DAILY BIBLE READINGS
FOR MAY 1973

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"The gold for things of gold, and silver for things of silver, and for all manner of work to be made by the hands of artificers. And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?" (1 Chron. 29:5)

If you would like to help support the SCSC program for this summer, please send your contribution to:
Mrs. Barbara Wright, treasurer
Women’s Society
1010 South Street
Louisville, Colo. 80027
Myrna Cox, Chairman
Dedicated Service Promotion Com.

Loss by Alcohol

Alcoholism is known as industry’s $15 billion hangover, according to an industrial physician. This represents: $2 billion cost for health and welfare services; $3 billion in property damage, medical expense, workmen’s compensation claims and insurance, and a $10 billion drain on the economy in lost work time—in addition to tens of thousands of personal tragedies.

Why Have Laws?

Ministers of the Gospel Unite in Evangelism

Some ministers (but not all) spend their full years of ministry entirely supported as pastors by local congregations. The four ministers together here were participating in evangelistic meetings at Texarkana in early April. All are ordained. James Mitchell (left) of Little Rock, Ark., is in secular employment, preaching as there is need over a wide area. Mynor Soper of North Loup, Nebr., is the home field evangelist employed on a per diem basis by the Missionary Board. Ralph Soper of nearby Fouke, Ark., now listed as retired, has been largely self-supporting during most of his ministry. Kenneth Van Horn, missionary pastor at Little Rock, gives part of his time to field work. (See story on page 12.)
Touching the Risen Lord

Many Bible readers have had trouble understanding John 20:17 in the familiar King James Version. Jesus said to Mary Magdalene outside the garden tomb, “Touch me not, for I have not yet ascended to my Father.”

Why wasn’t Mary allowed to touch Him when Thomas a week later was urged to touch His hands and feet? Some have thought that Jesus made a trip to the Father’s house that week during which there are no recorded appearances, after which His disciples were free to touch Him. Such an explanation does not fit, for we read in Matthew 28:9 that just a little later that Resurrection morning as the women at the tomb were going to tell the disciples about the Resurrection, Jesus met them, spoke to them, and they “came and held him by the feet.”

There was an earlier time when no self-respecting person would allow Mary Magdalene to touch Him. But that wasn’t true of Jesus even before her regeneration. He had cast seven demons out of her and she was the cleanest of the clean when she called Him “Rabboni.”

There is an explanation that is simple enough and is found in some of the newer translations. Alfred Eppard, D.D., says that the Greek word used here does not mean touch in the sense of feel—for a blind person might touch something to determine what it was made of—it really means “cling to.” Thus the New English Bible renders it, “Do not cling to me,” and Good News for Modern Man reads, “Do not hold onto me.” Strangely enough, Kenneth Taylor in The Living Bible leaves it almost like the King James “Don’t touch me, for...”

What Jesus seems to be saying is that things are different after His earthly ministry is completed. He purposely appeared to the women and to the disciples and made sure that they recognized Him. The experience was to them glorious and faith-building. It must, however, be temporary like the Transfiguration, which Peter wanted to perpetuate by building a tabernacle on the spot. For a period of some forty days the risen Lord would be with His believing followers occasionally. But neither Mary nor any of the others could be encouraged to cling to Him and hold Him back from His ascension to be at the right hand of the Father.

This was the beginning of a new dispensation in which they must learn to depend on the presence of the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus promised to send, rather than a body of flesh and blood. In the flesh no more than one or two people at a time could cling to Jesus. Through the Spirit all can have Christ with them all the day. Mary needed to learn this and we need to learn it anew. The Scripture says later that the things that are seen are temporal; the things that are not seen are eternal.

There Were Giants in Those Days

There are a number of legendary giants of American history unearthed in comic strips or modern advertisements, for example Paul Bunyan and the Jolly Green Giant. They are supposed to catch our fancy and perhaps give us some mild emulation impulses. It is more stimulating, however, to pick up the yellowed records of our churches, Associations and Conference and remind ourselves of some honest-to-goodness giants of our history who were bigger than their contemporaries in thought and action and built some of the religious and social structures that we have taken far too much for granted.

Recently a lady in Illinois, long out of close touch with Seventh Day Baptist on-going work, sent us some old papers that were in her possession. In particular she enclosed somewhat tattered copies of the Minutes of the eighth and ninth anniversaries of the SDB Central Association held at Preston in 1843 and De Ruiter, N. Y., in 1844. On the surface there would not seem to be sufficient reason to speak of giants in those days, (as there were in the time of the Judges in Old Testament history.) But before forwarding these old minutes to their suggested destination your editor read them and wanted to comment on two things.

