

October 4, 1967

832

420

**Major Archeological Find  
Unearthed By Seminarians**

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)--A major archeological discovery was unearthed this summer near the Dead Sea in Israel by a professor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary here and five of his students.

To the average layman, the discoveries of four weeks of digging at the site of the Biblical city of Arad might seem very little--only a few pieces of pottery and a part of a casemate wall.

But to archaeologists, it means the end of a five-year controversy over whether a temple site at Tel Arad belongs to the time of Solomon.

The discovery of the casemate wall by the Southeastern Seminary explorers seems to have removed all doubt but that it was Solomonic.

"We believed all along that the temple dated to Solomon's time; now we seem sure of it," said B. Elmo Scoggin, professor of Old Testament at Southeastern Seminary, who was an area supervisor at the archaeological dig last summer.

The professor and his five students were a part of a larger expedition sponsored by the University of North Carolina and the Department of Antiquities of the Government of Israel.

Students from Southeastern Seminary participating in the expedition were Bobby Gene Deviney of Lawndale, N.C.; Joel F. Drinkard Jr., of Greensboro, N.C.; Jack B. Lemons of Charleston, W. Va.; Lynn Reddick of Portal, Ga.; and William F. Yates of Alexander City, Ala.

The seminarians found three pieces of inscribed pottery, known as Ostraka, in addition to the casemate wall. Only 13 pieces of the pottery were found in the entire excavation this summer.

The five years of digging at Tel Arad ended with this summer's excavations. Scoggin expressed the hope that the temple area will now be opened to the public and that the findings will be put on display.

Although the students were permitted to keep very little of their "finds," the summer, they agreed, was "an experience of a life-time."

Lynn Reddick of Georgia said it complemented his understanding of the land and the people of the Bible.

"The dig was a tremendous experience, topped only by the visit to old Jerusalem," said William Yates of Alabama.

Jack Lemons of West Virginia evaluated his experience as having "a real bearing" on his hopes of being a teacher.

The two North Carolina students agreed. "The trip afforded me a new appreciation of archaeology and the thrill of seeing the sacred spots under the guidance of an expert teacher," said Joel Drinkard.

"To be digging in the dirt and rubble and to come across what seems to be another shard; to dig around it or to turn it over and find an iron-age lamp or an Ostrakon is an indescribable experience," related Bobby Deviney.

Still sporting a beard he grew this summer to protect his face from the wind and sun, Scoggin says that he is ready to go for another dig and hopes that by next summer a similar venture can be arranged.

The professor, who speaks Hebrew as well as reads and writes it, is a veteran of 11 archaeological expeditions. His first came when he was a missionary in Israel, 1949-55, at which time he also studied at the Hebrew University.



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October 4, 1967

834

658

Baptists, Others Consider  
Evangelical Ecumenicalism

WASHINGTON (BP)--Forty Protestant churchmen, including seven Southern Baptists, discussed in detail here proposals that evangelicals cooperate in the cause of evangelism, in essence approving a plan advanced by one of the Southern Baptist present.

The meeting, which was closed to the press, was called by Evangelist Billy Graham and Christianity Today Editor Carl F. H. Henry.

As a result of the meeting, a ten-member committee was established to study the possibility of a nation-wide evangelistic drive across denominational lines during 1973.

An overall plan for the drive was presented to the group here by Jess Moody, pastor of the First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, Fla., and was approved by the group (in Moody's words) "lock, stock and barrel."

Moody earlier had outlined the 1973 campaign at a meeting of Florida Baptist pastors in Cocoa Beach, Fla., at a session called "Dialogue: Cape Kennedy." He called the plan "Win America."

The only official action taken by the group was the decision to create a 10-man committee to "study the feasibility of an in-depth trans-denominational evangelistic drive on a national scale in 1973."

Two Southern Baptists were asked to serve on the committee: C. E. Autrey, director of the evangelism division for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board; and H. Franklin Paschall, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Nashville, and president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Attending were key figures of the Churches of Christ, the American Baptist Convention, Southern Baptist Convention, American Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod Lutherans, the Mormon Church in America, the World Evangelical Fellowship, the National Association of Evangelicals, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Christian Reform, Disciples of Christ (Christian Churches); Conservative Baptist, Orthodox Presbyterian, Free Will Baptist, and Evangelical Free Church.

It was not an official meeting with delegates representing each of the denominations present. Rather, it was an unstructured, unofficial gathering called by Graham and Henry.

Three Southern Baptist seminary presidents attended: Duke K. McCall, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville; H. Leo Eddleman, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; and Robert Naylor, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

Others were C. E. Autrey, director of the SBC Home Mission Board evangelism division; John Havlik, associate in this office; Moody, and Alastair Walker, pastor in Griffin, Ga., who made a motion at the Southern Baptist Convention that the SBC study the possibility of cooperation among evangelicals.

