited to set up an appointment to further show you and your church how you can become involved in worldwide missions. A BMMI trip will change your life forever and also the way you view missions.

Remember - When you follow Jesus Christ, it always leads to people!

Summer Time is Ministry Time for Kids!

Ah, yes. The lazy, hazy days of summer. Children should be allowed to have lots of free time in the summer. I am an advocate of allowing children time to just decompress over the summer. There should be time periods in your children's life where there is no schedule. They need time to just play, have fun and basically do nothing. In today's modern society, many children go from a hectic school schedule, to an even busier summer schedule.

Many American children have a summer that is packed full of non-stop activities. They have ball games, swimming classes, camps, specialty camps, church activities, vacations etc. When do they have time to rest? A meaningful life is not one that is filled with unending activities. That leads to adults and young people who are stressed out and have an insatiable appetite to constantly be entertained. That is not the key to a nice life.

While some activities are good, too much of a good thing becomes a negative. There is nothing wrong with sports or band camp, science camp and a trip. However, all these things need to be in moderation and with limits. Your child may be

good at several sports, but that does not mean they need to play in every one of them. They have to learn that there is more to life than sports.

There is more to life than having to be constantly entertained. This is why so many Americans are anxious, restless and stressed out. Kids need to learn to have quiet periods. They need to pray and study the Word each day. They need to keep up with the process of learning whether they are in school or not. It is good to teach your children to always build into their day to learn something or read something. Try and establish a 30 minute period each day when all activities cease, and there is a quiet time. Everyone just reads or prays or is quiet. There doesn't have to be music blaring.

Most children are constantly engaged with external stimuli. They have their cell phones, ipods, music in their rooms, TV, video games, or even occasionally actually talk to a person face to face. But few kids have time where all electronic engagement is shut off and they just find a comfortable spot to absorb some peace and quiet. This would be a healthy and

holy habit to establish. Psalm 46:10. Mark 6:31.

Kids need to find a desert place and come apart to rest.

Summertime is also an excellent time to teach the Biblical command to serve others. It is so critical for Christian parents to teach their children to serve



Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

others. We want to serve Jesus. We do this by serving others. While it would be good for kids to have ministry all year long, we can shoot for a goal of at least having them do ministry activities when school is out and they have more free time.

If your kids spend their entire summer doing what they want to do, and chasing all the activities they desire, without ever doing something for someone else; then don't be surprised when they grow up to be selfish, self-serving adults. That is how they were raised. Again, it is okay to play, but we have also been given a high calling by the

Lord to serve others.

Begin this process by having a family meeting to discuss ministry activities for the summer. You can begin by reading Matthew 25:34-46. This is clear for kids to understand. If we love and serve Jesus, then we will serve others. It is like doing it to, and for, the Lord. While many church kids go on church trips in the summer, it is not the same as owning a personal ministry that is right around them. And it is good for them to have a helping/serving ministry that gives them no personal pleasure at all. We don't help others only because we want the chance to win a free bicycle or to get a free T-shirt.

There are many activities where church kids do great things, and along the way they stop off at an amusement park or a ball game. Please, understand. This is great. I am not knocking this. I just think that your kids ought to do one thing to help others where they get absolutely no personal pleasure or benefit for themselves. Their reward is from serving the Lord.

Write It Down

Let the kids and parents come

up with a list of possibilities. Then, make a plan. Who will do this? Where? What day each week will we do this? Time of day? Who else will be needed? Should it be done in the evening so dad can drive you over there? These things have to be talked out so that the plan works and is not a burden to the family. All children can serve. Little ones may have to help bake something to take to elderly shut ins. Just having a four year old show up with some cookies and a picture that has been colored by them; to an older person's home is a blessing to that person. It brightens their day.

Older kids can mow lawns, change light bulbs in houses, water gardens, paint, clean up a home or yard that has fallen into disrepair, visit hospitals, nursing homes, etc. The list is endless. If you know of no one in need, ask your pastor. There are neighbors, even right around you, that you could do something nice to help them. That is letting your light so shine before others that they can see your good works and glorify God. Matthew 5:16.

Set this summertime as a ministry time for your kids.

Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

In the United States In the name of Jesus

The article below seemingly should shock each of us who are Americans and especially those who are followers of Christ. I must admit that although I am disgusted by the article, I am no longer shocked by the treatment of Christians in this land that was founded by Christians on religious freedom



Don Brown
Editor

and religious principles. We have experienced the blessings of God for over 200 years and surely He has blessed us because of our general faithfulness to Him and His word. Those blessings seem to be slipping away at an ever accelerating pace. The change in our nation concerning our freedom, self-determination, religious tolerance and godly principles and morality are alarming. It began slowly, but due to our hard-heartedness, our apathy and general wickedness, God seems to be turning us loose to our own

selfish desires and lack of obedience to Him and His Will. We must continue to be faithful to our Lord in our actions and in our conscience. As His people we must not allow society, the government, government officials or any entity to cause us to turn from faithfully serving Him. God help us. God forgive us. God bless us again. "Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause thine anger toward us to cease." Psalm 85:4 In Jesus Name!

Pastor Ends Prayer in Jesus name Asked Not to Pray Again

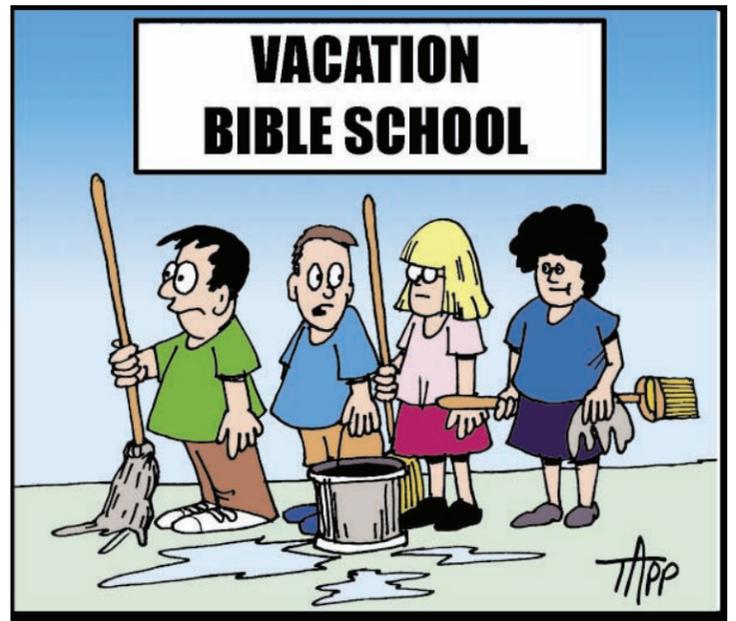
Christian Web News - A pastor in North Carolina was removed from his position as an honorary chaplain of the state of house of representatives after he closed a prayer "in the name of Jesus." Ron Baity, pastor of Berean Baptist Church in Wiston-Salem, was invited to lead prayer for an entire week, but was asked to leave when he ended his prayer "in the name of Jesus." A House clerk asked to see his prayer on May 31. Baity told FOX News Radio, "When I handed it to the lady, I watched her eyes and they immediately went right to the bottom of the page and the word

Jesus. She said 'We would prefer that you not use the name Jesus. We have some people here that can be offended.'" When Baity protested, she brought the matter to the attention of House Speaker Joe Hackney. "I told her I was highly offended when she asked me not to pray in the name of Jesus because that does constitute my faith," Baity said. "My faith requires that I pray in His name. The Bible is very clear." Baity said that when the clerk came back he was told that he would be allowed to deliver the day's prayer but after that his services would no longer be

needed. A joint statement was released to FOX News Radio by Hackney, a Democrat, and Paul Stam, House Republican Leader: "It has been our practice in the North Carolina House of Representatives for many years to request, but not require, that our guest chaplains deliver a nonsectarian prayer. This is intended as a show of respect for all the religions practiced by the members of the House and the people we represent." "In this instance, we allowed Pastor Baity to deliver his prayer, without interference, even though it was sectarian in nature. Nonetheless, we will review our procedures and guidelines concerning guest chaplains, and we will make sure we abide by applicable constitutional procedures. The House will adjourn within the next few days, but the results of this review will be publicly available whenever it is complete."

