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BEARING THE FRUIT

Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe.
Joel 3:13

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE
HOUGHTON COLLEGE
AUGUST 6-12, 1978

THE SABBATH RECORDER
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST
OCTOBER 1978

1844
1978
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REASON REACTIONS...

Please convey my greetings to all
the brothers and sisters. I look
forward to reading about the Confer-
ce and World Federation sessions.
I am sending a report of the British
Conference; at the age of 81 I don't
know how long I will be able to
continue sending such reports —
I hope to send a few more. May
God bless you all in your work and
witness for Christ and His Truth.
-Rev. James McGeechey
Hessle, England

Please renew my subscription to the
Sabbath Recorder. It has been in
our family for years, in fact about
80 years ago I learned my letters
from the large letters on the front
page.
-Mrs. Pansy L. Talbot
Battle Creek, MI

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY DAY
SABBATH, OCTOBER 21, 1978
YOUR GIFT HELPS SHARE
THE WORD OF GOD

The Sabbath Recorder

October 1978
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST WORLD FEDERATION

"Christ for the World"

Alfred, New York, U.S.A.
August 2-6, 1978

Thirty-four delegates and observers from Seventh Day Baptist conferences around the world gathered recently in Alfred, New York, for a meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation. It was the second meeting of the world body since its founding in 1964.

Conferences in ten countries — Brazil, Great Britain, Guyana, Jamaica, Malawi, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, and the United States — were represented. Burma, Germany, and India were unable to send delegates.

Expansion of Seventh Day Baptists around the world was the keynote as discussions centered on cooperative projects in evangelism, publication and church building. Bible study and worship also were featured as the church leaders sought to establish closer ties among world Seventh Day Baptists.

SPECIAL PROJECTS NAMED

The World Federation voted to support eight special projects. Heading the list was support for a special evangelistic thrust in Brazil and a special program to establish contact among scattered Seventh Day Baptist churches and individuals in Europe.

Other projects were church construction in Burma, Great Britain, Malawi and South Africa, and assistance towards the purchase of property for a church camp in Guyana.

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

Officers elected to serve until the next meeting of the World Federation, tentatively slated for 1983, are: David Pearson, president; Thomas Merchant, first vice-president; John Bevis, recording secretary; Leon Lawton, treasurer, and K. Duane Hurley, executive secretary, all of the United States.

Aho, Jan Lek of the Netherlands; Watson Mataka, Malawi; Joseph Samuels, Jamaica; and Wilson Wolf, Brazil, vice-presidents.

OUTGOING OFFICERS RECOGNIZED

Tribute was paid to Alton Wheeler, outgoing executive secretary; Rex Zwiebel, outgoing recording secretary; and Everett Harris, delegate and former treasurer, all of the United States, who had served since the founding of the World Federation in 1964.

DELEGATES ATTEND U.S. CONFERENCE

While in the United States, World Federation delegates from overseas also attended the annual meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference in America, and participated in a post-Conference institute for delegates and U.S. pastors.

A highlight of the American conference was the posting of flags from the twenty-two countries where Seventh Day Baptists have a witness.

The institute featured seminars in leadership and administration, as well as intensive Bible studies.

DELEGATES LISTED

Delegates to the meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation were:

Walter da Silva, Ruben Nisio, Nivaldo Schunemann and Wilson Wolf, Sr., all from Brazil;

Albourne Peat and Owen Lynch, Great Britain;

Jacob Tyrrell and Inez Peters, Guyana;

Joseph Samuels and Joel Roberts, Jamaica;

Watson Mataka, and Menzo and Audrey Fuller, Malawi;

Elias Camacho, Mexico;

Jan Lek and Hans Sizmann, the Netherlands;

Edward Barrar, New Zealand;

E. O. Ferraren, the Philippines;

and, from the United States, Alton and Ethel Wheeler, Rex Zwiebel, Leon Lawton, Everett Harris and James Skaggs. David Pearson presided.

OBSERVERS LISTED

Observers from overseas were:

Jaire Ferreira and Wilson Wolf, Jr., from Brazil;

Ancel Marshall, Great Britain;

Joyce Samuels, Jamaica;

and Annie and Trijinte Kramer from the Netherlands.

-Thomas L. Merchant

NEW ZEALAND
Rev. Edward Barrar
Pastor, Christchurch

October 1978

WORLD SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS MEET

GENERAL CONFERENCE USA

MEXICO
Elias Camacho
General Pastor

PHILIPPINES
Rev. E. O. Ferraren
Pastor, Cebu City
MALAWI
Rev. Watson Mataka, Pastor
Audrey and Menzo Fuller
Missionaries

BRAZIL
Jaire Ferreira
Wilson Wolf
Wilson Wolf Filho
Rev. Walter Da Silva
Dr. Ruben Nisio
Rev. Nivaldo Schunemann

NETHERLANDS
Miss T. Kramer
Hans Sizmann
Miss A. Kramer
Jan Lek

GREAT BRITAIN
Rev. A. L. Peat
Ancel Marshall
Owen Lynch

GUYANA
Mrs. Inez Peters
Jacob N. Tyrrell

MALAWI – The work in the Central African Conference continues to grow. Current membership is 5,406 in 27 churches and 56 branches, this Conference has work also in Mozambique. In Malawi SDB’s operate 5 medical outlets and 3 schools all with nationals in charge. The Conference is working with the leadership in Kenya where a new work is being planted. Missionaries Menzo and Audrey Fuller of Nebraska returned to Malawi in September.

Rev. Joe Samuels, corresponding secretary of the Jamaica SDB Conference, points out the location of some of the churches on the map at the Conference display. There are 28 churches and 6 groups in the Conference, served by 11 pastors of whom 6 are ordained. The present membership is some 1,600.

JAMAICA
Rev. Joel Roberts
Mrs. Joyce Samuels
Rev. Joe A. Samuels

PHILIPPINES – This is the newest Conference in the World Federation. Seventh Day Baptists have 4 churches and 5 groups. A radio ministry is supported, in part, by Sabbath School Offering funds.

GUYANA – This Conference has 4 churches and 6 groups. A newsletter is published entitled “Couriers for Christ.” Recently 56 new members were added, there are 5 pastors and 2 in training.

Mrs. Beverly Kilts of the Schenectady, N.Y., church looks over the material at the display of the Conference of Brazil. Brazil reports 80 churches with 22 buildings. Eleven ministers are supported by the 3,000 members. Presently, there are 11 theology students to help meet the needs of church growth.
It was March 1944 — I had journeyed to the magic land of Southern California to begin what seemed to me to be a magic journey into the realm of medical studies. Weeks of study in rural Loma Linda were interspersed with occasional weekend trips to Los Angeles.

About ten of those 60 miles of highway passed through thousands of acres of vineyard. They were beautifully managed, and tastefully groomed and cared for — it was always a busy place. During harvest days it was a realm of medical studies. Weeks of that process are entirely his responsibility. His duty requires knowledge, planning, attention to proven methods and a lot of hard work.

Two aspects of grain farming are the sole responsibility of the farmer. These are the preparation of the soil and the sowing of the seed.

Preparing the Soil

Productivity is frequently determined by one’s choice of the land (Matthew 13:3-4). Not all land is suitable for grain or fruit. Some is too dry or too wet, some is too stony, some is fit only for briars. But when one of those risks becomes a reality, may the farmer reasonably ask — he may read and study — he may hope. But during the long hours of daylight he’s working — he’s preparing the soil, maximizing its potential. During those long hours he is doing everything he can to get the process moving.

I spent my childhood in the hilly country of British Columbia — a community which I have found had many characteristics in common with the hill country of the Ozarks.

An important part of our work was clearing land. It was hard work when done by hand but with great joy and satisfaction we cut the trees, cut up fallen logs and removed great stumps. The new soil was richer than land which had been under cultivation for years. It was soft and easy to work. It was a magic journey into the realm of medical studies. Weeks of

What if we sow evenly using the best seed available, using proven methods of sowing? With God’s blessings our harvest might be 30, 60 or 100 fold. God is looking for husbandmen who can lead in a program of sowing, growing and reaping.

October 1978
This is a demanding vocation — there are great risks involved — but think of the rewards!

and the yield was rather uncertain. But a new hybrid corn was developed called Golden Cross. It had the same good flavor but with larger, more regular ears and it was more productive. Is there any question about our anticipation as we awaited those ripening ears — our harvest?

Corn is corn but it’s not all the same. Wheat is wheat but it’s not all the same. The gospel is the gospel but it has more varieties than wheat or corn. Some of our presentations of the gospel are so vague that it is difficult to tell if they are wheat or if they are corn.

