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ChangeMaker in Philippines: God Uses People With Disabilities

by Missionary Sam Freeman
Missions Coordinator in the
Philippines

Born in 1959 on the island of Cebu, Maximino "Max" Quiachon, Jr. spent most of his adult life on Bohol after attending the university there. During his fourth year of studies in mechanical engineering, Max enlisted and served two years with the Philippine Marines. He then returned and completed his degree.

In 1982 Max accepted Jesus as his Savior after a friend shared the gospel with him. Soon after, he felt God's calling on his life to serve as a pastor. Max enrolled at BMA Bible College of the Philippines in 1984 and graduated in 1987.

He served as a BMA Philippines pastor on the island of Luzon until returning home to

Bohol then marrying Victoria in 1996. The Lord blessed them with two beautiful and talented daughters who are a blessing and benefit in their family's ministry.

Several years ago Max lost his eyesight from diabetes complications, not uncommon in the Philippines with its lack of preventative diagnoses and cost of medication. Blindness would be devastating to many people, but Max used it grow spiritually: He learned Braille, listened to family members read the Bible, memorized eight of its book, and learned hundreds of Scripture verses.

Each week he types sermon outlines in English and Visayan for church members to read and take home. As he preaches, the outline and Scripture references are quoted from memory. Max's



Bro. Max and Family

dedication and commitment to teaching and preaching God's Word has spiritually challenged and encouraged me and many others.

In 2019 I met Pastor Max while visiting him on the island of Bohol. With a heart to reach

there.

Afterwards, the BMAP missionary committee recommended him to the association as a potential BMAP missionary. After many Covid and government related delays, on October 29, 2020, Pastor Max was elected as the seventh national missionary serving BMAP. To support his ministry, Bro. Max does blind massages for beach goers on the island, which is just another way he can share his testimony.

Covid-19 has caused many challenges to church planting, and Pastor Max and the young mission in Bohol continue to experience those difficulties. Please pray for this faithful servant and his family as they labor to win others to Christ and make Jesus' name known to the Boholano people.

"Because Christ is King"

by Dr. Josh Howard

The recent arrest and imprisonment of a Canadian pastor has led to some difficult, important questions—questions about the role of the church, the reach of the State, and the parameters of persecution. A question that arises from this is significant: what is persecution?



Josh Howard

First, let us recognize that persecution may be different than we expect. Many of us have thought of persecution in a rather simplistic way—evil men in clearly evil uniforms showing up at our doorstep and demanding that we deny Christ. This may indeed happen to some, but many Christians will face persecution under different circumstances than these. Simply put, Chris-

tians will suffer because Christ is King. There is spiritual conflict taking place behind the worldly conflicts we experience (Eph 6:12), but we should recognize that persecution is rarely identified this way.

For example: John the Baptist was beheaded for condemning a public official's immorality (Matt 14); the Pharisees beat and imprisoned the apostles out of jealousy (Acts 5:17, 40); Stephen was stoned for blasphemy (Acts 6-7); Paul and Silas were imprisoned for obstructing the local economy (Acts 16); Paul was jailed as a political instigator and insurrectionist (Acts 24:5); and many other examples exist (Heb 11:35-38). Would we suggest that these did not suffer for Christ because the world slandered them even as it persecuted them? Why did they truly experience persecution? They suffered because Christ is King. Suffering may come in different forms and in

different degrees (cf. Heb 12:4), but we should be slow to disregard persecution against brothers and sisters in Christ. To ignore this is to ignore the slander that was levied against our Savior (Matt 27:37). We suffer because Christ is King.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

How might we respond? Pray now—and pray often. Be constant in prayer (Rom 12:12) and trust in the Lord always (Prov 3:5-6). This is foundational, indispensable, and essential.

Further, expect persecution in this life. This is surely never popular advice and no one is eager to hear these words. Yet consider the lives (and deaths) of the apostles. The early church did not suffer persecution because they had failed—they

experienced persecution because Christ has triumphed! We follow in His footsteps, and this brings persecution in this world (2 Tim 3:12; Jn 16:33). Again, we will be persecuted—because Christ is King.

In keeping with the above, we must determine to stand with fellow believers. Those who are reading this may very well not

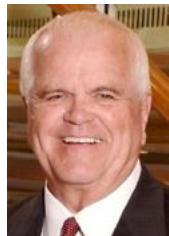
Finally, we should not take lightly the command to proclaim the gospel. When the commands of the State prevent us from following Christ's commands, we must remember the example set for us in Scripture (see Acts 4:18-20; Acts 5:28). The worship of the church and preaching of the gospel are essential. We simply cannot compromise—because Christ is King.

In the waning days of World War II, pastor-theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer was one of the last prisoners executed by the Third Reich. Choosing to remain with his people who were suffering under the Nazi regime, Bonhoeffer was unceremoniously hanged as an enemy of the State. His last words were reportedly: "This is the end. For me the beginning of life." Let us live with a faith that trusts God in all things (Rom 8:28). Let us live lives that testify that Christ is King.

Howard is Associate Pastor at Calvary Baptist Church, Horn Lake and oversees Missions, Student, & Discipleship



Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi



Don Brown
Editor

Much To Share

Below you will find the totals given to this ministry during our annual Special Emphasis Drive. It never ceases to amaze me how the needs of this ministry are provided by our gracious Lord. I know that many churches have experienced a reduction in income over this past year due to the Covid pandemic. Nevertheless, many churches and individuals gave selflessly. Each gift is sincerely appreciated and certainly needed. Thank you to all who gave.

I would like to mention the gifts from Donald and Pamela Phillips. When I was elected your editor in 1978 Bro. Vernon Phillips was serving on the Publications Trustee Board. Donald is the son of Vernon and Lela Phillips. Pamela's parents are Milford and Elsie Majors. Both of these couples faithfully ministered in churches of the BMA of Mississippi. Their gifts were in memory of Vernon and Lela Phillips and in honor of Milford and Elsie Majors. What a blessing to remember and honor their parents through the support of this ministry.