Baity said he is unhappy with the way he was treated. "When the state tells you how to pray, that you cannot use the

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



"I liked our crafts time a lot better last year."

name of Jesus – that's mandating a state religion," he said. "They talk about not offending other people, but at the same time, if they are telling me how to pray – that's the very thing our forefathers left England for." The Christian Law Association helped Baity draft a letter asking for an apology and an opportunity to return to the state capitol and finish his tenure. "The First Amendment promises all Americans the free exercise of their religion, which includes the right to pray as their faith requires, even when they are invited to open state legislative sessions with prayer," attorney David Gibbs told WXII-TV. "We trust that the North Carolina House of Representatives will realize its mistake and will offer Pastor Baity another opportunity to pray without requiring him to use a prayer that is mandated by government." Baity said he is still shocked by what happened. "You would expect this somewhere else – Cuba, Saudi Arabia," he told FOX News Radio. "You would never anticipate this happening in the United States of America." In a word – the pastor said – the decision is "anti-Christian."

BMAA Arrangements Committee Invites Suggestions



The arrangements committee of the BMA of America invites suggestions for meeting locations for 2013 and 2014. Potential locations must have convention center or hotel facilities with a meeting room capacity of at least 1500, and have at least 500 hotel rooms that can be blocked for the meeting. Suggestions should be sent to committee chairman Charles Attebery by e-mail (charles@lifeword.org) or by regular mail (606 Carol Ave., El Dorado, AR 71730). The deadline for submitting suggestions is July 31, 2010.

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Media's task: Making the bizarre appear ordinary

OneNewsNow - When it comes to the homosexual agenda, the media's role -- according to a pro-family attorney -- is to desensitize the public by making "the absurd appear reasonable and normal."

The Today show's annual marriage contest has taken a new twist, upsetting traditional values groups in the process. Each year, NBC's Today sponsors a "Modern Wedding Contest" that ends with a winning couple being married on air and given a free honeymoon vacation. Last week, bowing to pressure from homosexual activists, the program extended this year's entry deadline a week to permit homosexuals to submit applications.

The president of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, reacting to the change in rules, applauds NBC and Today, saying they recognize what "most fair-minded" Americans have already determined:

"a wedding celebrates love and commitment, whether the spouses are straight or gay."

But Matt Barber, director of cultural affairs at Liberty Counsel, disagrees, implicating the mainstream media for being party to the homosexual agenda.

"Mass desensitization is a favored ploy of the left to effect radical social change," states Barber. "And like most of their so-called 'progressive' counterparts, today's mainstream media is in rebellion against traditional values and God's natural order."

Indeed, even liberals seem to agree with Barber. Columnist Cynthia Tucker, for example, recognizes media's influence, crediting such moves for bringing about "sweeping transformations" in American life and culture, even stating that ten years down the road, "gay-bashing politicians and preachers will have a much harder time persuading the public that gay

marriage represents a mortal threat to the institution of marriage."

According to Barber, activists know the secular media can be their greatest tool to overcome people's natural revulsion to disordered homosexual behavior. "They know that they have to play these images over and over again in order to make the absurd appear reasonable and normal," he offers.



The Christian attorney believes that in order to put an end to such manipulation and to fight back against this type of radical social re-engineering, people have to stand up and say no. And since the majority of people still support traditional values, he adds, their collective voices could be very loud.

FCC's policy discarded, broadcasters unrestricted

OneNewsNow - A federal appeals court has thrown out a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) policy that can lead to broadcasters being fined for filthy language on live television.

The Second U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan determined the policy violates the First Amendment and that it "chills speech, because broadcasters have no way of knowing what the FCC will find offensive."

According to Melissa Henson, spokesperson for the Parents Television Council (PTC), her organization is outraged by the decision.

"It seems to us that this panel of three judges walked into the courtroom with their minds already made up and with kind of a chip on their shoulder about the whole enforcement regime of the Federal Communications Commission and that they did not look at the facts of the case objectively," she laments.

She decides that in ruling the policy as unconstitutional, the judges "basically overturned the will of the American people, the laws of the land, and even a decision of the Supreme Court."

Henson notes that the PTC will encourage the FCC to appeal "because if this ruling is allowed to stand, it will basically open the floodgate for non-stop 'f-words' and 's-words,' nudity, profanity [and] graphic violence throughout the day - regardless of venue, regardless of whether or not there are children in the viewing audience."