Do our presentations have a distinctive flavor that gains attention or do they come across as background music, something to go to sleep by? Is there a clarity and a uniqueness which constitutes a message that God wants people to hear?

What kind of gospel seed are we sowing? Do we know the quality of message and of our presentation? Is it possible within the context of freedom of thought and liberty of conscience to make sure that we have the best gospel seed available — seed that will produce a quality harvest?

Is it possible for us to receive from God and from His word a message which presents the gospel as we have perceived it in a way which arrests people, which grips their mind and hearts, which will turn them on and turn us on. Which will meet their needs — and our own.

Is that possible?

There are many books containing the stories and the parables of the gospel and with pictures to illustrate them. In the pictures which illustrate Jesus’ parable of the sower it is quite standard to have a man carrying seed in front of himself and illustrating Jesus’ parable of the sower. What if the seed were distributed evenly over the entire area, using the best seed available? What if deliberate, precise, proven methods of sowing and fertilizing were used? Would God still give a harvest? Might that harvest be 30, 60, or 100 fold?

More Advanced Methods Needed

What if we used more advanced methods? Having chosen and prepared the soil, what if the gospel seed were planted deep within the soil by God, as He is portrayed as looking for a corps of take-charge people — those who can be managers in a program of sowing, growing, and reaping.

It is a most demanding vocation. There are great risks involved as God’s calling always has. Who knew the risks any better than Christ did? But think of the rewards!

God’s call is not a call just to be a husbandman — it is a call to be a successful husbandman, a successful overseer and manager. There are prerequisites involved in being a successful husbandman.

First, it requires knowledge. A farmer whose desire for a harvest is not matched and controlled by knowledge of the processes involved is doomed to years of frustrating failure — failure and frustration for himself and for his workers. Dwight L. Moody is quoted and it was late in his illustrious career for God, “If I had it all to do over again, I would pray less and study more.” I doubt that we need to pray less, but I am convinced that we need a great deal more study regarding the processes, the methods and the techniques of producing crops.

Second, managers need organizational capacity. How many know the legible people “beat the air”? They fail about expending the energy of those who end, others without.

God is looking for husbandmen, for managers. He is looking for those who can assume responsibility, for those who can take charge — for those with the capacity to organize and supervise — those with the knowledge, the zeal and the experience to operate a vineyard, a farm, an orchard. He has lots of hired men and women — we have lots of workers. God and the church are looking for a corps of take-charge people — those who can be managers in a program of sowing, growing, and reaping.

Denominational Dataline

OCTOBER 21
American Bible Society Sabbath

OCTOBER 22
Missionary Society Board
Westervi, Ill.

OCTOBER 25-30
General Council Meetings
Plainfield, N.J.

NOVEMBER 18
Thanksgiving Offering
United Relief Fund

From the pen of the Executive Secretary
Dr. K.D. Hurley

October 1978

BEYOND A REVIEW

"Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth to those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14).

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST churches and their members have been particularly challenged, by actions taken at the General Conference at Houghton College August 6-12, 1978, to think in terms of outreach and growth.

It was strongly urged that there be explored "new, imaginative, and creative avenues which will lift and challenge both individuals and churches to greater commitment...to go beyond a review of the past."

Forward-looking suggestions included (1) establishment of Project V — an intensified promotional campaign to make the work and services of the denomination more visible; (2) continuation of Commitment to Growth so Seventh Day Baptist ministers and lay people alike can become increasingly effective in carrying out the Great Commission; (3) encouragement of "evangelism by youth to their peers"; (4) revision of the retirement plan in order to make it actuarially sound and more commensurate with present-day needs; (5) a feasibility study for establishing a retirement or nursing home for Seventh Day Baptists, reflecting "a deep concern for ministry to the aged"; (6) fuller utilization of the "great amount of quality material available for use by our churches" from the various Conference-related agencies; (7) continued review of Seventh Day Baptistdistinctives, leading to even more creative Sabbath observance; (8) visitation of lone Sabbathkeepers in this country and Seventh Day Baptists in other lands as a part of individual travel schedules; (9) learning "the blessings deferred giving provides for additional giving opportunities that benefit the entire work of the General Conference and related agencies"; and (10) dedicated and sacrificial stewardship so that "reserve funds can be maintained for emergencies" and so that the ministries and missions of Seventh Day Baptists can be carried on in full and effective fashion — for Christ and His Cause!

The potential for effectiveness was enhanced by starting the procedures for all executives to be located at headquarters as a "Coordinating Leadership Team" and the establishment of a General Council, the official representative mechanism through which all segments of the denomination (between General Conference sessions) can plan and expedite the work of the church in a fully coordinated way.

The delegates to General Conference are to be highly commended for reaching unified conclusions in spite of strong differences of opinion. Out of prayerful consideration of issues and the conscientious seeking of God’s will we have come a most encouraging unanimity of spirit — a oneness of desire to move forward together in advancing Christ’s Kingdom.