First is an item about missionary and tract work among the numerous resolutions adopted. Noting that the following resolution was adopted after an interesting discussion the secretary of the meeting quotes it as follows:

"Whereas we deem the distribution of tracts an efficient means of disseminating Gospel truth, therefore:

"Resolved, that we recommend the Churches in this Association to form Tract Societies for this purpose, and obtain Tracts at the establishment in New York or elsewhere."

It will be recalled that this resolution was adopted in the forward-looking Central Association in the year and the very month that the Sabbath Recorder began publication. It was in September of that year that a constitution was prepared and the present American Sabbath Tract Society began to function under the name of the "General Sabbath Tract Society."

The beginning of publication work was earlier, but it appears that much of the impetus for tract work came out of the ninth session of the Central Association as mentioned above. In this matter, the leaders of the Association were giants.

Another resolution along this line stresses missions as well as tracts and reads:

"Resolved, That we recommend to all Ministers of our Association to lay the subject of Missions, and the Tract cause before their several churches and excite if possible an interest in them."

These same Association leaders were head and shoulders above many of their contemporaries in the matter of human slavery, which did not divide our country until almost a generation later. The following resolution is found in the minutes:

"Resolved, That not only as Christians but as men and American citizens, it is our duty in every reasonable way to discourage slavery and to use all proper means for its abolition."

Upon reading this strong statement agreed on by representatives of the numerous churches in this influential Association I was reminded that my paternal grandfather who served under Lincoln in the Civil War was from Adams Center, one of the churches involved in this anti-
No Spring Fever in the Tract Board
By Albert N. Rogers

No signs of “spring fever” lassitude were evident April 15 as the Tract Board and its committees worked through details of numerous plans and programs, at the Seventh Day Baptist Building. Committees met in the morning prior to a buffet luncheon served by the Plainfield Church Women’s Society, and the Board met in regular session from 1:00 to 4:20 p.m. with twenty-four members present.

Gordon Lawton, special service Sound Studio worker, was introduced by Charles H. North, president. He spoke briefly on ways to help churches sponsor radio programs on their local stations and plans to put the studio and control room into full operation. The new facility will be dedicated in memory of Elizabeth Fisher Davis on September 16 when the annual meeting of the Tract Society is held.

Purchase of a tabletop offset duplicator and plate maker was authorized, partly from Publishing House funds and partly from a Memorial Fund grant. This equipment will be available to all denominational agencies for producing letter size (8½ x 11) materials although it cannot be used for major publications.

On request of the Faith and Order Committee of General Conference approval was given to reprinting the study manual “Seventh Day Baptist Beliefs.” The manual is used by pastors in church membership classes as well as in answering inquiries about denominational doctrines. Reprinting will be done in the same size as that of the Manual of Procedures published last year. The Publications Committee recommended a $50 grant for publishing work in India.

William W. Armstrong, Supervisory Committee chairman, reported that his committee is concerned about persisting deficits in the Publishing House accounts and is taking measures to meet these deficits. It is not a matter of debts, he said, but of using temporarily funds earmarked for purchase of new equipment. Meanwhile the Tract Board as parent body is in healthy financial condition as shown by reports of Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel, treasurer.

Sabbath Renewal Day materials have been mailed to the churches, it was reported, for use May 19 or on another convenient date.

Plans were announced for a second meeting of the Planning and Research Committee sponsored jointly with the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education as recommended by General Conference. The meeting is to be held at Lisle, N. Y., by arrangement of Mrs. Mary Clare, convenor, following up a session in November.

The Rev. Leon M. Maltby, executive of the board, was unable to be present due to illness; and the board expressed appreciation for his services in adopting his reports as corresponding secretary and editor of the Sabbath Recorder. A draft of the Annual Report for 1972 prepared by Mr. Maltby was read and approved.

Visitors present included Mrs. Anita Harris, Shiloh, N. J., Robert E. Harris of Ashland Seminary, Ashland, O., and Louis Gauch, Dunellen, N. J.

The Board will meet next on July 15 in the Marlboro church at 10:00 a.m., the hour being fixed earlier than usual because of other commitments.

The Living Bible, the paraphrase by Kenneth Taylor, has been on the market since August 1971. Over 3,000,000 copies have been sold at $9.95, another proof that people have a hunger for God’s Word in easily understood language.