Recently the SBC Executive Committee approved a statement which suggested that Southern Baptists, "without compromising convictions or polity, should seek opportunity to share evangelistic concerns and insights with all Christian groups seeking to express interest in the field of evangelism."

The statement asked the SBC Home Mission Board to consider the possibility of calling a conference of evangelism leaders of various Christian denominations..

Plans were announced for the first time for a nation-wide Congress on Evangelism tentatively scheduled in Minneapolis in the fall of 1969 under the chairmanship of Graham and Lutheran Radio Preacher Oswell C. J. Hoffman.

-more-

834

Also discussed were suggestions for large evangelical rallies in key cities to launch the 1973 drive as suggested by Moody.

The group also discussed possibilities for local fellowship meetings of clergymen with a view to common evangelical witness and action, a special emphasis on biblical perspectives among seminary students with the possibility of expanding the current Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship to seminary level, and foundation of a selective theological journal on key issues.

The Christianity Today report indicated that there were no proposals to create a new organization, or for organizational unity of evangelical denominations.

"Theological and ecclesiastical differences were not discussed. Each participant indicated present denominational loyalties," said the release.

The participants cited the spirit and intent of last year's World Congress on Evangelism in Berlin, and mentioned as the theological base for their understanding of evangelism a statement adopted by the Berlin congress.

The meeting was held at the Marriott Key Bridge Motor Hotel in Arlington, Va.

-30-

Graham Says Communism  
Ahead of Christianity

825

10/4/67

224

DALLAS (BP)--Evangelist Billy Graham said here that Communism is ahead of Christianity in dedication and discipline because Christians no longer care about their faith.

Graham spoke before an overflow crowd of 1,000 persons at a combination centennial leadership and stewardship banquet of the First Baptist Church.

"We cannot beat Communist discipline unless we do it with God. Then, this kind of (Christian) discipline can turn Dallas upside down," the famed evangelist said.

"We don't fight for our faith as much as we used to, because we don't care as much as we used to," he added. Graham also pointed out that Christians of today don't fight for their beliefs as they once did because they don't know the gospel well enough to defend it.

Graham said that dedication and discipline are tied to stewardship, noting that the First Baptist Church of Dallas is asking for a \$1.8 million budget.

He added, "If every member of this church were giving this way, sacrificially, we could give \$4 million instead of \$2 million." Graham is both a member and tither of Dallas' First Baptist Church.

"You may wonder in the world of today if the Christian faith is losing its place in our lives," Graham concluded. "But God is at work. It is all part of his plan. And, if he told us what his plan is, we probably wouldn't believe it."

-30-

Southern Baptist Ministers  
Preach In Canadian Crusade

836

10/4/67

98

NEW BRUNSWICK, Canada (BP)--Nineteen Southern Baptist ministers from the United States will preach in the New Brunswick Crusade here, Oct. 29-Nov. 12.

The men, representing 11 states, will preach in 26 churches during the crusade.

Sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and the Baptist Federation of Canada, the crusade will be under the direction of Eual Lawson of the SBC board's division of evangelism, and T. R. Hunter of Canada.

The participating ministers' travel expenses will be financed by their churches.

New Brunswick Territory (a division comparable to our states) is located on the eastern side of Maine.

-30-

NOTE TO EDITORS: A list of the named of the participating pastors is being mailed to the state Baptist paper editors who states are involved.

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835-836

Baptist Committee Hears  
Monday Holiday Report

837

560

WASHINGTON (BP)--No position was taken for or against proposed Monday holidays now pending in Congress at the semi-annual meeting of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs here.

Rather, the committee received a "staff report" which sets forth the issues involved and which describes the conflicting pressures confronted by the nation's lawmakers.

The study was made at the request of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Congress now has before it several proposals to set a number of national holidays on Mondays in order to create more three-day weekends and to stop some of the holidays from occurring in mid-week.

The bills generally would establish Presidents Day the third Monday in February to replace Washington's birthday, set Memorial Day the first Monday in May, Independence Day the first Monday in July, Veterans Day the second Monday in November or in October, and Thanksgiving Day the fourth Monday in November.

Together with Labor Day, this would fix six long weekends a year. Christmas and New Years Day would be unaffected.

Three major reasons are given by the advocates of more long weekends, according to the report. They are:

1. Benefits to employees;
2. Opportunity for more recreation and family togetherness; and
3. Economic pressures from business interest.

Although very little opposition has been expressed to Congress against the proposed changes, those who have expressed themselves cite the following major reasons:

1. Possible adverse effect on church attendance and on religious education programs;
2. Loss of meaning for the national holidays if they become travel days; and
3. Long weekends, it is claimed, result in increased traffic deaths.

Some newspapers and religious leaders have spoken out against the proposed Monday holidays. But according to the staff report, only the Lord's Day Alliance has formally expressed opposition in the hearings held by committees in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

On the other hand, overwhelming testimony and public pressures for the changes make it probable that Congress will approve at least some of the proposals, the report indicated.