ACCESSIONS

ALFRED STATION, N.Y.
Rev. E. Zeigler, Pastor

SALEMVILLE, PA
Mrs. Edith Rousch, Pastor

BEDFORD, N.Y.
Rev. L. M. Traylor, Pastor

WASHINGTON, D.C.
Rev. M. E. Davis, Pastor

DODGE CENTER, MN
Rev. E. S. S. Toothaker, Pastor

SALISBURY, W. Va.
Rev. C. A. Maguire, Pastor

ARLINGTON, VA
Mrs. Edith Rousch, Pastor

LORAIN, OH
Mrs. Edith Rousch, Pastor

ROANOKE, VA
Rev. L. M. Traylor, Pastor

EASTON, PA
Mrs. Edith Rousch, Pastor

BATTLE CREEK, MI
S. Kenneth Davis, Pastor

CINCINNATI, OH
Rev. L. M. Traylor, Pastor

MARTIN, IN
Rev. C. A. Maguire, Pastor

SANTOS, BRAZIL
Rev. J. R. Trousdale, Pastor

GRAND FORKS, ND
Rev. L. M. Traylor, Pastor

FOREST, VA
Rev. C. A. Maguire, Pastor

CLINTON, IA
Rev. J. R. Trousdale, Pastor

SHARON, PA
Rev. C. A. Maguire, Pastor

CORRINTH, GA
Rev. L. M. Traylor, Pastor

McNAIR, GA
Rev. C. A. Maguire, Pastor
have a warm woolly coat like the sheep or to be dressed in the beautiful red feathers of the cardinal.
And as for strength, well, I can lift rocks and carry them, but I sure don't have the muscle power of the elephant or the pulling strength of the horse.
And this body of mine is so slow. Almost any creature can outrun me, in a race with the cheetah I feel like I'm standing still.
Lord, are you sure this is what you had in mind for my body? Any chance of trading it in on a new model?
Now that imaginary soliloquy of Adam's may have seemed silly to you. And you're right, of course. It was silly. Just as silly as some of the thoughts you and I have had about our own bodies.
The adolescent years are an especially trying time for us humans, because it's then we become acutely aware of our bodies. We feel and see physical changes taking place, and what we observe can cause some pretty intense anxiety.
During my late adolescence I was unfortunate enough to suffer from virulent attacks of acne. And if ever in my life I thought the Lord had botched a job, it was when I thought about the slip-ups in quality control he had made in letting my broken-out face off the production line.
How I envied my friends, they of the blemish-free complexions. How I dreaded the job of trying to shave off my newly-sprouting whiskers, whiskers strategically placed, by some malevolent power, among the unwelcome eruptions on my face. Trying to use a razor blade in such circumstances was to flirt with unintentional suicide from loss of blood.
And whereas my non-pimpled friends considered their wallets to be the most valuable possession worn on their persons, I thought differently. If, in a crowd, I suspected pickpockets lurking about, my hand instinctively darted to the tube of Clearasil in my pocket, which was both constant companion and balm in Gilead.
I suppose all of us have had times when we doubted the Almighty's judgment in designing our bodies. There's probably not a person in the world who is perfectly content with their body.
While men wish for broader shoulders or better arches on their feet, women long for longer lashes, tresses that are darker (or lighter), more of them at some places and less of themselves at other places. And this state of affairs continues throughout life, if anything, it gets worse the older we get.
Our hair changes color or it departs altogether. We begin to experience aches, pains, and diseases which remind us that our bodies are running down, getting old, wearing out.
And even in our advancing years are people to envy. We wish we could be in the same good condition as that of our neighbor who's exactly our age, but whose body seems 10 years younger than our own. We see a picture in the paper of a 90-year-old who goes for a swim every morning and jogs a mile each afternoon.
And we think to ourselves: Why is it that I've never been truly happy with my body?
That question has troubled human beings at every time in history. One way of dealing with it has been to devalue the body, to regard it as unimportant, or at best, a nuisance. Of rare importance in Church history was a philosophy quite widespread in the first centuries of the Christian era. This philosophy was known as Gnosticism, and it held that only the realm of the intellect and the spirit were important. The merely physical was to be despised.
Christians who were attracted to Gnostic philosophy began to teach that Christ had not really been human; he only looked human. They believed the human body was too corrupt for God ever to appear in such a form.
But the New Testament writers repudiated the Gnostic view. So in John's Gospel we read: "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). And Paul the Apostle did not accept the Greek view that at death, the soul is freed at last from the body which is its prison house.
Paul believed that when we leave our physical bodies behind we are given a "spiritual body" (1 Cor. 15:44). Exactly what this "spiritual body" was like, Paul did not say. But like the other biblical writers, Paul subscribed to the Hebrew understanding that the human body was an important part of God's creation, that like everything else in creation, God saw that it was "good." Genesis says, "God created man in his own image" (Gen. 1:27). And the phrase, "in his own image," refers to the totality of "man." In Hebrew thought, the body means the self, the personality, the whole person.
Therefore we discover that the Bible, far from regarding the body as corrupt or despicable or insignificant, actually teaches that the body is to be honored as an indispensable element of a good creation.
Martin Luther was reflecting this view of the human body when he said, "The fact that Adam and Eve walked about naked was their greatest adornment before God.
and all creatures." Coming across that quotation from
Luther, I was reminded of the humorous scene in the movie Oh, God! where the Lord comes into the bedroom of Jerry, the man God has chosen as his messenger. Jerry is taking a shower at the time, and he is embarrassed at the thought of stepping out of the shower without any clothes on. Sensing his embarrassment, God says to Jerry, "What's the matter? You think I don't know what you've got?" Although that's a somewhat mundane way of saying it, that line from the movie is in perfect keeping with the biblical understanding of the human body. God shaped us, and felt good about it when he finished. Thus we do well to take a fresh look at the feelings we have about our own bodies.

True, neither your body or mine is perfect, exactly as we might wish it could be. But, on the other hand, our bodies are not merely nuisances which get in the way of the really worthwhile things of life. Like so much of what we have, our bodies are gifts—gifts from God. And so the real gift which is our body is in the matter of diet. And here it's not so much a matter of deliberately choosing to consume what we know to be harmful as it is habits formed out of ignorance. Our living patterns have changed in the last few decades: More and more we eat so-called "convenience" foods, the pre-mixed, pre-cooked, instant foods adapted to suit our busy schedules. Convenience is one thing, good nutrition is something else. Most of us aren't eating very well. Our diets are high in sugars and fats and preservatives.

Without knowing it perhaps, we are mistreating our bodies and those of our children. But enough emphasis on the negative. For there is another choice we have. Instead of mistreating the body, we can offer it to God "as a living sacrifice," to use a biblical phrase.

It's obvious that the work we can accomplish, whether its purpose be that of providing for our own or our family's needs or of doing acts of good will and helpfulness to our neighbors and loved ones, is dependent to a large degree on our bodily strength. So good health is not just something that's nice to have for its own sake. It is requisite for the fulfilling of our calling as Christians.

Paul, writing in 1 Corinthians, went a step further. He asserted that our bodies were temples in which God's spirit could dwell. As Christians, we are free to do anything we choose, said Paul. But not all things we choose are helpful; some of our choices can enslave us. Your bodies are limbs and organs of Christ himself, said the Apostle (1 Cor. 6:20).

So what we use our bodies for should honor Christ. We can not separate physical acts from the rest of our activity. What we do with our bodies will have psychological and spiritual consequences. And the opposite is true as well. Our mental and emotional state affects our physical well-being. We know this to be true in our own experience. But usually we never go beyond an intellectual acknowledgement of this truth.

I would like to commend a more ambitious step. I want to encourage you to start loving your body. That may sound strange to you. It may even strike you as repugnant. If that is so, then it's because we've been brought up to admire only the bodies of the beautiful people: the lithe, tanned limbs of the young Adonises and Venuses on the tv and movie screens.

But I'm not talking about vain admiration of some ideal. I'm talking about learning to love your own body—flat feet, myopic eyes, warts, wrinkles, and all! Love it for the miracle it is—a flesh and blood machine of incredible resilience and adaptability, an organism so complex that medical doctors are baffled by it far more often than they're willing to admit.

Love it because you've been through an awful lot with it in your lifetime. Love it because it has enabled you to learn and love and experience life.

Love it and forgive it for the times it has kept you in bed with a wretched cold or the flu.

Love it because it's been kept up remarkably well considering how you've treated it.

And love it because it is God's gift to you, and it is the Temple in which God's spirit may dwell if you will allow it; and from that dwelling place, the Spirit may smile with your eyes, may speak lovingly with your voice, may offer the band of friendship and love.

How will you love your body? By caring for it, by treating it with respect, by not placing unreasonable demands on it. God will bless your care, for he has given you this body to serve you and to be your during your lifetime on this earth.

And I believe—though, like Paul, I can't begin to prove it—that when our lives here are ended, that God will have another kind of body waiting for us.

And though I've learned to be reasonably happy with the body I have now, I have a feeling that my next body is going to be something fantastic:

So shall you...[Reprinted with permission of the author from Messenger, a publication of the Church of the Brethren.]

October 1978

The Sabbath Recorder

by Pastor Robert W. Babcock

WHY SHOULD I

JOIN THE CHURCH?

Some Christians feel that joining a church is unnecessary. They reason: "I am saved, so why bother about a human organization which is subject to frailty?" Others go to the opposite extreme and regard church membership as must because it's a condition of salvation.

The informed believer adopts neither view. He understands fully that the church, composed of people who may err or sin, cannot save a soul. Yet, under normal conditions he deems it wise to join the church. In doing so, he is aware of the danger involved. Nothing seems to please the devil more than to cause people to turn their gaze from Christ and to focus it upon a man or a cause or an organization. When one joins the church, his basic loyalty must remain uniquely and forever centered in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Why do most Christians join the church? It is normal and right that Christians unite in assemblies. The underlying principle of churches is Biblical and valid. We are specifically entreated by Paul in his letter to the Hebrews: "Let us not forsake the assembling together for the purpose of exhorting one another and provoking one another unto love and good works.

We are told repeatedly in the Scriptures that we are to receive Christ into our hearts and confess Him before men. Matthew 10:32 says, "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven." Joining the church is one way of confessing Christ publicly before men.

A man may be a native-born citizen of his country. When war is declared he dons the uniform of his nation and joins the ranks, proudly and publicly proclaiming his allegiance to the land of his birth. The child of God has been born into the kingdom of God, but a desperate conflict rages between the forces of the Lord and the armies of darkness. Faithful to the captain of his salvation, the child of God joins the visible ranks of the army of God by publicly putting on the uniform of church membership.

Further, one joins the church because of all institutions on earth, the Christian assembly presents the noblest opportunity for corporate worship and united witness around the world. The communion of the saints is no idle watchword. It is a convocation or mutual encouragement in the things of God, and a channel for ever-widening testimony to the ends of the earth. The cumulative spiritual force of a group of believers normally makes a stronger impact than the efforts of a single child of God. Veritas
AN OBEDIENT PEOPLE?

by Rev. Francis D. Saunders

This writer had been deeply impressed with the amount of emphasis placed on obedience during the 1978 General Conference study and worship hours. He has heard strong voices at the opposite ends of the debate on denominational reorganization; one saying, “God has not yet said ‘go’!” and the other contending, “Whoever hesitated, let’s get on with it!” The voices calling for obedience, however, have been vibrant and alive, and perhaps the reason God’s directive has not been sooner, clearer and more articulate, is that we have not learned the lesson of consistent, day by day, moment by moment dedication to the revealed will of God.

“If you love me, keep my commandments,” is a direct mandate from Jesus Christ to those who profess to adore Him.


Let’s take another look at the commandments which Jesus affirms to be the test of our true love. There are two which He proclaims to be greatest of all: First, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy mind, and with all thy strength!” And second, “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself!” Consider then, love in relationship to obedience.

1. THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT OF ALL: “Love God completely.” In the moral law, note how the first four commandments reflect this love toward God!

