



October 5, 1966

Ohio Professor Tells
Why He Entered Ministry

By Rosa Lynn Gruits

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)--"What! You are resigning a full professorship at Ohio State University to become a minister!"

This was the reaction of "some of my friends when I announced my decision to enter the ministry," relates H. Eugene McLeod, a student at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

At one time the Ph.D. graduate of Iowa State University regarded the position at Ohio State University as the opportunity of his professional life. An agricultural engineer, McLeod had been teaching at Clemson for nine years when he was invited to become a full professor at Ohio State.

"I was happy," he recalls. "The work was creative and challenging. We had three children, a comfortable home in a nice suburban area, and everything we could want in terms of material things."

Yet two years after his arrival, McLeod turned his back on a secure and promising future for the unpretentious role of a ministerial student with an uncertain future.

In answer to the question "Why", the lean professor from Rembert, S.C., says: "I have always tried to combine my religion with my work, but in the autumn of 1963, I realized that science and technology were demanding all of me.

"I began to feel that I cared about people more on a personal level than I did about this technological level in which I was involved. I saw a tremendous amount of talent pouring into science and technology compared to the little devoted to solving problems in the spiritual realm of life.

"While I was fully aware of the importance of my work (Agricultural engineering is vitally involved in the task of feeding the people of the world.), I thought I could make a better contribution in the ministry."

One day during the time of soul-searching, McLeod casually remarked to his wife, "It might be nice to go to a seminary and study." Aware of the serious implications of that remark, Mrs. McLeod recalls she was stunned. Though they were both very active and happy in their church work, the idea of her husband as a minister was completely new. Little more was said about it, but both of them prayed for the Lord's leading.

"If it were the right thing to do, it would just be all right, though I didn't know how we would do it," reminisced Mrs. McLeod.

After talking to their family pastor, contacting several seminaries, and looking into the family finances, a few weeks later he announced, "I'm about ready to go to seminary." Mrs. McLeod serenely replied, "I am, too."

After agreeing to commit themselves, they telephoned their parents. Amazingly, neither set of parents registered any sense of surprise. This only served to heighten their sense of rightness and peace about their decision.

Today, they are living in the 121-year-old house that had been the home of Charles E. Taylor, president of Wake Forest College (Baptist) from 1884-1905. Over the mantel hangs a portrait of James B. Taylor, the first secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

"We are almost constantly aware of Dr. Charles Taylor's daily prayer: 'Father, help us to raise up, equip, and send forth young men fit for thy ministry!'" McLeod said.

Since coming to Southeastern Seminary, "Things just seem to have fallen into the proper place," states McLeod.

"We have no regrets about our decision. We don't think in terms of having sacrificed. What we gave up materially is more than offset by the blessings which have come to us in our new calling."

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460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
Telephone (615) 244-2355
W. C. Fields, Director
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

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REGIONAL OFFICES**ATLANTA** Walker L. Knight, Editor/161 Spring Street, N.W./Atlanta, Georgia 30303/Telephone (404) 523-2593
DALLAS R. T. McCartney, Editor/103 Baptist Building/Dallas, Texas 75201/Telephone (214) RI 1-1996
WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Editor/200 Maryland Ave., N.E./Washington, D.C. 20002/Telephone (202) 544-4226**New Morality Called
Challenge to Baptists**

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--The closing speaker at the first Christian Ethics Workshop at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary issued a call for Southern Baptists to accept the challenge that the new morality presents, and to develop a Christian ethic that truly helps Christians to make moral decisions.

Ross Coggins, director of communication for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission in Nashville, urged Southern Baptists to accept the challenge "to discover and then to demonstrate the true meaning of Christian character."

"Let us have done with a trivialized morality which has given us the image of repenting of all the small sins while embracing all the large sins," Coggins said. "Let us repent of our preference for a legalism which settles for less than love requires."