The PTC spokesperson stresses that there needs to be a resolution of the case, because even with the FCC trying to enforce its rules, the media has become increasingly worse.

**AVAILABLE
FOR SERVICE**

Listing of names does not indicate endorsement.
This column is for information purposes only.

Virgil Ainsworth

Virgil T. Ainsworth is available for service as the Lord leads. He may be contacted at the following numbers: Cell, 601-577-0924 or Home, 601-729-8059.

Full-time Music position available

Calvary Baptist Church in Fayetteville, Arkansas, is seeking a full-time Minister of Music. Interested applicants may send a resume to the church at 1410 Porter Rd., Fayetteville, AR 72703. Attention Music Search Committee.

MORAL ACTION COMMITTEE

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Dr. John M. Adams, Director
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John Adams

HOW TO RESPECT OUR AMERICAN FLAG

Francis Bellamy, a clergyman and editor of "Youth Companion" is believed to have written the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag in September, 1892:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1892, the magazine printed it to celebrate the four-hundredth (400th) anniversary of Columbus discovering America. School age children recited the pledge on October 12, 1892, Columbus Day.

The original words read, "I pledge allegiance to my flag and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In researching this information for you readers, it was discovered that the words were altered in the 1920's when "my flag" was changed to "the flag of the United States of America." In 1942, the Pledge was granted recognition by the United States Congress when it was included in the Flag Code. Congress then added the phrase "under God" in 1954.

When an American citizen cites the Pledge, the following rules of respect should be recognized:

1. All should stand at attention and face the flag.
2. The United States Flag Code requests that those not in military uniform should place the Right hand over the heart.
3. That those not in military uniform who are wearing a hat, should remove it with the right hand and hold at the left shoulder, so that the hand is over the heart.
4. Soldiers and others in uniform, etc, scouts, should remain silent, face the flag, and give the appropriate salute.

I encourage each of you to respect the American flag. Many brave individuals have made the ultimate sacrifice of death for our flag and nation. Remember always that we are "one nation under God." Teach your children and grandchildren the importance of God and the American flag.

Pastor Honored



Pictured above are the family members of Leon and Sandra Carmical gathered at Midway First Baptist Church, Sumrall recently. The church honored the Carmicals (far right) at a retirement reception.

God Angry At Our Prayers

by Grover Laird

"O LORD God of hosts, how long wilt thou be angry against the prayer of thy people?" (Psalms 80:4)

With so many Scriptures encouraging us to pray, does it seem a bit strange that God would ever be angry at the prayers of His people? Maybe we could imagine the prayers of the wicked being sin, (Psalm 109:7) but does God really get angry at the prayers of His people? Our text is rather clear. God surely does.



Grover Laird

If our prayer life has not been bringing the results we expect, this might be the problem. Our text would surely tell us that praying just "any and every way" will not move any mountains or bring any fire down from heaven. But the fact that our prayers could anger God is even more alarming. While our life may be a big problem here, there are surely things about our praying that does anger God. Consider some possibilities.

I. Not Having Any Faith In Them

I fear that we sometimes pray with a feeling that this prayer may not help any. Imagine how this makes God feel after He has given us so many wonderful promises concerning prayer. Does this not actually reflect upon His honesty? How do we feel when people question our honesty?

After James assured us that God would give us wisdom if we would ask, (James 1:5) he then reminded

us to "ask in faith." (We should, of course, do this each time we claim any promise of God.) James then tells us how it will turn out with the person who does not ask in faith-- "For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord." (James 1:7) This sounds like God could be angry with us when we fail to take Him at His word.

According to the Bible, we actually break a commandment of Christ if we do not do our praying in faith-- "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." (Mark 11:24) Our lack of faith in God is very offensive to Him, and is indeed inexcusable. (Matthew 6:30: 8:26; 14:31; Luke 24:25,26)

II. Not Being Reverent In Our Praying

What do you do if you are on your knees praying and the telephone rings? Praying to God is not like talking to a neighbor across the fence. We are talking to the King of the Universe. We are talking to the "high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy." (Isaiah 57:15)

Though Abraham was no doubt the greatest man living on earth during his day, he felt that he was no more than dust and ashes when he approached God. He felt it was an awesome thing for a man to take upon himself the privilege of coming into God's presence-- "And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes." (Genesis 18:27)

Whatever we do in our service to God should be done "with reverence and godly fear," (Hebrews 12:28) and maybe our praying more than any thing else. According to Ecclesiastes 5:2, when we appear before God we should remember that He is in Heaven and we are on earth-- "Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few." (Letting our "words be few" means that we should be very careful how we talk with God.)