The First Commandment: “Thou shalt have no other gods before me!”

No other gods! No other preference! Not one thing? How about personal possessions? How about riches, popularity? What about family, friends, social status? How about security, a bank account, permanent fund? Not anything before God? May each explore the depth of his own soul and respond: A loving people?? An obedient people?? If you love me, keep my commandment!

The Second Commandment: “Thou shalt not make any graven images, nor bow down to them!”

How much time do we spend in worshiping the God of heaven? As much time as we spend with that new car, or boat, or house? As much as in fishing, or hunting, or golfing, or working, or whatever? Let each soul explore the distribution of his time and respond accordingly. A loving people?? An obedient people?? “If you love me, keep my commandment!

The Third Commandment: “Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain!”

How careful are we of the words that slip from our tongues? To what extent are expressed thoughts Spirit controlled? How eloquently do the activities of our lives match the strong testimony of our lips? To what extent do the expressives of our lips shed reproach on the one whose name we bear? Let each listen to the tenor of his language and determine. A loving people?? An obedient people?? “If you love me, keep my commandment!

II. THE SECOND GREATEST COMMANDMENT: “Love your neighbor as yourself!”

See how the remaining six relate in love to one’s fellowmen.

The Sabbath Recorder

The Fifth Commandment: “Honor thy father and mother” (with remedying promises).

We see parents provoking children to wrath! We are aware of children rebelling against all restraint and direction! It may be that the chief reason for the chaotic moral climate in our society, is the breakdown of the traditional, Biblical family unit with its honoring of parental wisdom and control. Look at your own family and determine: A loving people?? An obedient people?? “If you love me, keep my commandment!

The Sixth Commandment: “Thou shalt not kill!”

Jesus interpreted in these words: “He that is angry with his brother without cause has committed murder in his heart!” How deeply the Saviour penetrates into the depths of our desires! Petty grievances! Jealousies!

How easily we succumb to the temptation to react violently to every real or imagined attack upon our personal or way of behavior! We become angry, vindictive, mean! Search your own heart and give answer. A loving people?? An obedient people?? “If you love me, keep my commandment!

The Seventh Commandment: “Thou shalt not commit adultery!”

Here again the Savior interprets with a spiritual note: “He who looks with lust has committed adultery already in his heart.” Actions are the outward response to the inward condition of the heart. How desperately we need the inward cleansing and power of the Spirit of God. The administrative potential of the Church’s program is not as important as the spiritual purity of God’s people. So, in order to go forward for God, we need to be cleansed by His power. How is our love? A loving people?? An obedient people?? “If you love me, keep my commandment!

The Eighth Commandment: “Thou shalt not use false witness!”

Lying and perjury—these are two which He proclaims to be commandments which Jesus affirms! To the power of faith! A praising people? A loving people? An obedient people? An obedient people? An obedient people? An obedient people?

The Ninth Commandment: “Thou shalt not take the Lord’s name in vain!”

A loving people? An obedient people? “If you love me, keep my commandment!

The Tenth Commandment: “Thou shalt not covet!”

Selfishness seems to be the order of the day; and mankind seeks first those things which will supposedly enrich his temporal living. He is discontent with the way things are. He seeks for higher wages and greater benefits, primarily for the betterment of his own self, regardless of the welfare of others. This is the day by day testimonial of labor-management controversies, and the trap into which we all so easily fall. Covering the things belonging to others is the sign of our discontent. How about you? A loving people?? An obedient people?? “If you love me, keep my commandment!

The Tenth Commandment: “Thou shalt not covet!”


The Tenth Commandment: “Thou shalt not covet!”


Spirit of love, for “God is love!”

Seventh Day Baptists stand at the summit of the mountain of denominational growth and accompanying reorganization. It is imperative that our attention be focused on the righteous demands of the law of God; that we listen not only attentively, but also responsively to the Saviour’s plea: “If you love me, keep my commandment!” and it is most probable that our spiritual commitment and growth will be in direct proportion to our response to His plea.

The words so strong had tried This giant task to fail, But it had felt the windstorms And stood against them all. Just then I saw another branch So far, — yet it was dead. The wind to soon would break it, By its own lingering dead. Am I a branch that’s growing The life of Christ to tell? Or will some neighbor find, Spend eternity in hell? So may I stand more firmly. Put His hand again in mine. For heaven is the watchword If your life is in the Vine. JESUS SAID — I am the vine, you are the branches.
The Lord truly does have plans for each of our lives. He revealed this to each of the SCSC workers this summer. Often we rebel against God's plan for our lives because we don't feel we can trust Him with everything. But they, revealed that there are plans, which was Jesus' way of showing God's love.

Our SCSC workers did a variety of things this summer as they served the congregations and communities in Battle Creek, MI; DeRuyter, N.Y.; Verona, N.Y.; Paint Rock, AL; and Sunshine Mountain, MS. They helped construct a new building to provide a home for retarded children. They worked as counselors in camps, they ministered to men in a correctional facility, they picked corn and weeded gardens. They planned and taught Vacation Bible Schools and daily Bible Clubs, they started and organized new youth groups. They also cleaned churches, typed, nursed the sick, loved little children, and sang for the elderly. They met people right where they were, which was Jesus' way of showing God's love.

SCSC means doing whatever you are called upon to do. It often means doing things you just don't want to do. Yet, hopefully, you begin to learn that there are needs to be met, people who have not experienced God in the everyday things of life, and there are more of them than most of us can imagine, people who haven't met God at all.

Many of the workers experienced radical life-style changes, along with great cultural differences and climate changes. Many had to learn new approaches, or more patience; some had to learn to accept more responsibility than they ever had before, to be more self-disciplined and plan their time more wisely than they had ever been called upon to do before. Others had to learn how not to assume responsibility, but simply do what was planned for them, and often that is as great a change as assuming responsibility. For the boys who served at Sunshine Mountain it not only meant working long, hard hours in the hot sun, and learning a great many new skills, but being more isolated from people and activities than they had ever experienced before.

At our training sessions we studied about the Holy Spirit as our helper and His willingness to aid us in meeting our needs. This became a reality to each SCSCer as he or she was called upon to do things they didn't know how to do or perhaps didn't even want to do. The Helper is so available to any Christian who is willing to allow Him to work in his or her life. We also studied many of God's promises and we found them to be absolutely true. "Lo, I am with you alway," and "I will never leave you or forsake you." "Come unto me all ye who are weary, and I will give you rest." "My God will supply all your needs," and more of these precious promises.
PINE STREET
GOSPEL CHAPEL
JOINS
CONFERENCE

MIDDLETOWN, CT. — One of the newest Seventh Day Baptist churches has a long history as an independent Sabbathkeeping congregation. Formed shortly after the beginning of the twentieth century, the Pine Street Gospel Chapel of Middletown, Conn., shortly afterwards broke affiliation with the Adventist movement and became an independent church. Through the years there developed a close fellowship between the Chapel and the Eastern Association of Seventh Day Baptist Churches in session in England Adventist Conference.

In August the General Conference in session at Houghton College, New York, welcomed six new churches into its fellowship, including the Pine Street Gospel Chapel (SDB). Throughout its history the church has been served by two pastors. Pastor Charles H. Reimers, a former Seventh-day Adventist, was unable to continue his ministry in Middletown when the Adventists turned from a wooden remnant of the old Greenbriar Church to a stone structure in 1932. Recently they have been able to build a small brick edifice. It took approximately three years to build for the people refused to go into debt. The students at nearby Wesleyan University would often humorously comment that "They went to their parties and we went to build the building." During this time Pastor J. Kimshel became the pastor of the Conference.

In May 1978, the Association met at the Pawcatuck Street Church in Westerly, R.I.

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Because of these and other differences the Conference was officially disbanded in 1932. It has continued to exist as a church in Middletown. For quite some time the building stood vacant. Finally those who had constructed the church with their own funds and hands decided that services should be resumed. On Sabbath Day, March 6, 1918, they assembled for worship in the church. Soon afterwards Brother Reimers received notice from the prosecuting attorney that complaint had been made that he and his followers had broken into and were using the Adventist church. The group was advised not to use the building but rather to seek to purchase it. However, the Conference was unwilling to sell to the small congregation. Time dragged on and finally, God touched the heart of a friend of Brother Reimers, who though not a Sabbathkeeper, offered to buy the property and then resell it to the congregation. This he did.

When the building was completed, as is the custom among Adventist churches, the lot and church were deeded over to the Southern New England Conference. Brother Reimers was never in favor of the schemes to raise money. He felt that anyone would be easily impressed with the idea that the getting of money was the principal burden of their message. And because he refused to preach the urge for money as the regular program required, he was dropped from leadership and membership by the Conference.