A college term paper on —

Creation or Evolution

By C. Ray Boatman*

The sun is said to be burning out. Fusion reaction inside the sun is depositing helium ash in its core and the nuclear furnace is getting hotter. Following the tremendous expansion due to heat, Mercury will be baked, Venus fried, and the surface temperature of the earth will rise above the boiling point. The sun will shrink, turn black and heatless. Science claims the sun to be 50 billion years old and that some day it will burn out. If the sun is dying as science claims, then there must be an end and if there is an end to the life of the sun and mankind, then there must have been a beginning.

The earth is evidence of design, not accident. If the atmosphere were any smaller, life would be impossible, like Mercury or the moon, any larger it would contain free hydrogen and would be like Jupiter and Saturn. Its distance from the sun is correct, even a small change in distance would make it too hot or too cold. Earth’s moon is unique from other moons in the way it regulates our oceans and the earth’s axis insures the seasons.

If earth is evidence of design, then life also is evidence of design.

Scientist DuNouy says that the chance of formulation of a typical protein molecule made up of 3,000 atoms is the order of one to 2.02 x 10^-24, or practically nil, and even if the elements were shaken up at the speed of the vibration of light, it would take 10^24 billion years to get the protein molecule needed for life, and life on earth is limited by scientists to be about two billion years old.

The Bible says in Genesis 1:1, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” In verse 26 of Genesis 1 the Bible says, “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . . . So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”

Evolutionists claim that life evolved from some minute organism. There are three concepts of evolution, chance, progressive, and theistic. Why does each one conclusively prove the other two impossible? Is it possible that evolutionists base their faith in a set of theories of possibilities and accidents?

The evolutionary man shown in many text books is a good example of “possibilities and theories.” For instance: The

*Ray Boatman, pictured above as he witnessed in song at General Conference last year in Denver has some words of advice and caution to other anthropology students: “Whenever a term paper is written to challenge a view set forth by the professor, the paper should be done in good taste and always reflect both a loving attitude and a strong stand for Christ. Never personally challenge the professor in anger or bitterness through the paper.”

Papers of this type, he warns, should be attempted by Christian young people only if they have: 1) Kept up their grades, 2) have realized that they are in school to serve the Lord and to witness, 3) have maintained their Christian standards and would not be branded as hypocrites by other students and teachers. He adds that as a result of this term paper he became a friend of the professor and personally witnessed to him. Incidentally, he received an A for the paper and the course.

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4
Heidelberg Man was built from a jaw bone that was later conceded to be quite human. The Nebraska Man was “scientifically” built from one tooth and later found to be the tooth of a pig. The Piltdown Man which was constructed from a jawbone, turned out to be a hoax because the bone actually belonged to a modern ape.

The skeleton of the famous Neanderthal Man was examined by Dr. A. J. E. C. Cave in 1958 at the International Congress of Zoology and he stated that it was the skeleton of an old man who suffered from arthritis. The New Guinea Man dates all the way back to 1971, and is found in the region just north of Australia. The Cro-Magnon Man, one of the best established fossils is at least equal in physique and brain capacity to modern man, so what’s the difference?2 Finally, concerning Modern Man, this genus thinks we came from monkeys! The Bible says in Romans 1:22 that men professing themselves to be wise, became fools.

Recently evolutionists tested, by the Potassium Argon method, strata in which Leakey’s Nutcracker Man was found and reported to be 1.75 million years old, but when they tested other material in the same strata by Carbon 14, it showed 10,000 years old . . . which was right? Dr. Whitelaw, a professor in nuclear engineering claims it to be less than 7,000 years old.

A living mollusk was tested by Carbon 14 and found to be dead for 3,000 years.3 Science has taught that it takes millions of years to produce oil, yet scientists in a lab produced a barrel of oil in 20 minutes from one ton of garbage.4 Evolutionists have gone to great lengths to prove how man evolved through genetic rearrangement. It has been theorized that natural selection due to DNA mutation has brought modern man to his present existence, yet it is known biologically that gene mutations result in destruction. Darwin’s theory can show minute evidences of evolution between species of the same genus, but no evidence can be found of a species of one genus evolving into another species or propagating with a species of a different genus. This is in agreement with Genesis 1:24, “And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind . . .” I have tried to point out that there are many conflicts in the theory of evolution such as the disagreement among evolutionists, the lack of reliable artifacts, unreliable means of measuring time and conflict with biological science. I think the dictionary has the most accurate description of the theory of evolution; it says that it is explanation based on thought or fancy as opposed to fact or practice.5 Science knows that the electrons of the atom whirl around the nucleus billions of times every millionth of a second, and that the nucleus of the atom consists of particles called neutrons and protons. The neutrons have no electrical charge and are neutral, but the protons have positive charges. One law of electricity is that: “Like charges repel each other.” They should repel each other and scatter into space. What holds them together? Science doesn’t have an answer. The Bible says that God is the sustainer of the universe and that Christ was before all things and by Him all things are held together.6 In conclusion one must agree that whether a person believes in Creation or Evolution, it requires a great deal of faith on the part of the individual. As Demosthenes said in 348 B.C., “We believe what we want to believe.” After weighing the evidences of the Bible and the evidences of evolution, I agree with Joshua’s statement in Joshua 24:14, “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

Footnotes
7 Thorndike-Barnhart Dictionary, p. 800.
8 Bible, Colossians 1:17.

