

127 Ninth Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee

October 31, 1949

GLORIETA, SITE OF SOUTHERN BAPTISTS'
SECOND ASSEMBLY, IS DEDICATED TO GOD

GLORIETA, N. Mex.--(BP)--With the snow-capped De Christo mountains nodding their welcome, 250 Baptists formed a circle by the rippling stream in a canyon-like repose here, the morning of October 26, and dedicated to God a second Southern Baptist assembly. The service was a part of the New Mexico Baptist Convention.

The caravan trip from Santa Fe, where the convention was in session, to the site of the new assembly, which is 800 feet higher than Mt. Mitchell, near Ridgecrest, was made immediately upon the announcement by Dr. J. O. Williams, that the Sunday School Board, where he is secretary of education and promotion, had voted to match dollar for dollar up to \$100,000 in developing the New Mexico assembly.

The Southern Baptist Convention voted at Oklahoma City to establish the assembly at Glorieta and instructed the Sunday School Board to study all that is involved in the development of the site and to bring a report to Chicago in 1950. A committee from the Board made up of Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary, Dr. Williams, Mr. Harold Ingraham, and Mr. W. A. Harrell, along with New Mexico Baptists, investigated the site and reported that the property was desirable for development as an assembly.

Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary of the Convention's Executive Committee, also present at the dedicatory service, said he would recommend that the Executive Committee accept title to the 1200-acre property in line with the Convention action.

"Our problem now is to get the money to develop the property so it can become another Ridgecrest and serve as a blessing to thousands of young people and to hundreds of churches," Dr. McCall said. "Our responsibility is to carry out the will of Southern Baptists. With practical considerations, all working together, we can make a reality of our dreams. This property is dedicated to the advancement of Christ's work until he comes again."

It was suggested by various speakers at the meeting that a number of Baptists might want to make an investment in Baptist life by establishing memorials through the building of an auditorium, cottages, or through furnishing some equipment for the Glorieta assembly.

Eleven states, Alaska, and Brazil were represented at the impressive service. In that such a large number of missionaries have gone out from Ridgecrest to bless
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the world, it was significant that Dr. M. Theron Rankin, of the Foreign Mission Board, and Mrs. George R. Martin, president of the Woman's Missionary Union, were present for the dedicatory service. Harry Stagg, state mission secretary of New Mexico, led the dedicatory prayer. Other speakers included Phillip McGahey, New Mexico pastor and member of the Western assembly committee, and James W. Middleton, Atlanta pastor.

In his dedicatory message, Dr. Williams stressed the accessibility by train, plane, and bus to this spot in the heart of the rapidly growing West; the adequacy of the 1200 acres; the adaptability of the grounds for buildings of every need; and the flowing wells and sublime scenery. He received an ovation, however, when he stated that while Glorieta is accessible, adequate, and adaptable, the matter that will always be emphasized is the fact that it is a religious assembly and not a hunter's paradise nor a recreational haven. "Praise the Lord for Glorieta," he said. "We are ready to do all we can until Jesus comes. We are dedicated to this task."

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SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD VOTES \$100,000 TO HELP ESTABLISH GLORIETA ASSEMBLY

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—(BP)—The Baptist Sunday School Board has voted to match dollar for dollar up to \$100,000 any money raised in harmony with the business and financial plan of the Southern Baptist Convention for getting the Glorieta Baptist Assembly started, Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary of the Board, has announced.

"It is our prayer and hope that Glorieta will be an assembly for all Southern Baptists, like Ridgecrest, and Baptists will come from Maryland to Oregon," Dr. Holcomb said, "although we know that it will minister largely to the growing churches in the West. It is difficult to estimate the number of young people who have surrendered at Ridgecrest to preach or to go to a foreign field, and we believe that Glorieta will have the same history. Ridgecrest has been a blessing to churches, from the smallest to the largest, and we hope that Glorieta will have the same record."

Dr. Holcomb said that New Mexico Baptists will probably sponsor an assembly at Glorieta in 1950 as they have done in recent years. No plans are being made for a convention-wide program to be sponsored by the Sunday School Board until 1951.

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