Today the church corporation owns the property without any mortgage or other indebtedness. There is a membership of 31 and services are held each Sabbath at 11:00 a.m. The church is currently seeking pastoral leadership. Any prospective applicants should contact the church clerk, Mr. Howard McCallif, Thayer Road, Higganum, CT 06441, telephone (203) 347-2752. Let us pray for the prosperity of the work in Middletown. May God bless these friends and members of the Central SDB Church. It happened because there is a group of people who believe that God wants an SDB church in Prince George County. It happened because of the vision of the mother church in commissioning four families to begin this work. It also happened because the denomination has in recent years created a climate through the Commitment to Growth program. It happened! It sure did! Why did it happen? Because throughout the history of the Washington SDB Church all of her pastors have had dreams of expanding the witness of the church. This event happened in part because the Washington Church, the Southeastern Association, and the South Jersey churches were able to project church growth and create the Washington Project. It happened because there is a group of people who believe that God wants an SDB church in Prince George County. It happened because of the vision of the mother church in commissioning four families to begin this work. It also happened because the denomination has in recent years created a climate through the Commitment to Growth program. It happened! It sure did! God has spoken and it is good — the Central Seventh-day Baptist Church.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY DAY
SABBATH, OCTOBER 21, 1978
YOUR GIFT HELPS SHARE
THE WORD OF GOD

The Sabbath Recorder

CENTRAL
SDB
CHURCH
ORGANIZED

Three friends and members of the Central SDB Church gathered for the official organization at the Largo Senior High School where the new congregation worships each Sabbath. Frailty this new work will prosper and be led of the Holy Spirit.

It happened! It sure did! It is something new, yet it has been done before. What is it? Well, Seventh Day Baptists have once again put down their stakes into fertile soil; they have set up their ministry in a new community. They have returned to a state which has not seen a new Seventh Day Baptist church organized since 1834, in the state of Maryland. Seventh Day Baptists have organized a new church in Maryland, the Central SDB Church of Upper Marlboro!

For some months Seventh Day Baptists in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, D.C. have been conducting Sabbath services at the Largo Senior High School, Upper Marlboro. Recently they have been a "branch" of the Washington church and called Kenneth Chroniger to serve as pastor. Pastor Ken with his wife Barbara and two children moved to Maryland from Missouri where he was enrolled in Nazarene Theological Seminary. On July 22, 1978 the Central SDB Church was officially organized and welcomed into the Eastern Association of Seventh Day Baptist Churches in Salem, WV, Daytona Beach, FL, and Waterford, CT, to mention just a few.

The celebration began with a 37th celebration through worship. Pastor Doyle Zwibel, pastor of the Middle Island, WV, church, stirred the congregation to a deeper understanding of why we were called together through the Sabbath morning message. Other participants in the worship celebration were Pastor Kenneth Chroniger; Pastor Gordon Lawson, First Hopkinson SDB Church, RI; Pastor Don Stewart, Hope Presbyterian of Largo, MD; and Pastor Jack Morris of the Largo Community Church. We had a good season of celebration with 47 present to share in this great event.

The meeting for the purpose of organizing the Central church was opened with the singing of a hymn by the congregation and a prayer by Pastor Chroniger. The meeting was called to order by the clerk of the branch church, Mrs. Barbara Lacey. Mrs. Lacey related greetings from sister churches and organizations of the denomination plus community groups.

An organizational Council was formed with Dr. K. D. Hurley as chairman and Mrs. Marie Zwibel as clerk. Pastor Chroniger presented the Council with a historical sketch of the church, the proposed covenant, affiliation statement and constitution. A financial report was given by Earl Hibbard; Barbara Lacey presented the names of those who sought to join the Central church. A question and answer session followed. The motion was made, seconded and carried that with the blessing of the Council the Central SDB Church proceed with the organization. The charter members joined together in reading the covenant aloud and followed that by individually signing the covenant.

The church recognized the prior ordination of Pratt Chroniger as deacon and Rose (Mrs. Pratt) Chroniger as deaconess. The following officers were elected: President — Pastor Kenneth Chroniger; Vice-President — Ernest K. Bee, Jr.; Secretary — Barbara Lacey; Treasurer — Earl Hibbard; Sabbath School Superintendent — Barbara Lacey; Youth Director — Donald Chroniger; Director at large — Errol Billington.

The Rev. Leland Davis, pastor of the Washington SDB Church, presented the charge to Christian responsibility, Dr. K. D. Hurley, executive secretary of the denomination, presented the charge to denominational responsibilities. The organizational meeting was followed both by a Communion service and a reception.

Why not go out on the limb — that's where the fruit is!
CARNALES FOR CHRIST

The Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Church is involved in reaching out to Mexican-American gang members in our community. We have had contact with them for about four years but only for the last year and a half. We have made a concerted effort to reach large numbers of them.

Our first contacts were made when Pastor Leland Davis was here and three or four kids came to Bible studies for about a year. After that we almost lost contact with them except for an occasional visit.

At some point (I don't know exactly when) while I was praying with a few friends in my living room, I had a "vision." I didn't see something with my eyes but I had a very clear mental image of hundreds of Mexican-American teen-agers filling up the entire courtyard between my house and the church next door. I felt sure at that time that God was going to save hundreds of them, but I shortly forgot about the vision and didn't remember about it until we began to work in earnest with the gang kids about two and a half years later.

I began to seek after a ministry with gang members after a providential chain of events: reestablishment of contact with the original boys through their request to attend camp; the helpful rebuke of one of their leaders; and a trip to Magic Mountain. We have continued having two meetings a week, on Tuesday and Thursday nights, with small groups getting together on Monday and Wednesday. Our average attendance has risen to about fifty, most of whom arrive at the church through our "bus ministry," and depends on the number of cars we can scrounge together. We drive all over Northeast Los Angeles picking up people for the meetings.

We are now involved with three gangs: "Los Avenues," "Dogtown," and "Big Hazard." All of them are allied so there is no fighting among them. We have almost as many girls as boys. There are girls as well as boys; the average age is about fifteen, although they may range from nine and ten years old to thirty.

I have lots of help, my wife, Sue, Pat Pell, the people from God's Lighthouse, a woman named Rosie Duren who used to be a gang member, and lots of folks from other Chicano churches who have agreed to go to the meetings as speakers or musicians. One big task before us is to develop leadership from within the group of converts. Some of the converted gang members have already helped quite a bit in providing spiritual leadership to their peers.

We long-range goal is a Chicano Seventh Day Baptist congregation with at least three hundred gang members (with their families) in attendance. I think this might take place by 1981. In the meantime, our short-range goals are to develop indigenous leadership, to begin believers' meetings for the nurture of converts (very soon, probably on Sabbaths), and to begin events that will take place by 1981. In the meantime, our short-range goals are to develop indigenous leadership, to begin believers' meetings for the nurture of converts (very soon, probably on Sabbaths), and to begin events that will take place by 1981.
NEW FAMILY CONCERN SERIES ANNOUNCED

A new coordinated and comprehensive book and curriculum series for training adults in family and marriage relationships has been announced by Victor Books and Family Concern. "This is the first time we know of that a family and marriage curriculum of this particular type has been available to the church," said J. Allan Peterson, consulting editor of the series and president of Family Concern. "This new, twelve-book series will bring Biblical principles and practical insights to every aspect of family life from accepting singleness or choosing a mate to raising a teen-ager."

The first four books in the Family Concern series will be released in July 1979: Conquering Family Stress by J. Allan Peterson deals with family crises; Two To Get Ready by Antonio Fornieles, D. D., is concerned with preparation for marriage; Loneliness: Living Between the Times by Nancy Potts has as its theme the universal experience of loneliness, and One Is A Whole Number by Barbara Smith concerns itself with the single adult within the church. The Family That Listens, a book on family communication by H. Norman Wright, will be available in early fall, 1978. The seven additional titles which complete the series are scheduled for July 1979.

Each of the authors brings the knowledge and experience of professional background and personal involvement with families and churches to the practical issues affecting contemporary families. Each book in the series is accompanied by a Personal Involvement Workbook, which may be used by individuals or groups for further study and application of material presented in the book. A Leader's Guide with multiple transparency masters is available for conducting thirteen group sessions with each book.