Additional Reference Material
Paul E. Little, Know Why You Believe.
Henry M. Morris, The Bible and Modern Science.
Cora Rene, Evolution, Fact or Theory.
R. E. D. Clark, Darwin, Before and After.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Life Is Not All Vanity

Mankind has worked for many years
To save himself from suffering and death,
With drugs and surgery contriving brief extensions of this mortal life;
But underneath there is no health —
Our very bones are full of rottenness.

We also have some skill to prettify the corpses of our kin;
But though they look like they are still alive, and only sleep,
We must confess them to be really dead.
And when we walk into that quiet room
To gaze upon remains of cherished friend,
We may seem strong to praise the One
Who gave and has full right to take away;
But in our flesh we find no such ability,
As helpless as the one who no more moves and breathes.
The standing dead pick up the casket of the horizontal dead
And take their mournful way to where the earth
Awaits reception of its own.

Is there no rest from pointless labor,
No warm and vital overflow of peace and joy,
Of satisfaction in a task well done;
Or must cold comfort of the tomb suffice
For our reward at end of life’s short span of toil?

Within the weekly rhythm of six days of effort, then the Sabbath Day,
The eye of faith discerns the promise of divine relief,
When all within this world will cease to struggle and compete,
A time quite near, because six thousand years
Of human vanity is drawing to its frantic end.

The Son of Man, who entered this creation and was subject to the Law
He set in order at the first, when He established earth and sky,
And caused the sun and moon to mark appointed times
For us to worship at His feet,
Became our servant and achieved a triumph over death and hell
Which no one else could ever gain.

His promise to return is true, and we affirm
Our confidence that He will quicken those whom we have laid to rest,
Each time we lay aside our petty tasks at setting of the sixth day’s sun.

No more we labor to become the sons of holiness;
Instead, made holy and adopted in the family above
By virtue of the precious blood of the Anointed One.

We labor yet, we also serve, no task too humble or obscure;
For we are sons, and have within
A princely power to glorify each common thing,
The Midas touch which turns to purest gold
The rubbish cast aside as hopelessly defiled.

—Gerald Clark Bond
Vocations and the Christian Family

By Dale D. Thomgate

Editor's Note:
This is the last of three articles which grew out of the "Live Your Living—Be Your Church" series held at General Conference in Denver, August.

Dale Thomgate planned and coordinated the small-group brainstorming sessions which challenged delegates to come up with fresh ideas about how our churches can be more responsive to the real needs of people in a real world. Each group discussed relationships between vocation and Sabbathkeeping and other areas of our Christian commitment.

This article is the final report from one of the fifteen discussion groups. Robert Sohr of Richburg, N. Y., was the discussion leader. Mrs. Ethel Dickinson, also of Richburg, was the secretary. About fourteen people participated in the group, five of them teenagers.

Key Ideas: Importance of early family experience. Communication within the family—guidance.

For Seventh Day Baptists the family is not just the home but the Church. The Church must assist the home or fill in if the home fails.

We cannot separate vocations from our family life as Christians.

As we work with these areas we must remember Ephesians 4:32: "Be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Needs of the individual that the Church can aid in supplying
1. To succeed.
2. To be a part of a group.
3. To be creative.
4. To make a productive contribution.
5. To be needed.

To help meet the above needs we can—
1. Provide a Bible basis in early life.
2. Make the Sabbath meaningful.
3. Keep all the commandments.
4. Stress the love of God as the motivation for keeping the Sabbath.
5. Encourage young people to lead—Bible studies, in worship services, etc.
6. Study together, both old and young; learn, discover.
7. Talk about the way a Fellowship is formed (role play).