Church

	Total
Antioch Baptist Church, Taylorsville	\$300.00
Bethel Baptist Church, Wiggins	\$200.00
Bethel Baptist Church, Louise	\$500.00
Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso	\$350.00
Big Creek District WMA	\$50.00
Calvary Baptist Church, Taylorsville	\$200.00
Cypress Creek Baptist Church, Brookland	\$500.00
Day Star Baptist Church, Sumrall	\$300.00
Donald & Pamela Phillips, Rolling Fork	\$4,000.00
First Baptist Church, Bay Springs	\$100.00
First Baptist Church Of Calhoun, Laurel	\$500.00
First Baptist Church Of Shady Grove, Laurel	\$250.00
Forked Oak Baptist Church, Booneville	\$500.00
Frank Panzrino, Tupelo	\$100.00
Linda Collins, Carthage	\$50.00
Little Creek Baptist Church, Perkinston	\$161.00
New Bethany Baptist Church, Seminary	\$120.00
Palestine Baptist Church, Bay Springs	\$50.00
Rock Creek Baptist Church, Union	\$200.00
Scotland Baptist Church, Madison	\$250.00
Shiloh Baptist Church, Mt. Olive	\$500.00
Temple Baptist Church, Biloxi	\$100.00
Union Baptist Church, Bay Springs	\$27.33
Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Fulton	\$50.00
Washington Baptist Church, Neely	\$95.60
Wilderness Baptist Church, Vicksburg	\$300.00
Total.....	\$9,753.93

New Featured Column

We recently introduced a column directed toward our ladies by Carolyn Hagler. In this issue you will find the first in a series of helpful notes directed toward teachers in the church. I reached out to our BMA Theological Seminary and shared with them an idea to present short, helpful suggestions for our classroom Sunday School teachers and Bible teachers. The faculty and staff agreed to begin helping in this effort. I am greatly appreciative for their willingness to take on this project.

The first of this series is found on this page and is by Dr. Philip Attebery, the Academic Dean at BMATS. I hope our teachers will find this helpful as they stand before those students put in their care. Many of our church's classroom teachers are not 'professional teachers' but they feel a calling to serve. Our Prayer is that these regular tidbits of wisdom will help and encourage them to be able to reach their students and to be more effective in sharing God's Word.

Assistant Editor "Back in the Saddle"

Our Assistant Editor and member of our Board of Trustees Bro. Corbey Jones was recently released from the hospital after a 75 day ordeal dealing with the Covid Virus. God blessed Bro. Jones and he is a "survivor" of this horrible pandemic that has taken the lives of so many.

Bro. Jones returned to his pulpit at Good Hope Baptist Church, Stringer, Mississippi on February 28. My wife and I were blessed to be in this service along with his family and other friends. His text was from Psalm 30 and centered on God's victory over defeat, His healing, and His wonderful salvation.

Bro. Jones still has a long road to full recovery. Pray for the Jones family, Bro. Corbey, and Good Hope Church.

Website Update Coming Soon

We are in the process of updating our website to make it more user friendly and with some new features. Our site name will remain the same - msbaptist.org. We are testing and making updates on the new site. You may review it at a temporary web address - newmsbaptist.org.

We encourage you to visit the site and make any suggestions and comments that will be helpful.

Our efforts on every level - articles, new columns, updates, etc., are for the purpose of better serving the churches and people of the BMA of Mississippi.

Survey or Comments

We like to hear from our readers concerning content preferences. If you have comments on items that you would like to see in the paper or on current content we would like to hear from you.

We would be interested in your reading habits of our current content. We are interested in readers' thoughts on length of articles and reports as well as content. From previous conversations I have had individuals

HELP FOR THE CHURCH'S CLASSROOM

THE TEACHER'S CORNER

Say it Again

by Dr. Philip Attebery

Several years ago, while studying the first chapter of 2 Peter, I discovered a teaching idea. Peter promoted the need for spiritual growth by adding to a believer's saving faith. Such additions keep us from being useless and unfruitful in our knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

So, what is the teaching idea? Repeat your message, or say it again.

Most of us know what we need for spiritual growth and have strong beliefs. Peter recognized those facts but felt it "meet" or right to do all he could to "stir up" his readers by way of reminder. The word "meet" refers to something right in God's eyes. In 2 Peter 1:12-15, he mentioned "remembrance" three times. Knowing his death was near, Peter stressed his diligence to do all he could to help his readers remember these truths after his death. He did so by saying things again.

Since noticing Peter's emphasis, that reminding others of what they already know and heartily believe is right in God's eyes, I have attempted to "preview" and "review" sermons or lessons. Be encouraged to ask students what they learned about the previous lesson (i.e., say it again). Or, go ahead and give them a preview of what is to come then when you teach, say it again. Most educators agree that it takes hearing something multiple times before it "clicks" or becomes permanent.

Follow Peter's example and repeat points and highlights of your messages. Let me encourage you to, "Say it again!"

Dr. Philip Attebery has served as Academic Dean at BMA Theological Seminary, Jacksonville, Texas since 2000. He also teaches church ministry courses. He may be contacted at philip.attebery@bmats.edu.



Philip Attebery

admit that they read certain articles and reports and usually skip others. Sometimes they were candid as to their reasons and sometimes not.

Do you read reports only that you are interested in or do you make sure you read each to keep up with their ongoing ministries? (Each report is presented to keep you informed about the

progress and needs of our overall work and contain vital information)

We are constantly seeking articles and writers that will minister to the interests and needs of our churches and readers. If you have suggestions please share them with us.

You can email us at editor@msbaptist.org.

Submission Policies

Article submissions should be sent by email to editor@msbaptist.org or in typed format by mail to P.O. Box 8181, Laurel, MS 39441.

Photos should be emailed in jpg format. Photos should be well lighted, clear and sharp. Photos should contain people if at all possible. There is no guarantee that all articles and/or photos will be published. Unsolicited items will be given consideration, but publication is not guaranteed. Date sensitive articles will take priority.

We publish on the 1st and 15th of each month with the exception of December. Articles announcing events should be in the issue that is published at least 2 weeks prior.



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"And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace. And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward."
Exodus 14:13-15

Israel was backed up to the Red Sea with Pharaoh's army pressing down upon them and they murmured to Moses saying, "Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians?" With regret and anxiety, they became discouraged and defeated and began to take their frustration out on the man of God. Moses gave to them what appears to be good counsel saying, "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace." He tells them to "stand still" and "hold your peace" but when God speaks to Moses in verse 15 He says, "Wherefore criest thou

unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward." It is clear that God's counsel and Moses' counsel were not the same. Moses instructed them to be still, but God told them to move.

When faced with trials, like those that we have experienced over the past year, it seems the human thing to do is to just hunker down and try to wait until the threat passes. I remember my combat training concerning ambushes. We were told the only response to an ambush was to go on the offensive. Never hunker down. That seems to be good counsel for today, as well. Our churches and our people need to go forward. We need to move out sharply toward the goal that God has given us to carry the gospel to the world. As Ecclesiastes will teach us, there is a time for everything under the sun and this is one of those times that we need to get up and move. Sometimes even prayer can be an excuse. Notice what God said to Moses, "Wherefore criest thou unto me?" God had already told Moses what to do and more prayer, when you already know God's will, can be an excuse to stand still and not move forward. We are clearly under attack; it even feels like an ambush, so let's get up and get going. Are we

going to have casualties? Yes! But we must move or die!