"The challenge of the new morality," he said, "is a challenge (for Southern Baptists) to stop straining out gnats while swallowing camels."

Coggins, in a chapel address to students at Southern Seminary closing out the two-day workshop, said that the moral revolution is, in some measure "a reaction against a kind of religion which has as its sole aim the salvation of 'souls'."

"This kind of religion is too busy making Christians to learn to be Christian," he said. "This is why a disturbing number of pastors and evangelists get into trouble over money or sex."

"A passion for souls without a corresponding passion for Christian morality will inevitably end in spiritual bankruptcy," Coggins said.

He suggested that Southern Baptists' evangelistic concern could in some cases be "a camouflage for our own unwillingness to be genuinely prophetic in this confusing age."

"What else can explain our accommodation to racial segregation while we profess missionary zeal for the whole world?" Coggins asked. "What else can explain why we focus maximum energy on small vices while ignoring justice, mercy, and the weightier matters of the law?"

Earlier, Coggins had defined "the new morality," and outlined what he considered to be its good points and its bad points.

"The new morality should not be confused with the neo-hedonism of Hugh Hefner's Playboy philosophy," Coggins said. "The views of Mr. Hefner do need to be refuted, but not equated with the earnest efforts of certain Christian ethicists to recover vitality in morality."

He compared the "new morality" to the "old or traditional morality", saying that the old morality emphasizes "moral absolutes, rooted in the nature of God and the biblical revolution" which Christians have only to apply to changing situations.

The "new morality," however, is based on "the subjective understanding of love's response in each situation," in which man resists the temptation to resort to rules but instead tailors decisions to fit every situation relative to the New Testament concept of agape love.

Coggins listed two positive contributions of the new morality: (1) its emphasis on making moral decisions within the context of a complex social structure, and (2) its challenge emphasis on the moral power of love.

But Coggins cited three negative aspects of the moral revolution, charging that (1) it overemphasizes rejection of all rules save the rule of love, (2) it fails to see that love can use rules of action, and (3) that it is too individualistic and thus fails to produce a moral ethic.

"The debate between traditional morality and the new morality comes down to this: how do Christians make moral decisions? At no time in history have more people sought the answer to this question," he said.

Coggins urged Southern Baptists to come up with intelligent answers, warning that "there may have been a time when the church could reduce morality to a system of easy do's and don'ts but in the present age such a pre-packaged morality is rejected."

**SBC Gifts Exceed
\$35 Million Mark**

NASHVILLE (BP)--Contributions to world missions through the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program unified budget passed the \$17.5 million mark in September, with an additional \$18 million to designated SBC causes bringing the total to \$35.5 million.

World missions contributions for the first three quarters of 1966 were released here by the SBC Executive Committee, which receives the gifts and channels them to various denominational causes.

The contributions, apparently headed for a record by the close of the year, surpassed total world missions gifts during the same period last year by \$3.2 million, or nearly 10 per cent.

Gifts through the Cooperative Program budget, reported at \$17,514,919 through Sept. 30, increased by 8.31 per cent or \$1,344,084 over Cooperative Program contributions for the first three quarters of last year.

Designated contributions to specific SBC missions causes are up 11.59 per cent or \$1,911,523 over designations for the same period last year. Total designated gifts for the nine-months period reached \$18,402,872.

"September was a tremendous month for the Cooperative Program," commented SBC Executive Committee Financial Planning Secretary John H. Williams, who prepared the financial statement.

Contributions for September through the Cooperative Program were reported at \$1,951,162, an increase of 19 per cent over Cooperative Program contributions for September of last year.

The Cooperative Program budget allocates funds to 20 Southern Baptist Convention agencies, institutions and organizations.

So far during 1966, the SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, has received a total of \$22.4 million through the Cooperative Program and designated contributions; and the SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta, has received \$7.2 million.

The monthly financial report prepared by the SBC Executive Committee includes only contributions to support nation and world-wide Baptist missions efforts, and does not include gifts to support local and state-wide Baptist missions causes.