The Church can help individuals of all ages to put the Sabbath in a proper perspective in regard to their vocations by
1. Urging prayerful consideration of vocational choice and job opportunity.
2. Using positive approaches; avoiding negativism.
3. Presenting the call to honor God first for He will provide a way to keep His Sabbath. Seek commitment.
4. Urging excellence to enable job choice.
5. Providing helpful information, such as the possibility of taking College Entrance Examinations on a day other than the Sabbath.
6. Checking a little better on materials we send out: for instance, do all the "Able Seventh Day Baptists" really keep the Sabbath? We should neither compromise nor judge.
7. Encouraging individuals to claim their rights under anti-discrimination laws.
8. Letting people know we care. Being aware of struggles.

The Church can try to meet religious needs of those away from home by:
1. Following up those who leave to encourage Sabbathkeeping and witnessing.
2. Assisting in finding contacts—church, pastor, Sabbathkeepers—in the area to which the person goes.

"The Church can nurture personal commitment to God by presenting the claims of Christ and stressing that all of our actions are a witness either for or against God. Brave should choose vocations in situations where they would be brought into contact with such people as those who gamble in Las Vegas.

Conclusions:
What is needed in the home, and the Church home, is discipline with love. This would minimize the rebellion which leads to a forsaking of the Church and the Sabbath in later years.

It was our feeling that we can better meet the needs of our denominational family by having a marriage of family life and vocations concerns into a Family Venture Interest Committee in place of the Vocations Committee because we cannot separate our vocations from our Christian family life.

Meeting Human Need on the Missions Field

A great natural disaster such as the earthquake at Managua, Nicaragua, captures the headlines of the press and is news on TV. But across the world there are countless minor disasters where individuals and families and people in a small region are flooded out or faced with loss of home and property. Such incidents seldom receive attention outside of their own area or country.

In the areas where Church World Service operates there are relief supplies available and these are immediately put to use to meet such human needs. There are many countries, however, where Church World Service is not involved and while there may be other relief organizations needs are not always adequately met. Such is the case in Guyana, S. A.

A few months ago flood rains caused many families along one of the rivers personal loss. Our missionaries, Pastor and Mrs. Leroy C. Bass sought to do what they could but their resources as far as usable clothing were most limited. It seems now that it would be wise for individuals and groups and churches to consider sharing good used clothing with our missionaries so that they can have the means to respond to human need in this way.

Recently Missionary Bass wrote, "Types of clothing needed are general light clothing for men, women, children, babies and children's shoes. Sweaters are well liked and used by the womenfolk here. We do not want to receive winter coats, winter underwear, neckties, or shoes for adults."

Summer weight clothing can be sent directly to your missionary. This can be sent by International Parcel Post with each box limited to twenty-two pounds maximum weight, a length of three and one-half feet and the total length plus girth not to exceed six feet. Summer clothing can be packed in sturdy cardboard boxes and well tied. The postage cost is $1.30 for the first pound and forty cents ($.40) for each additional pound. The declaration forms that are to be attached should well be marked "Used Clothing for Relief Distribution." The value could well be no more than mailing costs.

It is also interesting to note that Pastor Bass wrote: "Over the years I have received several boxes of used clothing, and the customs duty is either a very small amount, or sometimes none at all. I sign a statement to the effect that the clothing is for free distribution to the poor and needy, and is not sold. So, I feel it is quite all right to continue receiving such boxes. I am not appealing for 100 pound drums of clothing, but possibly five or six boxes weighing ten to twenty pounds each."

Such parcels should be addressed to Pastor Leroy C. Bass, 19 Gordon St., Kitty, Georgetown, Guyana, S. A.

It would be well to send him an air letter sheet (.15) letting him know the fact that a parcel or parcels are being mailed on a certain date and something of their contents. This will reach him several weeks before the parcels do but would give him understanding of their being sent. If you have further questions please write the Missionary Board office.

APRIL 28, 1973
Lesson Papers/Booklets?

For many years Sabbath Schools have shared from time to time leftover or slightly used materials, sending them overseas for distribution on a mission field. These have been enthusiastically received by children who do not have the advantages we do in this country to receive such colorful papers.

In a recent letter Missionary Leroy C. Bass said that they could use, “Various kinds of used Sabbath School or Sunday School take-home papers for all ages.”

It may be that in your Sabbath School there are such materials that could be shared in this way. Those that are torn or marked are not needed, but rather those that are in good condition. It would be good to let Pastor Bass know when a shipment is being sent. They can be addressed as noted in the previous article.

This might become a project for primary or junior classes. One teacher suggested that instead of letting the children use pens to fill in their work books we use pencils and then erase them so that they can be used again, sending them to the field. Some boys and girls also read and carefully save their take home papers, returning them, and when a sufficient number are gathered, they are mailed for use on the field. This is one way for boys and girls to become related personally to other boys and girls overseas.