I believe our missionaries understand this principle and they are on the move. They are working, growing, and reaching people, despite the pandemic. I am confident that their reports will bless your heart. I have been privileged to be out there with a number of them this past month and can tell you how excited I am for the progress that is being made.

I want to introduce you to the newest of our Missions Committee members. We are grateful for the long-time service of the faithful men they are replacing, Bro. Dennis Knight and Bro. Billy Ferrell.

Bro. Justin Rhodes is the Pastor of Big Creek Baptist Church in Soso, Mississippi. He has an Associated of Arts Degree from Southeastern Baptist College and a Master of Arts in Pastoral Theology from the Baptist Missionary Association Theological



Justin Rhodes

Seminary. He currently serves as the BMA of Mississippi Clerk and Chairman of the Nominating Committee and as Vice President of the BMA of America. He also serves on the National Coordinating Counsel and is the Chairman of the Board for the Baptist Publishing House. We are grateful for his willingness to serve.

Bro. John Michael Poulin serves as a lay pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Horn Lake, Mississippi. He is a former foreign missionary to Peru and has more than a decade of foreign missions church planting experience with the Baptist Missionary Association of America (BMAA).



John Michael & Angela Poulin
Coordinator. John Michael is a graduate of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary (ADiv). We are grateful that he has joined our committee.

Refuge Baptist Mission – Kiln, Mississippi

Greetings to the BMA churches and associations of Mississippi. It is with great joy and hope that I can write this update. We have truly experienced great blessings so far this year. We continue to meet new people, have new visitors, and see incredible numbers each week. Our prayer is that these numbers will soon represent new souls saved, converts baptized, members joined, and serving disciples. We have recently finished our first discipleship course. It was a 5-week course held in two different host homes. We averaged around 30 people between the two groups. Each group is studying the same material. We will begin the second course in a couple of weeks. The idea has been to have a discipleship course that we can do at intervals of a few weeks at a time with a break of

a couple of weeks in between each course book. The entire course is 6 books and we will finish by the end of the year. This has brought great growth among the people already. We see relationships continue to grow and gel together.

We are also planning to begin children and teen ministry on March 7th and continue Sunday evenings at 6pm in the Kiln Shelter. We had a trial run of this ministry back in the Fall and found it to be successful and needful. Pray that parents will bring their children or teens to this.

As many of you know from our last update that we now have 6 acres of property in Kiln. We plan to have a couple of workdays in March to clean up some of the property. It will not be too much of a workload since the land has been cleared for a few years now and maintained. Our plan is to have an outdoor service on Easter Sunday morning with some tents being borrowed from Divine Grace in Long Beach. Join us in praying for that service and that the weather will cooperate well.

Another blessing is that we have more families desiring to join and go through the new members classes soon. So, hopefully, we can see a few more additions to the ministry by summertime.

As always, we appreciate each of you for the support, prayers, and love. May we continue to all work together as associated churches, missions, and ministries for the furtherance of the gospel and the love of Jesus! Decreasing for HIS Increase, Bro.



Refuge Baptist Mission continues to grow while meeting in a storm shelter in Kiln, MS

Josh Daniels, Missionary Pastor

Redemption Baptist Mission – Diamond Head, Mississippi

Daniel Allen, Associate Missionary – "Greetings from Redemption Mission, we are excited to see what God has in store for us in 2021. We have been striving to get to this point where we can organize as a New Testament Church. We should be finishing our Constitution and By-Laws including our Statement of Faith, very soon. I have had the privilege to work with Brother Wesley during this process. I have also been meeting with Brother Sidney Farmer over several months for discipleship training. We are getting close to the end of this, as well. I am looking forward to my next phase of training. I have also been going and preaching at different churches when given the opportunity. Thanks for your continued support and prayers."

Wesley Martin, Missionary Pastor – "Greetings from Diamond Head! I hope that this report finds you doing well. We continue to be blessed by the Lord far above what we deserve. We have settled back into regular meetings on Sunday morning and Wednesday night. We are using Sunday night for youth classes and outreach. We have continued to see great attendance throughout these troubled times. We have even been able to meet some new families, recently. God has blessed us with growth in numbers in various ways. Over the past few months, we have had 5 newborns. I am thankful for these

young families and all the children around our church. It is a joy to see families being raised in the church and taught the scriptures from a young age.

With all our growing families, we have realized a need for building expansion. It has been a year since we started meeting in our new building and even now, we are beginning to fill it up. We have started working to get expansion plans drawn up. Just this week we had a productive meeting with our men and Bro. John Prickett to discuss the lay out. Our people are excited about the church growing and look forward to expanding so we can continue to grow in ministry. This expansion will first give us more sanctuary space. It will also allow us to use our current sanctuary for expanded youth and activity space.

As we plan to expand the building and see the church grow, we feel it is a good time for us to organize. We are finishing up some of the last things we need to organize. We plan to set a date for organization soon. I continue to work with missionaries across the state in my Missionary Coach role. It has been a joy to work with these men and help them through the process. I thank you for your continued support and prayers. May God continue to bless you richly."

**Missions Report
continued on page 6**

Southeastern Baptist College

4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440, (601) 426-6346

Serving Christ With A Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

President's Perspective

Do you like rollercoasters? For as long as I can remember, I avoided them at all cost. Everyone screaming their lungs out was pretty much a turn off for me. I remember wondering why anyone would want to terrorize themselves like that! However, after having children and listening to their pleas for me to accompany them on coasters, I have discovered some are fun, but others are, well, terrifying! I learned I could handle some short drops and tight turns like on the Runaway Railroad at Disney. I can also do twists and loops with much joy. But the big drops? NO! If I see a roller coaster that has steep and sus-

tained drops, I will not get on it.

You may be asking, "But were you not an airborne paratrooper?" Yes, I was. I have 78 jumps from various aircraft, but it's actually a very different experience from that of a roller coaster. Except for one jump, I never experienced a falling sensation parachuting. It was more like stepping into a fast running river that knocked me off my feet. Only once, off the tail of a CH-47 Chinook Helicopter, did I get that gut wrench-



Dr. Scott Carson
President

ing feeling of falling. So, for me, jumping from an aircraft became rather fun and I had to remind myself each time that what I was about to do was extremely dangerous and could kill me if I wasn't careful.

I sometimes feel like I'm on a roller coaster ride here at SBC. We have so many blessings each week, only to be followed by a sudden drop in our joy as a new significant problem arises. This past week select members of the staff and myself attended the Annual Accreditation Conference in Orlando. This has been the first time since I've been at SBC, that more than two staff members were able to attend. The conference and the break-

out sessions were extremely informative, motivating, and even transformative! Our staff is very excited to apply what they learned, toward the future of SBC.