Some churchmen have suggested that Fridays instead of Mondays be considered on the theory that this would hurt church attendance less.

Objections to this change arise from precedents already set in shifting Sunday holidays to Monday and by the Labor Day weekend as well as from retailers who would oppose the Friday observance.

In addition, the report pointed out, a "potential inter-faith conflict would be added to the one that already exists over state and local Sunday laws."

"Seventh Day Baptists, Seventh Day Adventists and Jewish organizations would have an interest in the day chosen opposed to that of Sunday worshippers, the report surmised.

A larger issue is related to a predicted four-day week in the future. "If the Monday holiday bill is enacted, it would set a precedent for 'Monday off' when contracts for a four-day week are negotiated," the report continued.

A fact of modern society was pointed out in the staff report. "The churches do not exercise much control of the calendar. Government and economic structures have more control. The churches must adjust as best they can to the policies of others."

At the time of the Baptist Joint Committee meeting the bills were still pending in Congressional committees. However, indications were that Congress might take action in the near future.

The effective date for the new holidays, if approved by Congress, would probably not be before 1970 because calendar companies and labor contracts need at least two years to make their adjustments.

-30-

Public Affairs Committee  
To Study Housing Issues

828

10/4/67

434

WASHINGTON (BP)--The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in semi-annual session here instructed its staff to study problems of housing for low income people.

The studies will report on the need for low cost housing, the scope of government programming in this area, church activity, and the church-state problems that may be involved.

The American Baptist Convention delegation to the committee reported that "American Baptists are now the largest managers of non-governmental, non-profit housing in the United States."

An earlier American Baptist news service report stated that "The convention serves approximately 80,000 residents and patients per year in nursing care, active retirement and moderate income housing units."

American Baptist operate 4,453 units in property valued at nearly \$65,000,000 with operating budgets of over \$22,000,000 according to the report.

Southern Baptist Convention agencies and other bodies sponsoring the Baptist Joint Committee have done very little in the area of low income housing.

In another action the Baptist Joint Committee appointed a special committee to study its purpose and programs as they are related to a proposed building for the agency. Suggestions are being made for a composite office building, research center and a continuing education project in Washington.

This special committee is to investigate the response of its sponsoring bodies to this program projection. It is to report its findings and recommendations to the Baptist Joint Committee in March 1968, if possible.

The committee is instructed to confer with the Baptist World Alliance and the District of Columbia Baptist Convention about possible collaboration in the building project.

The Baptist Joint Committee also reviewed a previously published set of guidelines prepared by the staff on "Religion and Public Education." It decided to continue circulation of these guidelines for six months at the end of which time a report is to be made and a possible revision undertaken.

Frank H. Woyke, executive secretary of the North American Baptist General Conference, was re-elected chairman of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Other officers are Homer J. Tucker, pastor in Newark, N.J., first vice chairman; Bryan F. Archibald, president of Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, second vice chairman; and C. R. Daley, editor of the Western Recorder, Middletown, Ky., recording secretary.

C. Emanuel Carlson is executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee.

Eight Baptist bodies in North America sponsor this Baptist agency in the nation's capital. They are Southern Baptist Convention, American Baptist Convention, Baptist Federation of Canada, Baptist General Conference, North American General Conference, Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., and the National Baptist Convention.

-30-

Baptist Educator Praises  
Vietnam Troop Morale

829

10/4/67

126

AUSTIN, Tex. (BP)--Guy D. Newman, president of Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex., who returned recently from Asia, has praised the morale of the American fighting man in Vietnam.

"Whether we should have gone there in the first place is an academic question," he told board of directors of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs here.

"Now that we are there, it seems that, by and large, most of us believe we should stay until an honorable peace ensues and the Communists are convinced that we are not a 'paper tiger'!"

Discussing his recent trip to Vietnam, Newman said, "I did not hear in any place I visited in Saigon or down in South Vietnam a single note of defeat. Moreover, the people I talked with there and after returning, have agreed that now that we are there, we must stay."

-30-

832

110

CUTLINES

10/4/67

BAPTIST PRESS PHOTO

STUDENTS, PROF SHOW ARTIFACTS: Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary professor B. Elmo Scoggin (standing right) and five of his students display portions of pottery and other artifacts they discovered in an archeological expedition at Tel Arad, Israel this summer. The "dig" resulted in discovery of evidence indicating that a temple site at Tel Arad dates back to the time of King Solomon. The students are (seated left to right) Joel F. Drinkard of Greensboro, N.C.; Lynn Reddick of Portal, Ga.; Jack B. Lemons of Charleston, W. Va.; and (standing) Bobby Deviney of Lawndale, N.C.; and William Yates of Alexander City, Ala. (BE) Photo by Ray Johnson

832