The Family Concern series is an effective, planned approach to adult church school electives. It is a suitable curriculum for adult training programs and may be used profitably in church and home weekly Bible study groups and personal enrichment programs. It can also provide the content core for programs such as retreats, VBS, seminars and family camps. It is a valuable resource to help counseling pastors extend the impact of counseling time.

A Guide to Curriculum Subjects appears in each book. It directs readers to specific topics covered in each of the books. This will enable churches, families and individuals to find further help in areas of specific need where it occurs elsewhere in the series.

The books, leader's book and individual workbooks are each $2.95. They may be purchased at any Christian Book Store that carries Victor Books or may be ordered from:

FAMILY CONCERNS
1415 Hill Avenue
Wheaton, IL 60187

NOVEMBER YOUTH STUDY

While Jeannie Wilhelm was at the Sound Studio in Plainfield, she developed a series of taped Youth Use. The are usable for program and study. Each tape has enough material for more than one session. Please order early so that the leader and program committee have an opportunity to study and plan use of the material.

Tape # 1 2 3
1 "A STARTING PLACE"
2 "Growing and Growing Pains"
3 "Response...Christian Responsibility"

Order from:
SDB Sound Studio
P.O. Box 868
Plainfield, NJ 07061

ASSOCIATED CONFERENCES

The many challenges of holding special sessions for children ages four through youth of eighteen were well met this year at General Conference. Earl and Diane Hibbard provided thirteen lively youngsters, ages four and five with a happy experience. Their schedule included stories, music, learning activities, handiwork, and play. (We are grateful for a large quantity of toys from the Fisher-Price Company. They have a policy of contributing reconditioned toys to non-profit organizations.)

Christine Boyd taught these children several songs which were enthusiastically shared with parents and friends at the Sabbath afternoon program.

Sixteen Primary youngsters met with Rev. Socrates Thompson and Janice Henry for classes. The group enjoyed swimming as part of their recreation.

Barbara Burdick assisted with singing. Their presentation Sabbath afternoon included Bearing the Fruit and a singing version of John 3:16.

The Junior and Senior High groups had the privilege of using "The Music Machine" curriculum material which included innovative classroom lessons and a musical score.

Patty Lawton directed the music which was presented Sabbath afternoon. The excellence of this singing was rewarded by a standing ovation given by the audience.

Junior class lessons were taught by Robert Van Horn. In addition to the dramas and activities planned in the lessons, the group designed and made posters related to "Fruits of the Spirit," which was the theme of Music Machine.

Susie Pinder assisted by Dave and Margaret Taylor, Maryanne Maxson and Nina Sholtz directed the lessons and handwork for the class sessions of the Junior High class.

For the first time at General Conference the youth, ages fifteen through eighteen were given an opportunity to have their own Associated Conference. Joyce Lyons, from Toronto, Canada, was director of this class.

The program consisting of Bible study, related activities, and participation in regular interest groups was enthusiastically received.

Their contribution to the Sabbath afternoon program was an original skit placing the story of the Prodigal Son in modern setting.

A trip to Letchworth Park had been designed for this group only. It was later opened to other youth as the need was indicated.

The Church School Committee and the Youth Ministries Committee commend the directors and their assistants who gave much time and effort into making the Associated Conferences a success.

As one director said, "...the lessons and especially the message of the songs will stay with and influence the actions of everyone...as they go back home—and that's what it's all about."

(continued on page 34)

BOOKS YOUR FAMILY CAN USE

An entertaining and educational new series of books for children and parents to read together has been released by the Educational Products Division of Word, Inc.

"Ready - Set - Grow!" is the name of the series, whose author is the nationally known authority on child development, Joy Wilt.

The "Ready - Set - Grow!" series contains six books, each 128 pages, each focusing on a particular aspect of growing up.

You are All Right affirms a child's membership in the human family. It helps a child to see that his or her similarities to others are normal, acceptable, desirable, and God-given. It is a guide to developing a positive attitude toward human uniqueness.

(continued on page 34)
Verse for the month: “Oh God, in mercy bless us; let your face beam with joy as you look down on us. Send us around the world with the news of your saving power, with the plan for all mankind…Praise God, O world! May all the peoples of the earth give thanks to you. For the earth has yielded abundant harvests. God, even our own God, will bless us. And peoples from remotest lands will worship him.”

The Sabbath Recorder

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- The Lord to work among the SDB’s during the Sabbath School year.
- Pastor Parr at church service the previous Sabbath
- The newly elected officers of the SDB World Federation
- Golden SDB Church as it meets in the Parish SDB Church
- Rev. S. D. Anderson at Sabbath School
- Course from Missionary School in Plainfield, NJ

- Committee on Support and Retirement (SOB) action
- The SOB in the Netherlands
- The SOB in the UK
- Pastor S. R. Shepherd and the new church in Kenya
- Pastor Elias Canaco and the Mexican brethren as they seek a teacher for the new school
- New SOB groups meeting in the USA and their “mother churches”
- SOB Church without pastor — that the Lord will lead and direct the key leaders
- The SOB youth section at the MBA conference

PLAINFIELD, N.J. — The World Federation sessions were very important for many of us as we prepared for the SDB’s World Federation meetings. There are positions which seemed to come, the Conference sessions were a blessing to all who attended, and Keynote Sermon was written for the safe journey of Pastor Peat, Sister Codrington and Brother L. H. Wright on Sunday.

The business sessions were held on Sunday, led by our Conference President Willard Smith. The sisters who showed them around the capitol building. Besides sightseeing, they attended our World Federation meetings and stopped in Philadelphia to see the historic sights.

Another fellowship dinner was held August 26, followed by informal Conference reports and discussion. At least 20 from our congregation were present, 12 of whom were delegates. Jeanne Wilhem very capably conducted our services and the Bible study. As one of the members, Sharon Maltsby, Douglas Paquette, and Joanna Pearson, on behalf of the CBCM.

Two of our young people attended Jersey Oaks Junior Camp and three...
attended Senior Camp. A weekly Bible club is being led by Betty Ironson, June Waterman, and Sharon Hurley.

Our new RSV pulpit Bible in memory of L. H. North was dedicated July 29, when our member from Holland, John Faehnrich, gave the children's message. The children took part in the dedication. One hundred new hymnals in memory of Dorothy Clarke Paquette are to be dedicated September 9.

At our July quarterly meeting we voted to dismiss 19 inactive members who wanted to be dropped, thus bringing our membership down to 383. This is more realistic, though we still have many members who want to be active. How about our other churches?

Our brass ensemble played beautiful music at July 15 and 22 services and also led our singspiration on the front lawn of the church the second Sabbath.

Joanna Pearson is a freshman at King's College, Briarcliff Manor, N.Y., and Antoinette Duryea is a freshman at Southeastern University, Selinsgrove, Pa.

We look forward to our planning retreat at Baptist Camp, Lebanon, N.J., September 22-24. May it be a time of spiritual renewal, leading to both numerical and spiritual growth for our church.

-Paula M. Hunt, Parker

Scripture Gems

The Sabbath Recorder

Rev. Paul B. Osborn
Nortonville, KS

- For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren; Romans 8:29 NAS.

- This is a guarantee that some day we will be like Christ. The word “image” does not mean just an accidental resemblance, but a derived likeness, like the parental likeness in a child. It does not mean just an appearance, not based on reality, but the word “conform” indicates an inner, real likeness.

- The theological struggle between “the sovereignty of God” and “the free will of man” seems to me to be resolved here. Some people are afraid of the word “predestination” or “pre-determined” as it could be translated—but let this verse be a good explanation of it. God’s absolute sovereignty has decreed that whoever accepts Christ as Savior will be like His Son; I like the way Paul paraphrases it, “For from the beginning God decided that those who came to Him—and all who believed He who would—should become like His Son...”

- So, having exercised my free will, having asked forgiveness of my sins, having become His child by the new birth, I can rest on the promise of the preceding verse, “that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God...” I can depend upon God, and to the rest of you I say, “Please be patient, God is not finished with me yet!”

OBITUARIES

ABELMANN, - Nancy Kenan, daugh- ter of Carl and Helen Cary Kenan, was born July 12, 1926 at Marion, Wisconsin, and died at her home in Milton, Wis., on Sep. 3, 1978 following a long illness. She was a graduate of Milton High School and had taught in Milton East elementary school since 1952.

She had been very active in all activities in southern Wisconsin and also in community affairs. She had served her church as clerk and treasurer and in some of the organizational positions. She is survived by four children: Peggy; Elizabeth; Carol; and Alan; five grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. John Kenan, one brother, Mr. and Mrs. John Kenan, and one brother, Mr. and Mrs. John Kenan, one brother, Mr. and Mrs. John Kenan, and one brother, Mr. and Mrs. John Kenan. One brother, Mr. and Mrs. John Kenan.