Freedom of Press and Religion

“It is not the press or the church or synagogue which must prove to the state its right to freedom, it is the state which must validate at every turn its right to the most minimal constraints upon either religion or the press.”

The framers of the American Constitution held that the state was an arrangement — not a master — and its rights were severely limited, especially with regard to two fundamental institutions, religion and the press.

“In both these realms, the rights of the American individual are not granted him by the state; they precede the existence of the state.” —Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, Pres., American Jewish Congress

HELP WANTED

ADVENTUROUS INDIVIDUALS who have burning desire to take vital information to people of many nations. This is an opportunity to take the Bread of Life to millions of spiritually starved people in famine areas of the world. Other skills also needed to meet human need in many places.

- Working Conditions — Difficult
- Fringe Benefits — Minimal
- Salary — Below ordinary levels

You will be called upon to teach, heal, clothe, advise and otherwise try to help meet the needs of persons who are often blind to their own needs. Proper understanding and preparation, experience and linguistic ability vital.

WHY NOT SIGN UP TODAY?

Immense satisfaction and inner peace is unconditionally guaranteed!

REGISTERED NURSE: With Christian commitment and general experience to offer counsel, training, and general medical skills at Makapwla Medical Center, Malawi, Africa. Nutritional Training project to help mothers in the proper feeding of their children a possibility. Only couple need apply. Husband (or wife) can aid in driving ambulance, working with youth in the local church and primary school, assistance in maintenance of property, etc., etc., etc.

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY!

Write:

Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society
401 Washington Trust Bldg.
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

Two More Languages Have Bibles

Complete Bibles appeared for the first time in 1972 in the Paite and Thado (Kuki) tongues of India. The new translations were published by the Bible Society of India.

Scripture portions were published in 43 more languages or dialects during last year, according to the United Bible Societies. Bibles or Portions now exist in 1500 languages.

—EBPS

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Jews Find Jesus in Israel

By Shlomo Hizak
Mount of Olives

A letter in the French language came to our office from a Jewish lady in Tel Aviv, asking me if I could come to meet her mother as it was urgent. We finally met together and a most gripping experience took place, meeting this mother and daughter whom God had visited by His Spirit. Just let me give you the story.

The daughter and her husband had been sent to Africa by the government of Israel on a mission. The lady had the opportunity to receive a Bible as a gift, and in reading the Bible, God began to speak to her in a dream and vision by His Spirit. He revealed that Jesus, the King of Kings, is the Messiah and she ought to accept Him. She refused to accept Him, and a sickness came to her and her children until finally she made the decision to accept Christ, then all became well. This happened some time ago and since that time she has had no contact with any church or believers.

She learned about our mission through her mother, who was riding a train in France and beside her was sitting a lady from the Pentecostal Church in France. They began to talk with one another, and the mother told the Pentecostal lady that she had a daughter in Israel who had committed her life to Christ. When the lady heard this, she gave her my testimony, “Once an Orthodox Jew,” in the French language. In reading the testimony the mother was led to Christ also.

When I met her and her daughter they both were weeping, saying these simple words: “We love Jesus. He is in our heart and we want to be baptized for remission of our sins.” She also asked us to pray that her husband and children will also find the peace and blessings in the Messiah. Please pray for them.

It is our prayer, and the prayer of many of God’s people all over the world, that peace will come in the land of Israel. When the Lord called me into the ministry, He spoke to me in a special way to bring His Word to the Arabs also. This was the prayer of Abraham in Genesis 17:18, “O that Ishmael might live before thee!” So far our mission has printed 33,000 New Testaments in Arabic and most of these have been distributed. Also, many thousands of books on seven subjects from the Bible have been printed in the Arabic language. We have contact with almost 20,000 Arab families throughout the country. There is a great opening of doors for witness to them.

We have begun to hold conferences for Jews and Arabs together, once in Haifa and once in Jerusalem on the Mount of Olives, so far. On these two occasions we had the most unexpected blessings in meeting together as Jews and Arabs in Christ. Like one of our Jewish sisters said, “Each meeting is a historical event.” We are looking forward to more meetings like these in order to bring better understanding to the Jews and the Arabs through Jesus Christ, who is the answer today and forever.

INFORMATION WANTED

Does your church have a radio program? If so please inform Gordon Lawton at Box 868, Plainfield, N. J. 07061.

We are interested in how and what you do.

All those interested in this type of ministry in your area also contact Mr. Lawton.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for May 5, 1973

CHRIST MAKES MEN NEW

Lesson Scripture: John 1:9-13; Ephesians 2:1-10.