As we were in a taxi going to the airport for our return journey, we watched the final moments of the men's Chargers Basketball Team win the Bible College National Invitational Tournament! We were overjoyed for the team and for SBC! As we continued our celebration at the terminal, sending congratulations to the team and coaches, I received a text message informing me that our handyman had resigned. Oh, what a "drop" in our emotions as we sought to understand the challenge that this new situation had just created. We absolutely need a proactive maintenance person! There is an endless list of things that need attention on campus, another list of things that must be maintained, and another long

list of things to improve.

These ups and downs are now so common we can almost predict them. For every three ups, there is one down, but praise the Lord it isn't the other way around! We are excited to see God's hand advance the school in miraculous ways, yet out of nowhere, we know another significant challenge will arise and must be faced and overcome.

Pray that the Lord will soon send us a part-time handyman! I and the staff can only spare so much time towards the maintenance of the campus. We need to quickly find someone who possesses the experience, knowledge, skills, and energy necessary for day to day operations and the continued improvement of our infrastructure.

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair," 2 Corinthians 4:8
Equipping the Saints!

Dr. Carson

Golf Cart Needed

Campus security volunteers need convenient transportation for making rounds about campus, especially at night. A golf cart would be ideal. If you, or a group, would like to donate a golf cart, or similar transportation to the college, give us a call at 601-426-6346.

In Memoriam

Jim Ellzey family, Eddie Walker family, and the Brenda Smith family recently provided a monetary gift to SBC in memory of Mrs. Sally Ruth Ellzey. Thank you for honoring Sally Ruth with your gift to Southeastern. God bless you!

Thinking of Attending Another School? Think Again!

Southeastern Baptist College is designated by Intelligent.com as the "Best Two Year University" for Online Bible Colleges out of 201 institutions across the U.S. In the last 4 years we have been ranked number one out of hundreds of colleges and universities two times! And we have consistently been in the top 25. SBC is also one of the top 10 least expensive schools among thousands of colleges in the country. Contact the SBC Admissions Officer today! What on earth are you waiting for? 601-426-6346.

Veterans Benefits

SBC possesses the Gold Award level as a military friendly college! Have you served in America's armed forces? Then you probably have Veterans Administration tuition benefits that you can use toward a free education right here at SBC. I urge you to contact your local VA representative for an evaluation of your benefits. You earned them! SBC has numerous students receiving VA assistance for both online and in-classroom tuition.

Amazon Smile

Anyone shopping on Amazon can select Southeastern Baptist College as your charity. When you do this, a portion of your purchase price will go directly to SBC as a donation from Amazon Smile! Thank you for those who are already using this unique method to benefit SBC. Be sure to choose Southeastern Baptist College and NOT the Southeastern Baptist College Foundation. Also, be careful which you choose because numerous organizations have "Southeastern" in their name.

Need A Pulpit Filled?

"Preach the word..." 2 Timothy 4:2. I am ready to fill your pulpit! If you are in need of a guest preacher or request a personal report on the college, contact me, Dr. Carson at 601-433-4736 or at scarson@southeasternbaptist.edu

National Champions!

The SBC men's basketball team recently won the Bible College National Invitational Tournament in Jacksonville, Florida! The Lady Chargers came in second in the same tournament! We are proud of our players and coaches for their exemplary representation of SBC! Go Chargers!

Chargers Baseball

Chargers baseball has begun! Come out and support the first year of Chargers baseball. They are playing on Wooten-Legion Field, 1215 West Drive, Laurel, Mississippi. The season schedule is located near this announcement.

Around the SBC Campus



Chargers Basketball Team wins the 2021 Bible College National Invitational Tournament



Champion Team Coaches Hall and Gibson



English class enjoys a day at the Lauren Rogers Museum in Laurel



Volunteers answer the emergency call to fix a leaking frozen water line



Kassidy Ulmer commits to joining next year's SBC softball team

In His Grip

by Carolyn Hagler



Carolyn Hagler

Old Friends on Life's Road

A desire of mine and my sister was to go on a cruise. I should have known when I told her that I would go only if she found one with a preacher I admired, gospel singers I enjoyed, and a place I wanted to see, that it was a matter of time. It seemed that she called immediately. "Charles Stanley, Greater Vision, Legacy 5, and Alaska." I was hooked!

That cruise was about 20 years ago, but I still remember the beauty of the sights I had never seen, music that lifted my spirits, good friends that we spent time with, and sound biblical preaching.

One quote of Dr. Charles Stanley has stayed with me all these years, "A godly friend is one of the greatest assets you have." Dr. Stanley mentioned that we are fortunate to have two or three real friends--you know the kind who stand with you no matter what. They love us, understand us, forgive us, and encourage us. True friends aren't perfect, but they bring you closer to God.

One of those true friends shared a lot with me: a love for the Lord, southern gospel music, plants, dogs, birds, travel,

etc. I learned many things from her:

Health. Though she was a health nut, we enjoyed Krispy Kreme doughnuts and Apple Barn Sparkling Cider every night after Praise Fest in Pigeon Forge. Krispy Kreme has never tasted as good again.

Humor. Her good sense of humor ran out when I locked her in the car after a concert. In my defense, it took her forever to gather her things and get out of the car. I just thought she was being unusually slow. When my sister and I were halfway to the motel room, I looked back. Do you remember Wile E. Coyote's face as he realized he had run off the cliff? Never dawned on me she couldn't unlock the door. I never heard the end of that story.

Sensitivity. I was in Houston, Texas, for Hurricane Katrina. My brother-in-law was battling cancer at M. D. Anderson, and I went to be with my family. With two trees down, my roof and fence damaged, my yard a mess, and no electricity, I dreaded coming home. When I arrived home about a week later, late in the day, she was waiting so that I wouldn't be alone as I saw the damage. She even took me out to eat at one of the few restaurants open. She was also the one who had the sensitive spirit for hurting people. If a friend or someone we were witnessing to was hurting, she always listened and found the words of comfort needed.

Long-Term Memory. She had the memory of an elephant. Remember her

sensitivity during Katrina. Well, she was one of the friends who cleaned out my refrigerator and freezer before I came home. I heard on a regular basis about the shrimp I left in my freezer. I promise I would have eaten them before I left home if I had known how long I would hear about them.

Animals. She loved dogs and always had one. My Koda did not like her. How many times would she ask, "Why doesn't Koda like me?" You can't make a dog like anyone--until that dog wants to punish another friend she loved. Koda finally liked her.

