

January 10, 1964

Purposeful TV Viewing  
Offers 1964 Blessing

By Clarence Duncan

Can you get a spiritual blessing from your television set?

It's not only possible, but more than likely if you participate in televangelism during 1964, says Paul M. Stevens, director of Southern Baptists' Radio-Television Commission in Fort Worth.

The commission is currently preparing to launch its sixth successive year of tel vangelism, a project designed to make maximum Christian use of "The Answer" series on television.

Until last year, televangelism was primarily a method of personal witnessing through which Christians asked unsaved and unchurched people to view the television program and to discuss the spiritual and moral implications presented by the film, Stevens said.

"This year," said Stevens, "we are trying to bring Televangelism to the family and have the film discussions and viewing sessions occur within the family circle."

Stevens said that closer family relationships and communicating basic Christian beliefs within the family can help to solve the "growing problems of juvenile and adult delinquency."

Televangelism can still work as it has in the past as a group venture and as a church-wide incentive to personal witnessing and visitation, but the emphasis in 1964 will be to reach the family. Either way, the purpose of "The Answer" dramas is to consider contemporary daily problems which any of us may be called on to face, and to provide a scriptural solution for them, Stevens said.

This year "The Answer" films fit into four different categories: family problems, social problems, teenage problems, and personal problems. Televangelism begins the first Sunday in February and continues for nine weeks through Easter Sunday, March 29. The station, day, time of telecast and specific films to be shown will be in your local newspaper television log, and in your state Baptist paper.

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South Carolina Post

(1-10-64)

COLUMBIA, S. C. (BP)--James L. Beacham, assistant pastor of First Baptist Church, Spartanburg, S. C., has taken a position with the South Carolina Baptist Convention here. The convention's general board elected Beacham associate director of the Brotherhood department.

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By Oct. 1, Maryland  
Wants New Building

(1-10-64)

BALTIMORE (BP)--By Oct. 1, the Baptist Convention of Maryland hopes to occupy a new office building in Lutherville, a suburb of Baltimore.

The state mission board, which administers convention affairs between annual sessions, has approved preliminary drawings for a combination Baptist Book Store and denominational office structure.

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The building will cost an estimated \$350,000, not counting land. The 3.2 acre lot has been bought for \$150,000. Land not needed for the building will be resold.

The mission board also authorized its building subcommittee to solicit bids for subcontracts. It expected the Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School Board, as operator of the book store, to put up \$100,000 as prepayment of rent for a certain number of years.

Other funds will come from the sale of the present office building in Baltimore. It's anticipated the convention will have a building debt of \$250,000, according to Roy D. Gresham of Baltimore, Maryland executive secretary.

The book store and Maryland Baptist office building presently are located at different addresses in the city.

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J. B. Weatherspoon  
Retires Second Time

(1-10-64)

WAKE FOREST, N. C. (BP)--J. B. Weatherspoon, pastor and seminary teacher for 57 years, has retired for the second time.

Since 1958, when he retired as professor of preaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Dr. Weatherspoon has filled a visiting professorship at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Now, at 77, he has retired again. He plans to continue to make his home in nearby Raleigh, where he and Mrs. Weatherspoon (the former Emily K. Lansdell, once president of Carver School of Missions and Social Work in Louisville) have lived since their marriage in 1962.

Weatherspoon said he looked forward to freedom from the pressure and hurry of class bells, and wants to write and preach more.

Born in nearby Durham County, N. C., in 1886, Weatherspoon was ordained to the gospel ministry while a student in Wake Forest College (Baptist), which formerly occupied the campus now belonging to Southeastern Seminary.

From Wake Forest College he went to Southern Seminary in Louisville and acquired the doctor of theology degree. He served several churches in Kentucky and North Carolina during this time.

He taught for several years in the 1910's at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. Between that time and the call in 1929 to a professorship at Southern Seminary, Weatherspoon served the First Baptist Church at Winston-Salem, N. C., and Highland Baptist Church of Louisville.

He was chairman of the old Social Service Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, since renamed the Christian Life Commission, and preached the Convention Sermon at the 1935 session in Memphis.

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