III. Not Praising God For Answers Already Received

The Bible says we should pray with thanksgiving. (Philippians 4:6) Part of that thanksgiving would surely be for the prayers that are already answered. When ten lepers cried out to Jesus for mercy the Lord healed them. When only one returned to thank the Lord, Jesus seemed to be greatly displeased as He said, "...Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?" (Luke 17:17) The Lord does expect us to express our appreciation when He answers our prayers.

When three nations came against Judah to destroy them, King Jehoshaphat called for a day of prayer and fasting. They really got serious with their praying. (11 Chronicles 20:12) God had mercy and destroyed their enemies without Judah fighting a battle. Then Judah spent three days gathering the spoil. But they did not go home then. They took a fourth day to thank the Lord. They had such a wonderful day of praise until that place began to be known as "The valley of Berachah," or "The valley of Blessing."

They had spent a day asking for help. It was nothing but right to spend a day thanking God for answering their plea for help. If we spent an hour asking for the Lord to help us, it would be good if we spent another hour of praise and thanksgiving for that help.

Indeed the Lord could be displeased with our pray-

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Theatrics surround plans for Ground Zero mosque

OneNewsNow - Terrorism expert Robert Spencer says the proposed mega-mosque at Ground Zero faces likely its only hurdle on (July 13) during a meeting of The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission.

The proposed mosque is considered by many New Yorkers to be an affront to those who perished on September 11, 2001. In early June, an estimated crowd of 5,000 to 10,000 protesters - which included victims' families and immigrants from numerous countries - rallied at the site of the World Trade Center to show their opposition to the construction of the mosque.

But despite protests from concerned citizens, a Muslim group is set to move forward with plans to convert a former Burlington Coat Factory store not far from Ground Aero into a massive Islamic center. But there is one potential obstacle: The NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission is conducting a hearing



today to determine whether the 152-year-old historic building on the site should be preserved from demolition.

Robert Spencer, the director of Jihad Watch, a project of the David Horowitz Freedom Center, spoke at the rally in June. He says Tuesday's meeting appears to be more about accommodating those who

will run the mosque than it is about preserving the historic building.

"Actually the Landmarks Commission is meeting to not declare it a landmark, and they're just trying to railroad this through," he accuses. "Witness the fact that it's been on the listing for consideration for landmark status for 21 years - and yet only now is there this huge rush to consider its case.

"...Obviously it's because the proponents of the Islamic supremacist mega-mosque that they want to build there...are trying to make sure that there are no obstacles."

The Jihad Watch director notes that the building was designed by an architect who has had other buildings declared to be landmarks. "So really, if the Landmarks Commission were consistent, it would preserve this building also," he offers.

Spencer says consistency goes out the window when it comes to "accommodating Islamic supremacists."

Our Prayers

from page 6

ing when they are void of thanksgiving for what He has already done.

IV. Because We Give It Up As A Lost Cause

Once Jesus spoke a parable to drive home one truth: "that men ought always to pray, and not to faint." (Luke 18:1) The Lord is surely angry with our praying when we stop so quick because no answer had come.

The Bible teaches that we should "continue in prayer," (Colossians 4:2) and pray "with all perseverance." (Ephesians 6:18) If we get the most out of our praying we will have to learn to pray until an answer comes, (Acts 12:1-14) or until assurance of an answer comes, (I Samuel 1:8-18), or until an an-

swer of peace comes. (11 Corinthians 12:7-10)

Many Scriptures teach us to wait upon the Lord. Here is one: "Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD." (Psalms 27:14) There are different reasons why the Lord ask us to wait upon Him. But regardless of what the reason is, the Lord is right in doing so. And it will be to our advantage to "be of good courage" and wait. It will surely displease Him if we don't.