Lost Opportunities. One desire of her heart was to go on the Alaskan Cruise with Dr. Stanley. Five of us made plans in 2014 for the trip. I'll always remember the day she came over and told me her plans to cancel her reservation. She was afraid a roommate wouldn't be found and she would have to pay the entire cost of the trip. Fear kept her from one of the desires of her heart only to die a few months later from injuries in a wreck.

Singing Even When It Hurts. She always had the sweetest expression as she sang. But I remember crying with

her at Greater Vision concerts as they sang, "God wants to hear you sing." And she did sing during the happy times as well as the hard times of her life. I still think of her when I hear that beautiful song.

I haven't mentioned her name because I want you to think of your dear friends who hold that special place in your heart. Do you need to reach out in love, write that letter you've never written, place that phone call? Now is the time.

I can smile with thoughts of Sharon Lucy today because of precious memories that I hold dear, just as many of you who knew her. In fact, I've borrowed my theme from Sharon's kitchen plaque: "In His Grasp, By His Grace, For His Glory." I changed it to also honor my favorite southern gospel pianist, Roger Bennett.

As J. Vernon McGee said, "Friendship and fellowship are the legal tender among believers." As believers we are millionaires in old friends.

Until next time, I remain in His Grip. Carolyn Hagler is a retired educator and a member of Westover Baptist Church in Hattiesburg. You may contact her via email at cmhagler@bellsouth.net

Jacksonville College Seeking President

Jacksonville College, a vibrant, faith-based, liberal arts institution, is accepting applications for the office of President. Applicants must have an earned Doctorate degree, with Education or related disciplines preferred. This confident, well-spoken leader must be a conservative, growing Christian with deep experience in institutional development, fund-raising, and administration. Pastoral ministry-related experience is a plus.

For consideration, please send: A cover letter; A personal resume which includes family information, your history of work experience, your personal testimony of faith; contact information for three references.

Please email your application to: dpage@hillcrestbc.com Apply by April 10, 2021 for full consideration.

Jacksonville College was founded in 1899, and is affiliated with the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas and the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention.



Southeastern Baptist College



Dr. Carson accepts an award on behalf of the SBC Board of Trustees for their successful completion of their Board Governance Training with our accrediting agency



SBC Staff recently attended the Association for Biblical Higher Education annual conference



Professor Matt Olson, Pastor of First Baptist Church of Sharon, speaking in chapel

Just The Crumbs Update - 2021

Lavon Haden, president

Just the Crumbs personally responded to seven disasters during 2020 and supplied funds to Belle Fontaine Baptist Church on Dauphin Island Parkway in Alabama after Hurricane Sally damaged the roofs on the church building, education building, and the parsonage.

During this winter we have carried boxes of food supplies to those in our areas who can use a helping hand as well as doing necessary equipment upkeep. A tornado tore through Fultondale, Alabama on January 25, 2021; Just the Crumbs set up in an old Shoney's building and began feeding volunteers and families in a trailer park on February 6. The volunteers returned to their regular schedules and a church took up the feeding in the trailer park, so we were free to carry our whole team to Foley, Alabama on Thursday, February 18 to fulfil a scheduled week of feeding Team Acts 20:35, who will be making house repairs that are needed due to Hurricane Sally.

We are aware of needs caused by the ice storms across Texas and will be checking to see if our assistance could be helpful in some area. Please pray for our efforts.

Every gesture of goodwill in the form of words, prayers, hands-on help, or financial help is noted and we thank God for it. Please continue praying for God to greatly use this ministry.

To get questions answered you may call Beth Burkes at 662-582-6667, Lavon Haden at 601-522-6055, or Mike Angus at 228-669-1108.

We always welcome and need your donations. These may be made by PayPal to justthecrumbs21@gmail.com; mailed to Just the Crumbs, 10 Wagon Trail, Sumrall, MS 39482; or mailed to BMAA Missions, P.O. Box 878, Conway, AR 72033 and designated to Just the Crumbs.



MORAL ACTION

Baptist Missionary Association of America

Dr. John M. Adams, Director
 P.O. Box 305, Mantachie, MS 38855 - 662-231-3863
On The Web at www.macbma.net/
 Email - fbcnjmaj@yahoo.com

"Should We Still Pray For Our Political Leaders?"

Our Heavenly Father hasn't promised that every political leader will become pure and righteous if we pray, but He still commands us to pray for our leaders and those of other nations as well. The Bible says, "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men. For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." (I Timothy 2:1-2).

You might say the world is still rocked by conflicts and corruption and lawlessness but let me ask you a question. How much worse would the world be if God's people didn't pray? What

if we simply gave up and allowed the devil to carry on his schemes without interference? We may never know what impact our prayers are having – but God is still at work in response to the prayers of Christians. I've never witnessed such intense hatred and vitriol in Washington D.C. The disdain between the Democratic and Republican parties has plunged to new depths. The drive to rule is tearing our country apart.

Lloyd Ogilvie

I. "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints." (Ephesians 6:18)

Pray for our leaders, for wisdom and guidance in the days to come. Pray for both parties, that they will put aside their animosity and partisan politics for the sake of the unity of our great nation. Pray that the hostility will cease, and that peacemakers from both sides of the aisle will provide the courageous leadership so desperately needed.

When Benjamin Franklin emerged from the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia after helping forge the U.S. Constitution, he was asked what sort of government the delegates had created. His reply was, "A republic, if you can keep it." Billy Graham

Our nation was born in a quest for religious liberty and founded on Christian moral and spiritual principles. John Adams, an original signer of the Declaration of Independence and our second president, wrote a profound letter to the Massachusetts Militia in the fall of



Dr. Adams

1798, saying: "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

II. James 5:16 – "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

I Timothy 2:1-2 – "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men. For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."

What a difficult and different approach to governmental authority. Even if we disagree, we are to pray for those who rule the daily affairs of our lives.

The early church had been accused of action against the decrees of Caesar and having another king, Jesus Himself (Acts 17:7). Their enemies effectively accused them of dissatisfaction with the ruling parties. Paul encouraged these

early believers to look to God as the One who had placed these men in authority.

Pray that they would have wisdom. This was Solomon's prayer as he ruled the nation of Israel - that he would have "an understanding mind to govern the people" (1 Kings 3:9). Pray that our leaders would have wisdom to know right and the strength to do it.

Pray that they would have discernment. This is the ability to know right from wrong; to know God's leading as opposed to the leading of the enemy (I Kings 3:9). Pray that God would protect them from lies and deception.

Pray that they would be instruments of God. This was Paul's instruction in Romans 13:4; that rulers, authorities, and governing bodies were actually "servants of God". Pray that our leaders would lead a society marked by tranquility, godliness, and dignity.