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Knight Named Kentucky
Paper Assistant Editor

10/5/66

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--George W. Knight, former news director at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here, has been named assistant editor of the Western Recorder, official weekly newspaper of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Knight replaces R. G. Puckett, who left the state Baptist paper after three years to become editor of the Maryland Baptist.

The new assistant editor is a graduate of Southern Baptist Seminary here, and recently completed all requirements for the master of theology degree at Southern Seminary.

While a seminary student, he served as news director and as news editor of The Tie, the seminary's monthly publication. More recently he helped establish a monthly newsletter for Kentucky Baptist Hospital, Louisville.

A native of Alabama, Knight majored in journalism at the University of Alabama, graduating in 1962. He was copy editor of the student newspaper, and worked for one year as a reporter for an Alabama weekly publication.

The 26-year-old journalist, an ordained Baptist minister, has also served as pastor of Austin Baptist Chapel, Austin, Ind.

He is married to the former Dorothy Boster of Hartselle, Ala.

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Cutlines

October 5, 1966

Baptist Press Photo

VIET NAM BAPTISM: Lt. Riley Huckaby of Gastonia, N. C., a Southern Baptist chaplain for a Seabee unit in Da Nang, Viet Nam, performs baptismal services in a bay of the South China Sea near Da Nang. (BP PHOTO)

CUTLINES with feature

October 5, 1966

Baptist Press Photo

BALTIMORE BAPTISTS PLAY "THE KING": The pastor and the captain of the Valley Baptist Church's league-winning softball team greet Eddie Feigner (left), known in softball circles as "The King," and the manager of the Baltimore Orioles, Hank Baver (right) prior to an exhibition game at the Orioles home stadium. Representing Valley Baptist Church in Lutherville, Md. is Richard Satchell, pastor (center left), and Karl Kettering, captain (center right). Valley Baptist lost the game to "the King and His Court," a four-man team that plays without an outfield, by a 5-1 score, but won the city-church league in Baltimore. (BP PHOTO)

BP PHOTO CUTLINES

October 5, 1966

With story mailed 9/29/66

FIVE TENNESSEE SBC PRESIDENTS HONORED: A banquet paying tribute to five presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention was held in Nashville by the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board to honor (left to right) H. Franklin Paschall, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Nashville, and current SBC President; W. Wayne Dehoney, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Tenn., and immediate past president of the SBC (1965-66); Ramsey Pollard, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., (SBC president, 1960-61); J. W. Storer of Nashville, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Foundation, (president, 1954-55); and R. G. Lee, pastor emeritus of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, and SBC president, 1949-51. (BP PHOTO)

Cutlines

October 5, 1966

Baptist Press Photo

BIBLE TRANSLATION DAY OBSERVED: Ceremonies in the U.S. Senate noting a Senate Joint Resolution commending Bible Translation Day (Sept. 30, 1966) included cutting of a ribbon by Mrs. Britten Goode, an Apache Indian, (left) and presentation of an Apache New Testament to Sen. Fred R. Harris, right, (D. Okla.), a Baptist who co-sponsored the resolution with Rep. Ben Reifel (D. S.D.). The ceremonies also included speeches by Louis Hartman, secretary of the Catholic Bible Association; by Dan Piatt of the Wycliff Bible Translator and by Morris Watkins, of the Lutheran Bible Society. (BP PHOTO)



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October 5, 1966

Dear Editor:

The attached story and photo are made available to you through the courtesy of Dr. Solomon S. Bernards of New York.

This is the second such story-photo combination offered to you on the significance of the Jewish feasts.

Sincerely,

W. C. Fields
Director

Enclosure

Cutlines

October 5, 1966

Baptist Press Photo

HANUKKAH candles are lighted by Jewish children to celebrate the ancient festival of dedication. This celebration of the Jews occurs this year December 7-14.
(BP) Photo