APRIL 28, 1973
Special Meetings in Texarkana, Ark.

Evangelistic meetings were held in the Texarkana, Ark., Seventh Day Baptist Church April 3-9 with the Rev. Myron G. Soper leading, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Harris of Shiloh, N. J.

The Rev. Ralph M. Soper, pastor of the Fouke Seventh Day Baptist Church, and members of the Fouke congregation participated in the meetings traveling fifteen miles daily each way to share in the deepening spiritual life offered. The evangelist is a son of the Fouke pastor and serves as field worker for the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society and director of Light Bearers for Christ of North Loup, Nebr.

Puerto Rican Convert Makes the Grade

The story of Pat Colon is told by Carl H. Lindquist, president of Bethel College, in a printed letter designed to encourage scholarship gifts. The basic story deserves to be told beyond that context.

Pat's new life began in Spanish Harlem when he attended a Billy Graham meeting and accepted Christ as his personal Savior. After conversion he found a little Baptist mission in the Bronx where there were others with similar experiences trying to get help to lead that new life. The mission, writes Pat Colon years later, was in a tenement's basement and during one of the Sunlight-Sunday services there were many young people converted at that time—black, Puerto Ricans, some Chinese.

It was at this little mission that he heard of Bethel College and the small scholarship fund available for such gangland youth as he.

He went to college, but fresh out of Harlem, he had a chip on his shoulder and didn't fit. He would not let teachers or students get through to him. After two years he dropped out of college and drifted back to Harlem. Enlisting in the Navy, he found himself again and served with distinction as a flying officer. Upon discharge he got a good job with an overseas airline, but he didn't find real peace until he went back to the same college he had flunked out of. Now in medical school he has a wife and child and looks forward to a life of meaningful Christian service in the medical profession.

He has the distinction of being the first mainland Puerto Rican to gain admittance to the University Medical School.

It all began for Pat Colon with conversion at a Billy Graham meeting in New York, but there were a lot of other Christian influences in the years that followed without which he might not have made the grade.

Young Lebanese Drifter

New Christian Music Professor

By the editor

Louis Hamanda, impressionable young Lebanese from Beirut was not a good prospect when he attended the Sabbath-keeping mission in the Central Storage warehouse in Brooklyn back in 1955. He was invited out to the home of Frank and Connie Brown, in Monmouth Junction, N. J., leaders of the mission, to spend a few days. There he not only found himself but found the Lord, and wanted to be baptized. The baptism was performed by the writer upon invitation in a small pool constructed for the purpose. Neither he nor the other candidates seemed to have much stability and there was question as to whether that immersion or the previous decision would make a lasting impression.

Years went by. There was no way of knowing how Louis Hamada was doing in the Christian life. Then in August 1971 he got in touch with me by letter. The connection had been tenuous and it was surprising that he remembered or had literature that might make it possible for a letter to reach the minister who had baptized him. He wrote at that time: "I came from Lebanon in June of 1953. I was born again on September 11, 1955. Since then my life has not been the same." He told of marrying Lebanese girl who was also dramatically converted from the Moslem faith to Christianity in 1969. Their two children were five and two in 1971.

Had the young Lebanese made something of himself after his conversion and baptism? Indeed, he had, for he had a Ph.D. in music and was serving the Lord in a Bible College. Needless to say, I attempted to write him a joyous, encouraging letter.

Other changes have come, which prompt me to tell this story of Christian progress. Dr. Hamanda has written again, not from California this time, but from Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee, where he is a professor. The renewal that he spoke of a year and a half ago has led him to a more consistent study of the
Bible and the doctrines of various churches. He enclosed an article of his published by a Jackson newspaper, the theme of which was, in his words, an attack on easy Christianity. He penned a note to the effect that his experience and study convince him that a person who is really born again will not lose his salvation.

But to come back to the story! He wrote that he is "no longer confused and insecure like many Christians, because I read my Bible diligently." He remembered that the minister who baptized him was a Seventh Day Baptist. There were several doctrines of another Sabbath-keeping denomination that he felt were wrong. He hoped that he did not hold them and gave numerous Scripture references under each doctrine to back up his views of the subject. He requested literature that would give a resume of our beliefs.

What the future holds for this former Moslem in the way of church affiliation cannot now be predicted. He has come a long way in the Christian faith through new experiences since that venture of faith and obedience back in 1955. We can hope that he will consider carefully some of the Sabbath Scriptures that have not yet been taken in full context. However, we may well ask ourselves if we have made as much progress in our faith and practice as he has. He has motivation.