Oh, how we need all of Christian folk to rise up in prayer. God can and will hear us as we pray!

Missions Report

from page 3

Living Hope Baptist Mission – Meridian, Mississippi

Growth is exciting and contagious. As church planters, our daily prayer is to see the church experience growth. But all too often, we have pigeonholed our excitement and prayers for growth in the realm of numbers. If we are growing numerically, we determine that church growth is taking place. But these past two months have reminded me that growth is more than numbers. Late December, January and early February were filled with trials and difficulties for our new, baby church. Between long quarantines, unscheduled surgeries, family death, health problems, and job difficulties, every family in our church experienced one or more of life trials like these. These trials tested our numbers, but it grew and strengthened our church. The past 6 weeks have seen some of our lowest attended services, but produced some of our greatest weeks of growth in love,

grace, and care for one another. It has thrilled my heart to hear of families contacting, praying for, encouraging, and going out of their way for one another. We have seen this new church act in maturity through these difficult weeks.

Coming out of a season of testing is exciting, as well! This past Sunday, February 21st, we were able to have the majority of our group back together, and the Lord blessed with 4 visitors. As it was great to be back to normal numbers, it was even better to see the bond that was built over the past few months. It was a sweet Sunday of worship in Spirit and fellowship. Keep praying for us! Pray that the Lord will continue to knit our hearts together. Pray for souls to be saved. Over 1200 invitations with gospel presentations have gone out this past month and half with many personal connections. Please pray that these will produce fruit. Pray for wisdom as we strive to minister to all that God has given us. Brethren pray for us!

We have some exciting few months planned ahead with starting new Bible studies, camps, and new outreaches. We look forward

to sharing with you all that the Lord will accomplish in the next few months! May the Lord bless you as strive to serve Him! – Chris Yager, Missionary Pastor

Canaan Land Baptist Mission – Buckatunna, Mississippi

It is our prayer that this report finds you well. Things have been moving along well at the mission work here in Buckatunna. We started our mid-week services at the beginning of February and our



Missions Director Larry Geraldson preaching at Canaan Land Baptist Mission in Buckatunna, MS

helps keep their attention through the lesson. They are never too young to learn what we believe and why we believe it. As the word of God states in Proverbs 22 "train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Brother Geraldson and his wife Mrs. Cherita had the opportunity to come and be with us on Wednesday night February 10th, and they were a blessing to us.

We have had a chance to visit some new people and are making new contacts. Please help us pray they will accept the invitation to come and worship with us. Our prayer is that the Lord will give the increase according to his will.

Saturday, February 27th we will be doing a community outreach and giving away Chick-Fil-A sandwich bags and gospel tracts. Our prayer is to let the people within our community know that we love them and hope the gospel of Christ can find its way into the hands of people in need. Please pray for these efforts. We will also be having a gospel sing on Saturday, March 6th starting at 6pm. Big Blessing will be with us. If you can make it, we



Canaan Land Baptist Mission now meeting in their newly renovated sanctuary

members are enjoying this. The Lord laid it upon our hearts to utilize this meeting time to really go over and teach some basic Bible Baptist doctrine. Our people seem to be enjoying this and learning quite a bit. We have also been starting and ending these services with some Bible drills and trivia questions based on these lessons, and our young people enjoy this. It

Living Hope
 Baptist Mission
 Meeting at the
 Riley Center in
 Meridian, MS



Midway Baptist Mission, Batesville, Mississippi

Greetings from your mission in the Batesville/Oxford area. Thank you all for your interest, prayers, and financial support. We are continuing to reach out to the local communities in search of those who do not know the Lord as Savior, and of those who are backslidden and no longer attending any of the several churches nearby. Visitation

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Missions Report

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is still limited because of the ongoing pandemic and lately the weather, but all the members are talking to close neighbors, friends, and family members. We believe that the Lord is working in the hearts of the people and soon we will recover our losses and gain in our worship attendance.

We continue to have good services and the people are learning how to operate as a New Testament Church. The doctrinal statements of the BMA of Mississippi are being taught, along with discipleship and church polity. Work has begun on several documents that will be necessary to have in place when Midway organizes into an autonomous body. A draft of the Constitution and By-Laws is ready to be presented to the members and a Church Policy Manual is almost ready.

Much teaching, discussion, writing, and prayer will be required over the next several months, but we believe that we will be able to organize in the Fall of 2021. Keep us in your prayers as we seek to do the Lord's work and establish a doctrinally sound BMA church in the Batesville area. May God bless you in your Christian service, and may God be glorified through your labors. Dr. Kenneth Pollock, Missionary Pastor.

Salt Light Baptist Mission – Waveland, Mississippi

Salt Light Baptist Mission made the decision to meet each week regardless of the COVID-19 situation. We are letting people know if they feel sick or have any of the symptoms, they should take precautions. Also, if they want to wear a mask it is perfectly fine. We provide hand sanitizer and spray with Lysol before service. Our attendance has been about the same so far this year with about 17-20 and we have been having first time visitors and repeat visitors. We recently had two additions to the Mission; one on statement and one on profession of faith and as a candidate for baptism. We



www.saltlightwaveland.com

are really excited about starting back up on Wednesday nights for Bible study and fellowship supper. The attendance and response from our people are very encouraging and truly uplifting to my soul! We still have a few work projects to complete in both our buildings and I recently met with our mother church and made plans with them to start working on some in the next few weeks. We recently launched our new website at www.saltlightwaveland.com. As always, I want to thank you all for your prayers and support, they really mean so much to us at Salt Light Baptist Mission. We love you all.

Missionary Pastor Johnny Williams

Hispanic Missions Report – Bro. Estuardo Marroquin HATTIESBURG MISSION

We thank God for the Hispanic mission in Hattiesburg. The congregation continues to take firm steps in our Lord's way. Leo Adan reports good news of the Hispanic mission. Over the past few weeks, they have continued worship services, small group meetings, and prayer meeting. Friday nights, Bro. Leo



Bro. Estuardo Marroquin meeting with HispanicMissionaries

spends time training several men who oversee the small groups in the mission. Attendance at worship services has averaged 35 people. Since the beginning of the year, they have implemented their work plan and are beginning to see fruits of their work. They

Bro. Lucas Gomez sharing the gospel in Canton



have contacted new people and started attending worship services. They have shared the gospel to several people and as a result have had professions of faith and already have some brethren to be baptized. We thank God for the life of Brother Leo Adan and the great work he is doing in the Hispanic mission of Hattiesburg.