V. Because We Are Selfish In Our Praying

The Lord teaches us to ask for our daily bread. (Luke 11:3) He knows that we have needs, and He wants us to make our request known unto Him. (Philippians 4:6) Since He is our Father and loves us, He wants to give us "richly all things to enjoy." (I Timothy 6:17) But to

have no more need for prayer than to satisfy our selfish desires would surely be offensive to God, as well as an hindrance to our praying--"Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." (James 4:3) Prayer is not just for our selfish desires.

Worshiping the Lord is surely the most important thing we do in prayer. (Matthew 6:9,13) Heaven is ringing with praise and worship night and day, (Revelation 4:8-11) and it should not be limited to Heaven--"Let the heaven and earth praise him...." (Psalms 69:34)

Praying for others is another thing we do in prayer, and it is a ministry that many Scriptures encourage. (I Timothy 2:1; Ephesians 6:18) Through prayer we can minister to the Spiritual needs of a church, (Colossians 4:12) and also help sinners come to Jesus. (Romans 10:1)

Prayer is a place where we can have fellowship with our Lord. It is also a place where we can unload our burdens, (I Peter 5:7) get our faith increased, (Luke 17:5) renew our strength in the Lord, (Isaiah 40:29-31) obtain guidance, (Proverbs 3:6) get wisdom, (James 1:5) and obtain knowledge. (Proverbs 2:3-5) If we have no interest in using prayer for any of these things, the Lord will no doubt be "angry against" our prayers.

VI. Because We Do Not Depend Upon The Spirit

When we get saved our Heavenly Father gives us the Holy Spirit to aid us in living the Christian life. Among many things, He helps us to pray. He helps us to know what we should pray for, as well as aids us in getting it through to God. (Romans 8:26,27) He gives us faith to believe. (I Corinthians 12:8,9) He can help us to make a good

connection and ask in a sincere manner. (Jude 20)

However, if we ignore this help that is so important and needful for our praying, God could be angry against the prayers we try to pray on our own.

VII. Because We Cut Our Praying Short

It is true that we are not heard for our "much speaking," and VAIN repetitions does not help. (Matthew 6:7) However, our Lord prayed all night at least one time, (Luke 6:12) and another time went back to pray again saying "the same words." (Matthew 26:44)

Paul referred to his praying being "Night and day praying exceedingly...." (Thessalonians 3:10) Jacob prayed most of a night. (Genesis 32:24) The Bible tells us to "pray without ceasing," (I Thessalonians 5:17) and to "continue in prayer." (Colossians 4:2) Most people confess that they do not pray enough.

When we therefore rush up our praying, or cut it short, because we have others things we feel are more important, the Lord could be angry against our prayers.

These ways, and surely others, can cause our Lord to be angry against our prayers. To correct these wrongs would surely make our prayer life more enjoyable, and far more effective.

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Faith

God our Father has made all things depend on faith so that whoever has faith will have everything, and whoever does not have faith will have nothing.

The more we know of God, the more unreservedly we will trust him; the greater our progress in theology, the simpler and more childlike will be our faith.

Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. There is no glory for God in that which is humanly possible. Faith begins where man's power ends.

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**New Heart
 Mission Report**

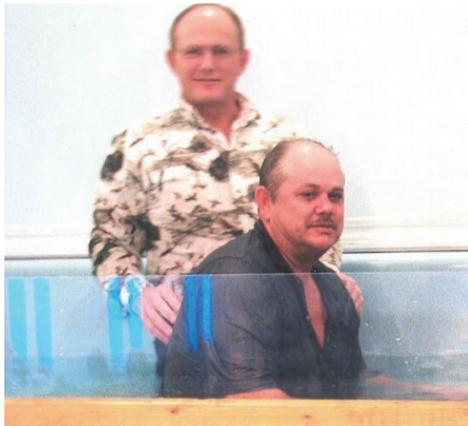
by **Missionary Ray Boone**

We thank the Lord and Savior for the salvation of my brother, David Boone, who was saved in our first service here at the New Heart Mission. David and his family have remained faithful since our first service and have been growing spiritually in the Lord. For this we praise our God.

Our music director being absent, David took care of the singing at our second baptismal service. Although it was his first time to lead singing, he did a great job.