Funeral services were conducted on September 6th at the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Milton by Pastor Earl Easton. Burial was at Milton Cemetery.

E.D.

GREEN, - Lester, son of Clarence V. and Blanche A. Green, was born May 5, 1907 and died July 30, 1978. He was a member of the Altoona Seventh Day Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Gladys Upholker Green, and one son, Douglas L.; two stepsons, John Rogers Upholker and Laura Upholker. He is also survived by his mother, Mrs. John Upholker, his mother, Mrs. John Upholker; and one brother, Mr. John Upholker.

Having been cremated, his ashes were buried at the Altoon Rural Cemetery where graveside services were conducted by Rev. E. Zavetz.

R.E.

LIPPINCOTT, - Truman G. was born Sept. 5, 1929 in Gurnee, Illinois, and died at Rogers Memorial Hospital, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, on August 1, 1978 after a long illness.

He moved to Milton as a young man and graduated from Milton Union High School and attended Milton College. He graduated from Glade Park on Feb. 14, 1921. He was a member of the Milton Union High School Class of 1921.

He was a member of the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church, and represented the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church at the following conferences: the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church, and represented the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church at the following conferences: the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church.

He died on December 24, 1938, the married H. Harold Trenchard. He preceded her in death in 1959.

His survivors are: A daughter, Mrs. Barbara Ann Smith; a son, Thomas; and two grandchildren.

LIPPINCOTT.

TOY, - Barbara Louise (Rogers), was born at Fannin, Illinois, February 2, 1932, and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John U. Durant, Boulder, Colorado, on August 10, 1978.

She was the daughter of Roy and Pauline Rogers, both of whom she lost at an early age. She is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John U. Durant; and one grandson.

A private service was held at the home of the Toy family, Boulder, Colorado, on August 18, 1978. The service was conducted by Pastor Earl Easton.

R.L.Z.

UTTER, - Wilfred Brown Utter, son of George H. and Elizabeth L. Utter, was born September 13, 1914, in Westerly, R.I., and died at the age of 63 on September 1, 1978, in Westerly, R.I.

He was the publisher of the Westerley and a newspaper executive for nearly 40 years. He was the husband of Ruth Hubbard Utter, married September 22, 1920.

In addition to his long career in journalism, Mr. Utter was deeply involved in Boy Scouting, Lion's Club activities, and various community functions. He joined the scouting movement in 1916 when he was made Assistant Scout Master of Troop 1, Westerly. From that point on, he devoted much time and energy to the young men of the town and the state of Rhode Island. He became a member of the board of Directors of the Rhode Island Boy Scouts and was one of the first men to present it to him in 1946 by the National Boy Scout Council in recognition of the excellence of his service.

Mr. Utter was very active in the various newspaper organizations throughout New England. He was an active member of the Pawsoo Seventh Day Baptist Church for many years.

Surviving are his wife, Ruth; one daughter, Mrs. John (Rogers) Dent; three grandchildren, Amy H. Durant, Durrie M. Durant, and John L. Durant.

A memorial service was held at the Pawsoo Seventh Day Baptist Church on September 5, 1978, with Pastor Russell W. Harrier officiating. Burial was in River Bend Cemetery, Westerly.

R.W.H.

NOTE

During the Conference ice-cream social there was a mix-up in freezer parts. The Bob Austins have a freezer, Steril. Slyce freezer freez- er. Will the possessor of the “too large” freezer lid please contact the Bob Austins at (507) 374-2316 or write Box 381, Dodge Center, MN 55927. Thank you.

October 1978

The Sabbath Recorder
SO SHALL YE REAP (Continued from pg. 10)

brining his sheaves with him” (Psalm 126:6).

This sermon by Dr. Edward J. Horsley of Denver, CO, was delivered at Conference Monday evening August 7, 1978.

CAN WE TRUST IN GOD?

This is the real question that is posed in our engagement in the dangerous game of the arms race. Is our real trust in these weapons of human destruction, or in the God who bids us be “our brother’s keeper”?

At the recent disarmament conference which was held at the United Nations Building in New York City, the effort was made to find a way to cut down on the burgeoning arms budget of the various nations, so to use the savings for other needed relief, but no nation seemed really ready to cut down on what was (falsely) called the “defense” budget. Yet God has promised in His Word that no nation that puts its trust in Him and follows His Commandments, shall ever lose His presence and blessing.

Listen to these words from the Old Testament prophet:

Hosae 2:18, “I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land; and I will enable the young man to live in safety,” 61, “Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has healed us, that he may heal us; he has stricken, and he will bind us up.” 10:13, “You have plowed iniquity, you have reap’d injustice; you have eaten the fruit of lies. Because you have trusted in your chariots and in the multitude of your horsemen, Isaiah 1:18, “Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow...” Isaiah 3:2, 4, “For out of Jerusalem shall go forth the law... He shall judge between the nations, and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.”

I believe that these promises are not just for that time, nor for some future time, but for now.

Turning the Arms Race Around

It is with these passages in mind that we brought to Conference at Houghton College a proposal that our country cut down its expenditure for the arms race by one-tenth, and this amount be used for feeding the hungry nations and for rebuilding our decaying cities. This proposal was considered at Conference, we were commended for our effort to achieve peace throughout the years, and it was suggested that appropriate material on peace be sent to the churches for their study.

Our nation can and should be the first to indicate a reversal of the arms race. We do not hold other nations captive, nor do we have China at our door steps, nor do we have a history of being threatened by warfare against us. Such a resolution would be a signal to the East European countries that we are praying for their desire for freedom, but we are not contemplating an attack on them. They have probably been held to great poverty and hardship due to their fear of an attack from us. Last, and not the least important of all would be the aid to hungry and deprived nations of the world. It is said that the world’s expense for armament amounts to one million a minute. If we could use even if this were given to hungry nations, it would increase their income by 700,000 a minute.

Turning Enemies into Friends

The German and Japanese people were once considered to be our enemies, but they are no longer. Perhaps because of the secret deals that lie in the trade routes along the seven seas, but a large part of it is due to the fact that we have China at our door steps. I have China at our door steps. I have China at our door steps, and I have Japan at my back. Inasmuch as certain nations of the Lord Jesus Christ, that we “love our enemies, and pray for them that persecute us.”

Can we trust God? The answer lies primarily within ourselves. Do the promises of the prophets in the Old Testament mean anything to us? Or do we really trust our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ and His blessed presence within our own lives?

-Rev. Paul S. Bardick

Waterford, CT

The Milo, W.V., church held a planning retreat at Camp Wakonda Sept. 14th. Part of the retreat included the members of the Advisory Board, the Growth Force, chairmen of committees and heads of organizations. The retreat included Bible study; a sharing of concerns in regard to program and personnel; an evaluation of the church calendar the plans and programs for coming months.

The Sabbath Recorder

October 1978

FAITH NEEDED TO COUNTER BALLET

by Linda Lawson

MANILA — Chris Elkins, a former member of the Unification Church, told a group of youth at the Second Baptist Youth World Conference here that the best weapon they have against cults is to study the Bible and know what they believe.

Elkins, who in less than three years, rose to the position of assistant to the American president of the church, led an evening discussion group on “Confronting the Unification Church.” After two and one-half years in the movement, Elkins left in 1976.

“The only thing that brought me out was my relationship to Jesus Christ,” he said.

A senior at the University of Arizona in 1975, Elkins was an honor student and the youngest president when he was recruited by the followers of Sun Myung Moon. “I found God, and I thought I had joined a Christian organization,” said Elkins, who now employs by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

After joining, he dropped out of school and began working up to eighteen hours a day with the church. “We are trying to make a political pros and cons. Is it the use of violence to which we raise our objections?”

In commenting on the giving of funds to the Patriotic Front a spokesman for the World Council of Churches, commented: “We don’t believe the money will be used to buy guns. We don’t even try to have control over how the money is spent.”

FLEXI-TIME BILL TO AID EMPLOYER RELIGIOUS NEEDS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Americans United for Separation of Church and State has endorsed Eleanor Holmes Norton, chairperson of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, for her active support of a Senate bill that would allow employees to work overtime in lieu of time taken off for religious purposes.

“Eleanor Holmes Norton, chairperson of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, won the support of Abraham Ribicoff and his Senate Committee on Government Affairs are to be congratulated for consistently reporting the bill for Senate action,” said Andrew Leigh Gunn, executive director of Americans United.