CANTON MISSION

Bro. Lucas Gómez reports from the city of Canton some advances in the Hispanic mission. In recent weeks, they have undergone some changes because some people in the Hispanic community have moved to other cities and states. This has been the result of the closure of a chicken processing plant in which many Hispanic people work. However, Brother Lucas has stood firm in his work plan. In the last few weeks, he has contacted some new people in the area and shared the gospel of salvation for them. Thank God two people have accepted Christ as Savior. Bro. Lucas reports that he has had some new contacts from people living in the Clinton, Mississippi area. This has encouraged him and he is preparing to visit these people in this area. We thank you for your prayers and help for this Hispanic work.

EL CAMINO CHURCH, LAUREL

El Camino church reports good news over the past few weeks. On February 14th they

Keith Gordon Passes Away

Bro. Gerald Keith Gordon, 74, passed away on February 18, 2021, at his home.

Keith was born on October 5, 1946, in Picayune, Mississippi, to Reverend G.H. and Miriam Gordon. As a young man, he felt the call to the ministry. He was ordained by Creston Hills Baptist Church in Jackson. After graduating from Provine High School in 1965, he moved to Laurel, to attend Southeastern Baptist College (1965-1970). He later earned his B.S. from William Carey University (1978), M. Div. from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (1981), and D. Min. also from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (1986).



Keith Gordon

He had been in the ministry for 56 years. He was preceded in death by his parents, and his eldest sister, Tessa Gordon Darst. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Judy Holifield Gordon; daughter, Dr. Jessica E. Gordon; son, Gerald K. Gordon, II (Lauren); grandson, Nicholas Gordon; sisters, Cathy Johnson (Jay), Asheville, NC, Donna Strickland (Nick), Gulfport, MS, Connie Lowe, Laurel, MS, and a number of nieces and nephews.

Services were held February 26, at First Baptist Church Shady Grove, Laurel, MS.

had an incredibly special worship service thanking God for 19 years of serving Him as a church. They had a special time to share God's blessings. Brother JohnMichael Poulin was the guest speaker, who gave a great message of God's Word by encouraging all brethren to continue serving and dedicating their lives to God. At the end of the meeting, they had a great lunch with traditional food from Mexico and Central America: Tamales!. In the coming weeks, the evangelism team prepares with training to testify and is starting work on their plan. They have set some evangelism goals for this year and one of them is to be able to share the gospel of salvation to more than 100 people in Jones County in the Hispanic community. We thank God for the El Camino Baptist Church and all her efforts to move forward in missionary work.

NUEVA ESPERANZA (NEW HOPE HISPANIC ASSOCIATION)

The New Hope Hispanic Association will hold its meeting on March 6. They will meet at Lone Oak Baptist Church in the city of West Point. We thank Pastor John Parker and the congregation for giving us the privilege of using their church facilities and conducting the association meeting. The Hispanic association continues to encourage each Church and Hispanic mission to participate in missionary support. Thank God they are supporting with offerings to two workers: Bro. Lucas Gómez (Canton) and Bro. Humberto Regalado (Tupelo).

The first week of January, I had the opportunity to meet with missionaries Leo Adan and Lucas Gómez. Pastor Marciano Montalvo was also present and we talked about the progress of the missions. I had the opportunity to listen to their concerns and needs. We also talked about joining efforts to expand missionary fields. As a result of this meeting, we agreed to start visiting with Bro. Lucas, the cities of Isola and Clinton. Brother Leo expressed a desire to help the Hispanic Mission in Biloxi and from March they will start to help in this area, having the support of some brothers from Hattiesburg Hispanic Mission. We also put in calendar dates to perform training called "Multiplication". On March 20th we will hold the first Hispanic missionary conference for this year. This conference will take place in the city of Hattiesburg on the premises of Westover Baptist Church. We thank Pastor Sam Oglesby and the congregation for allowing us to use their church facilities.

I thank our Lord for the opportunity He gives me to serve alongside all these men of God who have dedicated their lives to magnifying the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. We ask for your prayers for them and my family. In Christ, Estuardo Marroquin, Hispanic Missions Manager



Tony Cleaver

Restoration Ministries – Dr. Paul Spurlin

Restoration continues to work with juvenile detainees and adult prisoners in the Jones County juvenile and adult detention centers. Since our last update in this paper, we have visited the juvenile center on February 5 and February 19 and have visited the adult center on January 29 and February 19.

In our February 5 meeting, Bro. Brody McCool, youth pastor at First, Bay Springs, helped minister to four residents in juvenile detention. Two were aged 14 and two were aged 16. On February 19, I met with juvenile detainees. Two of these young people, ages 14 and 16, were in our meeting on Febru-

Scripture Thoughts by Cleaver

Philemon 7 “For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother.”

Philemon was an encourager. He was the kind of Christian other disciples wanted to be around. He was busy with others, not himself. He was focused on others, not himself. Oh how we need more like him in our churches today! The New Testament is replete with what we would call “men of encouragement.” Luke referenced Barnabas as “Son of Encouragement” in Acts 4:36. Luke also speaks of Barnabas encouraging the young church in Antioch (Acts 11:23). Paul commented how Stephanus, Fortunatus, and Achaicus refreshed his spirit (1 Corinthians 16:17-18). They too were encouragers to the saints.

Dear Reader, as your fellow believers work with you, where do you think they would place you on an “encourager scale” of 1 to 10? A 10 would place you right up there with Philemon and those like him mentioned in the New Testament. You do not want to be placed down the scale toward the area of 1, or 2, or 3. At this point on the scale, let’s just say you are not seen by others as an encourager. You do not refresh the hearts of your fellow saints. You have no love that brings joy and encouragement to others. Review the conclusion of this letter (verse 25): “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.” Let that be your resource for encouraging behavior.

Dr. Tony Cleaver is a retired U.S. Army Chaplain and Director of Distance Learning for BMA Seminary.

You may contact him at jstmcleaver@embarqmail.com

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Missions Report

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ary 5, and the other two were both 15 years old. A new shipment of Bibles had arrived for our ministry for the February 19 meeting, so we gave a Bible to all four residents. Our study that night came from Ephesians 4:17-32. As we spoke about avoiding sinful anger, two of the residents admitted that they have a problem with anger. Both of them were part of our two meetings in February and both are in detention for violations related to fighting. As you pray for our ministry with all of these young men, please pray specifically for these two who admit to having a problem with anger.