Inconsistency

David Cargo, former Republican governor of New Mexico, in speaking to 2,200 members of a Baptist Student Conference in Glorieta, N.M., touched on the drug problem and chided youth for the sometimes inconsistency of their attitudes. He said he felt it was incongruous to support the ban on cyclamates and at the same time push for the legalization of marijuana. Pollution of the environment also includes pollution of the mind, and we should be protected from both. He estimated that 80 percent of the burglaries in Albuquerque were related to drugs and that 70 percent of those in New Mexico state prison were there because of alcohol or drug-related charges.

Battle Creek Bible Groups

Over fifty neighborhood Bible studies have been organized in Battle Creek since the distribution of the 28,900 New Testaments by 62 churches March 11. Five of those Bible studies are being conducted in Seventh Day Baptist homes by Seventh Day Baptists. Our participants are:

HOSTESS BIBLE STUDY LEADER
Mrs. W. B. Lewis Nell Williams
Karen Thorngate George Parish
Leona Thorngate Pastor Davis
Helen Van Valkenburg Helen Van Valkenburg
Sue Bond Pastor Davis

The Bible Study guide in all of the Bible studies is "Meet Christ" written by John F. De Vries and published by the World Home Bible League. This is a Key '73 resource and recommended as the basis of studies throughout North America in keeping with the Key '73 theme, "Calling Our Continent to Christ."

Prayer for Guidance

By Rev. Francis D. Saunders

In meditating here alone
And as I bow before Thy throne,
I thank Thee for Thy guiding love
Which came to me from heaven above,
To guide my faltering steps aright
And lead me in the paths of light.

In holy reverence I bow
Before Thy throne to ask Thee how
To make my life a shining light
To guide some stranger through the night.
For this my happiness shall be
To help some blinded sinner see.

To Thee I come, Almighty Lord,
Because I need Thy loving word
To give me strength and purpose fine
That mine might be a life sublime;
So heed my quest, my earnest plea,
That I might live my life for Thee.

Amen.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

MARCH DISBURSEMENTS

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SUMMARY

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$9,919.00
Astronaut Jim Irwin
Suffers Heart Attack

Apollo 15 Astronaut Jim Irwin, who retired from the space program last year to become an international Baptist lay evangelist, suffered an apparent heart attack April 4 after a game of handball.

The 42-year-old former astronaut was rushed to Fitzsimmons General Hospital in Denver and placed under intensive care.

Physicians said that Irwin would likely be in the hospital for six weeks and confined to his home for three months.

Two weeks earlier, Irwin had received a complete physical checkup, and his physician told him he was in better shape physically than he had been a year earlier.

On Aug. 1, 1972, Irwin retired from the Air Force and established High Flight as a means of sharing his religious experience while on the surface of the moon. He since has traveled throughout the world, seeking to share with all men everywhere the message that he "felt God's presence on the moon."

Last fall, Irwin traveled throughout the Orient on behalf of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, visiting Baptist missions work and heads of state in Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Vietnam, the Philippines, Indonesia, Australia, and New Zealand.

As a result of personal contact on the Vietnam trip, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin have just just adopted a three-year-old Vietnamese orphan. They adopted the boy through World Vision after meeting him in a Vietnam orphans' home. The boy's name, in Vietnamese, is "Cho" but the

Missionary Captives Confirmed Dead

Documents exhausted after the signing of the Vietnam cease-fire agreement in Paris in January appear to confirm the deaths of two American missionary war captives.

The documents revealed the deaths of Miss Betty Olsen, a Christian and Missionary Alliance nurse, in 1968; and of Mr. Henry Blood of Wycliffe Bible Translators, in 1972. Both had been captured during the Tet offensive of January 1968.

Missionaries known to have died as war casualties now total 14. Three other CMA workers remain unaccounted for.

In a letter addressed to U. S. President Richard M. Nixon in late 1972, SBC missionary Rondal Merrell expressed concern that anti-government soldiers might be allowed to remain in southern territories following the then-anticipated cease-fire. "Their first target," Merrell wrote "is to kill missionaries and their families; then all Christians." —EBPS

Secret Service

The minister asked me, "Are you a soldier in the Army of the Lord?" I said, "Yes, I am." He said, "Then why do we only see you at Christmas and Easter?" I said, "I'm in the Secret Service."

Irwins have renamed him "Joe" to become the fifth "J" among the Irwin children. The four other Irwin children are named Jimmy, Jan, Joy, and Jill.

Mrs. Irwin, quiet and unassuming, is a Sabbathkeeper, connected with the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.