The measure will make it possible for Christians, Jews, and Moslems to work flexible work schedules so they will not have to work on religious holy days and so that no loss in productivity results to the employer and no loss of pay or leave time to the employee.

A similar bill, introduced by Rep. Stephen Solarz (D-NY), was passed by the House in May.

“Americans United for Separation of Church and State urges the adoption of this bill so that religious minorities and federal employees may be met without hardship to them or to the government,” Mr. Gunn said.

RUSSIAN ADVENTISTS PERSECUTED

Pastor Michael Wurmbrand, who has a ministry to the underground church in Communist lands, reports that Sabbathkeepers in the USSR are suffering persecution.

Elder Vladimir Shtselkov, president of the Free Seventh-day Adventist movement in the USSR (underground), has already spent twenty-five years of his life in prison. After having been freed in 1967, he resumed his witnessing and secretly printed the magazine The True Witness. For these offenses, despite the fact that he is 82 years of age, he has recently been put in prison again. No doubt many western Christians would give up their activity for Christ when faced with prison at this age. Elder Shtselkov does not consider himself too old to walk in the martyrs’ way.

Pray for this dear brother and his family. May God give our encouragement to witness while we may do so freely.
GENERAL CONFERENCE at Houghton College in August provided a chance to review the philosophy of Our World Mission budgeting; to analyze giving trends of recent years; to consider current economic conditions; and to observe the commitment of Seventh Day Baptists to OWMM as an integral part of their dedication to the Lord.

An expanded budget requiring approximately $325,000 in designated and undesignated giving for 1979 was enthusiastically adopted, reflecting programs by the boards and agencies that are considered to be "in the best interest of church growth and visibility for the denomination."

However, Commission and the Budget and Finance Interest Committee expressed these cautions:

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**OUR WORLD MISSION**

Budgetary Receipts for August 1978

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<th>August OWMM</th>
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**AUGUST SUMMARY**

Receipts for eight months:

- New York NY: $1,698,520.00
- North Jersey NJ: $2,830,345.17
- North Loop NE: 9,056,125.00
- Northeast NY: 5,064,655.00
- Pain Rock AL: 1,924,240.00
- Phoenix AZ: 379,800.00
- Plainfield NJ: 8,490,1,573.53
- Patina County FL: 849,492.08
- Richburg NY: 3,679,317.00
- Riverside CA: 14,942,1,663.00
- Rockville RI: 792,35.00
- Salem W: 8,490,679.00
- Salemville PA: 2,264,945.41
- Schenectady NY: 679,25.00
- Seattle WA: 3,716,157.99
- Shiloh NY: 16,414,8,606.36
- Stoneroft IL: 1,123,300.00
- Sunshine Mountain MS: 566,65.00
- Texarkana AR: 566,30.00
- Upper East Tenn. TN: 175,270.00
- Verona NY: 3,962,461.00
- Walworth WI: 2,490,300.00
- Washington DC: 2,547,595.00
- Waterford CT: 4,328,537.00
- Westerly RI: 9,056,285.00
- White Cloud MI: 2,038,450.52
- Total To Disburse: $9,065,22
- Total Owed: $171,034.83

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**1979 Conference theme:** "If you have love, all men will know you are MY DISCIPLES." - John 13:35

**LOVE IS SHOWN BY GIVING**

*The Sabbath Express*
Seeking God's wisdom, solving personal conflicts, obtaining a willing heart, knowing how God would have things done, were all things that God spoke to the young people as they sought His leading during their prayer times. Many experienced great joy in the many good and painful happenings as they praised God "in all things." God truly did meet their needs as they humbled themselves and came to Him in prayer.

The Holy Spirit will continue to show us ways we can share God's love more effectively. From our gathering at evaluation we have discovered the need for better communication between church members and their pastors, as well as a greater need for the entire church to be aware of the plans for the team. We discovered the need for more church members to be involved in the carrying out of those plans since the primary purpose of SCSC is to supplement the program of the local church.

In most instances SCSC is not set up to provide a summer program without the church's involvement. Also, we feel it is important for that church, the pastor and the team to evaluate together what has been accomplished at the conclusion of the summer's work.

God has called each of us to go into the world and share the good news that He wants to have a relationship with each person. He has called each of us to this very important mission. We won't all do it the same way or in the same place, but He has called us because He has a special plan and a special place for each one of us.

May God impress this upon your hearts as surely as He has impressed it upon the hearts of those who have served in SCSC this summer. "There are many ways in which God works in our lives, but it is the same God who does the work in and through all of us who are His." (1 Cor. 12:6).

**BOOKS YOUR FAMILY CAN USE**
(continued from page 25)

**CHILDREN'S PAGE ANSWERS**
(from page 33)

Answers:
1. love, olive
2. joy, raisins
3. peace, almonds
4. patience, fig
5. kindness, apples
6. goodness, pomegranates
7. faith, (faithfulness), yucca
8. humble (pistachios), pistachio nuts
9. self-control, grapes

**PRAYER POWER HOUR**

We invite you to join in our Prayer Power Hour held each Tuesday morning at 10:00 EST at denominational headquarters in Plainfield, N.J. If you have a specific request you would like to share with our headquarters staff please send it in. Whether you are in California, Texas, Minnesota, or Rhode Island, you can join us in prayer where you are in your own time zone. Let us pray for power in our own lives, in our local church situation and across the denomination. May God bless and guide as we seek a new filling of His Spirit.

---

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**EDITORIAL**

**I'VE BEEN TO THE MOUNTAIN**

"I've been to the mountain, and I have seen the glory of the Lord." These words, expressed by Moses so many years ago, could describe the feeling of many who attended Conference this year. Truly it is a mountaintop experience when God's people from across the country can be joined by brethren from overseas lands to share in a week of fellowship and spiritual renewal.

The presence of our World Federation delegates and observers added much to the week's activities. They had a part in many phases of the Conference sessions. Their contributions in worship, music, prayer, discussion, and their attractive displays will not soon be forgotten. The Conference, World Federation Sessions and Training Institute were no doubt a great learning process for our overseas delegates as well. One remarked that he had received twenty years of education in the three weeks spent among us. May God bless those who carry on His work around the world. Certainly after this Conference it has been brought home to us all that we are one in Christ regardless of race, language or national origin.

In the area of church growth many were blessed by the presentations of Dr. Carl George of the Fuller Evangelistic Association. Evidence of growth was seen with the welcoming of six new congregations into Conference membership. New work has been established in several other places, some since Conference, and we look forward to more good reports during the year. The denomination is hearing an unmistakable call from the Holy Spirit to reach out with the message that Christ has given us. I believe we are being led into a rich harvest in the months and years ahead; may we be equal to the opportunities afforded us.

**ELDER BEEBE CALLED TO REST**

Elder Clifford A. Beebe, long-time Seventh Day Baptist pastor and home missionary, entered into rest on Sabbath, September 16, 1978, at the home of his daughter in Daytona Beach, FL. The staff of the Sabbath Recorder joins with Seventh Day Baptists across the country in grateful appreciation for Pastor Beebe's life of unselfish service to the cause of Christ. To Mrs. Beebe and the family we express our deepest sympathy; an extended obituary will appear in our November issue.

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**MISSIONARY SOCIETY MEETING CHANGE**

The quarterly Board meeting of the SDB Missionary Society will be held Oct. 22 instead of Oct. 29 so as not to conflict with the meeting of the General Council. The meeting of the Society will be held at the Pawtucket Church in Westerly, R.I.

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October 1978
HERE'S SOMETHING EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT!

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS IN EUROPE AND AMERICA, THE FIRST TWO VOLUMES, WILL SOON BE OUT OF PRINT. If you would like to own the three-volume set of Seventh Day Baptist history or if your church library needs a set now is the time to order. We have about fifty complete sets remaining — when these are gone only volume three will be available. Don't be disappointed order today: $27.00 for the three volumes.

Also available on a very limited basis is CHINA LETTERS by Dr. Rosa Palmberg. This story of SDB missions in China will not be reprinted, final close-out price is $2.50.

A FREE PEOPLE IN SEARCH OF A FREE LAND — by Rev. Don Sanford is a current interpretation of the SDB movement westward. Price $5.00.

Also available from the Publishing House for your church needs: "God of the Sabbath" songsheets, "Bearing the Fruit" songsheets, Baptism certificates, License To Preach certificates, Offering envelopes, Transfer of Membership forms (for clerk use).

NO LONGER AVAILABLE:

Order from:
Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House
P.O. Box 868
Plainfield, NJ 07061