As Bro. Gil Odom and I ministered to eleven adult prisoners on January 29, it was an unusually tense time in the jail. The men told us that there had been a disagreement in the jail that day, apparently among prisoners. The staff of the jail had been searching the prisoners' housing units and moving men to different locations within the jail. As you can imagine, the prisoners attending our service were initially distracted and having a hard time focusing. However, God was gracious and allowed us great freedom to preach and a good response from the prisoners. One minor point in the study that night referenced Acts 16, which allowed God's Word to encourage the men by showing them that in dark times in a jail, God may do amazing things. Following the study time, one of the prisoners spoke, naming many sinful activities that he had tried but that he had come to the conclusion that nothing compares to stepping into God's light and continuing in it. He directly challenged other prisoners who are saved to work in obedience and allow God to use them to reach others that only they may have the opportunity to reach. Following the service, several prisoners approached me individually. One, who Bro. Estuardo Marroquin was able to lead to the Lord on his visit to the jail, asked specifically about Bro. Estuardo returning to minister to other Hispanic prisoners currently in the jail. Another three asked me about getting them study materials. One wanted a Bible, one a Study Bible, and one a Bible dictionary. Thank God for his blessings!

We have been encouraged as we have started seeing prisoners in multiple services. Out of the eleven in the January 29 adult service, I believe six have been in service with us before. We also have some specific challenges for which I need you to pray. You may have noticed that our ministry visited both the youth and adult facility on February 19. It is quite tiring to minister to these groups consecutively in one evening, which highlights our need for a church in the Jones County area to be willing to help with this ministry. Please pray that God will burden a church to

History & Archives Commission

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440

Baptists Need Doctrinal Emphasis

The following article was written by Chauncey R. Daley and published in the Western Recorder in 1963. It was later republished the same year in the Baptist Record, and by the Providence of God, it now finds its place in the Mississippi Baptist nearly 60 years later. Of course, I do not know the author, nor is there any indication in the article concerning his particular Baptist views. That aside, I do believe the sentiments he shared then are even more relevant to our own time.

Mr. Chauncey obviously witnessed in his own time a decline in regard to Doctrinal Emphasis. We would like to say Baptist Doctrine is Bible Doctrine, and in fact true Baptist Doctrine is. But of course, in the day that we live, and no doubt in the author's own time, that would depend on what "Baptist" you asked. The time-honored title Baptist has sadly lost much of the history and doctrine infused into it over the years. This has happened, in part, because there was and

remains a lack of Doctrinal Emphasis.

Mr. Chauncey observed, "Of those things for which we should be concerned at this time, none is more disturbing than the appalling ignorance of most Baptists as to what they believe. Many Baptists find that friends of other faiths can say quickly and clearly why they are what they are while they themselves are hard put and flounder when asked what they believe."

There are many reasons for this doctrinal ignorance among present day Baptists. One of these is the lack of any effective indoctrination plans in most Baptist churches for new members. New member classes are helpful, but except in isolated instances they are not required, and thus are passed up by most members. We seem to be so anxious to have new members that we don't take the trouble to make certain they share basic convictions Baptists have cherished through the centuries.

Most modern-day Baptist preaching is not characterized by strong doctrinal content.

help minister to those in jail in Jones County. If your church is interested, please contact the Missions Office. Also, on February 19 as we tried to bring into the adult jail the Bibles and the specific study materials that prisoners had requested, we were prevented from doing so. This was unusual as we have not been stopped previously from bringing Bibles into this facility. Please pray that I can work with jail administration to be able to continue providing Bibles for prisoners and specific study materials that they request. Thank you for letting Restoration work on your behalf. May God bless all of you.

Missionary Coach Report – Sidney Farmer

All our Missionary Coaches are busy with various training and discipleship with our Missionaries and Associate Missionary. It is exciting to be able to work together with all these men and to witness their spiritual growth as well as the growth within their respective works. We ask that you continue to pray for all our Missionaries and their families as they continue to serve the Lord.

Report from Missionary and Coach, Jason Howard

Thank you all for your continued prayers and financial support. It has been a blessing to serve the Lord and serve the Lord's churches as both Church Planter and Missions Coach. As Bro. Brocious is now leading the work of establish-

Comparison between a volume of typical modern day Baptist sermons and a volume of Baptist sermons under older generations reveals a great difference in doctrinal content and emphasis. In earlier days we felt we had to give a reason for our faith; nowadays we are the dominant group in many places, and we feel no compulsion to say why we believe what we do.

Contemporary Baptist preaching is characterized by such themes as evangelism, missions, stewardship, and Christian morality. Surely these are basic, but too often methods are emphasized to the exclusion of the doctrinal basis from which these themes stem. Every year the Baptist calendar becomes more

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4226 Hwy 15 North
Laurel, MS 39440

and more crowded with special themes and promotional causes. When the preacher finishes with these there are few opportunities left for doctrinal messages.

There is a kind of doctrinal preaching by some Baptist preachers which discourages other preachers from being known as a doctrinal preacher. This is that done by a few preachers who take several doctrinal emphases and give them an emphasis all out of proportion. They major on minors and minor on majors. This approach produces hearers who are long on some points, but short on understanding the great body of Baptist Doctrine."



Jason Howard
Christian mo- Director

Notice of Planned Constitutional Changes

Proposed Constitutional changes to the By-Laws of the Mississippi Baptist Commission on History and Archives.

Proposed Constitutional changes in Bold Type
Article II – Purpose

The purpose of this commission shall be to:

1. Gather and preserve information from the churches, pastors, missionaries, and various departments of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi.
2. Publish information when necessary.
3. Correspond and cooperate with other archival libraries for exchange information.
4. Collect and disburse funds received and give regular reports to the association.

5. (Proposed Constitutional Change) – Bring the History and Archives department to the churches by republishing certain books, tracts, etc. containing doctrinal or historical information relevant to BMA churches of Mississippi and making these republished works available to the people and churches of the BMA of Mississippi.

Article III as currently stated in Handbook.

Article III – Staff

Section 2: Librarian And Designated Personnel

- a) Personnel: The librarian of Southeastern Baptist College shall serve as the custodian of the commission's holdings.
- b) Duties: The Librarian or designated person's responsibility is to:
 1. Catalog and file all holdings of commission.
 2. Serve as the treasurer of the commission and to receive and disburse funds as directed by a majority vote of commission and/or association.
 3. Supply a financial report to the director to be given at the annual session of the association.

(Proposed Constitutional Change to Article III – Staff)

Article III – Staff

Section 2: Custodian and Designated Personnel

- a) Personnel: The Director shall appoint some person, at his discretion, who shall serve as custodian of the commission's holdings.
1. Duties: Catalog and file all holdings of the commission.
- a) Personnel: The Director shall appoint a Treasurer of the commission. (Custodian may serve as Treasurer)
1. Duties: Receive and disburse funds as directed by majority vote of commission and/or association.
2. Duties: Supply a financial report to the Director to be given at the annual session of the association.
- a) Personnel shall be compensated for their work. Compensation to be determined by Director.
- b) Personnel shall hold membership in a BMA church.