

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE

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November 16, 1962

Baylor Board Sets Integration Study

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Baylor University's board of trustees has authorized a committee to study the question of integration at the nation's largest Southern Baptist university.

The committee, yet to be named, was instructed to report to the trustees' next meeting, slated April 16, 1963, in Houston.

A Houston attorney, Ralph B. Lee, made the motion in the board meeting here calling for the study to be made promptly "and in an orderly and business-like manner."

"I feel we could be guilty of the 'sin of silence' as well as a sin of omission or commission if we do not act now," Lee told the board.

His motion called for a committee of nine representatives from a geographical and professional cross-section of the board. Chairman Hilton Howell of Waco, an attorney, will name the committee at a later date.

Three days later, the faculty of Baylor's College of Arts and Sciences endorsed the actions of the board in establishing the committee to study integration.

The faculty passed unanimously a resolution approving of "the principle of accepting qualified students regardless of race."

In introducing the motion at the faculty meeting, History Professor Paul Armistead said that "it is time the faculty expressed its views on the question of integration."

"The students and Texas Baptists have shown they are in favor of integration, and I think it is our turn," Armistead said.

Just two days before the Baylor board of trustees slated the study of integration, the Baylor Student Congress, governing organization for the student body, voted 25-12 in favor of a resolution pledging its support and cooperation with desegregation at Baylor.

The Student Congress voiced its applause of a resolution passed at the recent Baptist General Convention of Texas expressing deep regret for the racial turmoil at the University of Mississippi, and acknowledging "our share of the blame for a sinful silence concerning the moral and spiritual principle involved in human relationships."

Both the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the Student Congress passed the resolution which said, "we reaffirm our conviction that it is not only lawful in our democracy but also right for people of every race to have equal opportunities for training."

In other action, the Baylor board of trustees offered a five-year contract renewal to head football coach, John Bridgers, and authorized a committee to recommend a policy for establishing a faculty housing area near the present campus in Waco.

Graham Ends El Paso Crusade,
Speaks At Seminary, Baylor

By the Baptist Press

Evangelist Billy Graham ended a week-long crusade in El Paso, Tex., in which 3,823 decisions for Christ were reported and then spoke to students at two Baptist institutions--Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth and Baylor University in Waco, Tex.

More than 85,000 people attended the El Paso crusade, which Graham called one of the most successful he had conducted.

Speaking at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth following the El Paso crusade, Graham urged seminary students to "put everything you have into your studies and to make sure your life is dedicated before you run out and start preaching."

"We are living in a day of clever preaching," he told the students, "but quotations from the Bible are the best thing for a preacher to use in sermons. They are quick and powerful and sharper than a two-edged sword."

Graham, just returned from crusades in Latin America, said that Brazil is the only place in the world where the church is on the offensive. "Brazil in 25 years will become a Protestant nation," he predicted.

"The liberalism that has invaded Europe and this country doesn't affect South America," Graham said. "They still believe the Bible there."

At Baylor, Graham told 4,000 students they should accept God by faith, rather than trying to prove the existence of God intellectually or through logic.

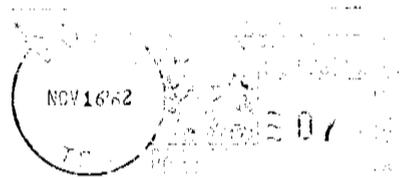
"I can't give you a mathematical formula and say 'this is God,'" Graham said. "I can't put God in a test tube. But when I look at the vastness of space and the complexity of life even under a microscope, I know there is a supernatural power responsible for it," he said.

It doesn't matter whether you believe man was created through evolution or with mud, it was still a supernatural power that did it, Graham said.

Graham spoke at Baylor as a part of the school's World Emphasis Week.



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