We were blessed with a wonderful Bible School in June. All our men and women from the mission worked hard to make our first VBS a success. God blessed us to be able to reach 29 children in our community. Pray for us that we continue to reach those that know not our Lord and Savior.

Editor's note - In our last issue the wrong article was submitted. This is a corrected article from Bro. Boone.



Left - Missionary Ray Boone baptizing his brother. Top - David Boone leading worship. Below - New Heart's first VBS.



**Sofilthy's
 Attic**

by Barbara White

**Clean Mops
 and Dirty Floors**

I met up with a friend of mine in the store the other day and she was buying a new broom and mop. I offered her the suggestion that her mop would last longer if she never used it on her floors. I told her if she'd hang that clean mop on her porch everyone would think her floors were clean.

We had a good laugh, but after I went on, I got to thinking about how hypocritical that would be. Then I thought there may be areas of my life where I am just as hypocritical as hanging a new mop on the porch.

I was further convicted as I read James 3:17 "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

**Dedication -
 An Example**

Not long ago Newsweek magazine reported on what it called the new wave of mountain men. It's estimated that there are some sixty thousand serious mountain climbers in the U.S. But in the upper echelon of serious climbers is a small elite group known as "hard men." For them climbing mountains and scaling sheer rock faces is a way of life. In many cases, climbing is a part of their whole commitment to life. And their ultimate experience is called free soloing: climbing with no equipment and no safety ropes. John Baker is considered by many to be the best of the hard men. He has free-soloed some of the most difficult rock faces in the U.S. with no safety rope and no climbing equipment of any kind. His skill has not come easily. It has been acquired through commitment, dedication and training. His wife says she can't believe his dedication. When John isn't climbing, he's often to be found in his California home hanging by his fingertips to strengthen his arms and hands.

We as God's people can use this example to encourage us to be as dedicated to our Lord and Savior.

**Constitution OKs
 Jesus' name, says CLA**

OneNewsNow - An attorney with the Christian Legal Association (CLA) reports that a North Carolina pastor who was denied the right to pray in Jesus' name at the state House may pursue legal action against the state.

Last month, Dr. Ronnie Baity, a Baptist pastor in Winston-Salem, was asked to give the opening prayers during the first week of the legislative session. But officials balked when they read his prayer and asked him to consider not praying in the name of Jesus. Dr. Baity, who refused to remove references to Jesus in his prayer, then offered the beginning prayer during the first session, but was told that he would not be needed for the rest of the week. (See earlier story)

David Gibbs III, an attorney with the CLA, tells OneNewsNow that a letter requesting an apology has been sent to state officials.

"Our hope is that the speaker will look at the Constitution, and our opinion is if you give good people good information, the hope is that they'll make good decisions," he shares. "We would rather not see this in court...."

Gibbs contends that government agencies must have policies that allow representatives of all faiths to pray freely, but he adds that voters can also have an impact.

"Encourage your legislators at your city, your county meetings, your school board or others that prayer does matter [and] that asking for divine blessing and guidance, asking for God's help is something that's been done since the founding of our nation, and it shouldn't be just disbanded with," the CLA attorney requests. "Support those people, vote for them [and] stand with them if they take a stand for prayer."

North Carolina officials have until July 19 to respond to Dr. Baity's appeal.

**Letters From
 Our Readers**

Dear Readers,

Bro. B.A. Nolan, who organized and built 20 churches in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, passed away on June 8, 2010, at the age of ninety. Funeral services were conducted on June 10, 2010, at the Lockhart Road Baptist Church, in Denham Springs, Louisiana.

Calvary Baptist Church of Vidalia, Louisiana was organized 53 years ago under the visionary leadership of Bro. Nolan. Our church has given an offering in his memory to "The Crossing, a Baptist Fellowship", in the Slidell and Pearl River area of Louisiana. This work is a "Partnership Project" of the Baptist Missionary Association of America. Bro. Sam Husser is the missionary. We would like to encourage those who have been blessed by the ministry of Bro. Nolan to consider giving an offering to a mission project of your preference in memory of his 62 years of dedicated service in the work of the Lord.

Bro. Ron Ledford, Pastor
 Calvary Baptist Church
 Vidalia, Louisiana