



**BAPTIST PRESS**  
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

**NATIONAL OFFICE**  
460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
Telephone (615) 244-2955  
W. C. Fields, Director  
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

**BUREAUS**

**ATLANTA** Walker L. Knight, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041  
**DALLAS** Orville Scott, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996  
**NASHVILLE** (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lynn M. Davis, Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203, Telephone (615) 254-5461  
**RICHMOND** Jesse C. Fletcher, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (703) 353-0151  
**WASHINGTON** W. Barry Garrett, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

December 8, 1972

**Criswell Would Not Oppose  
Dialogue with National Council**

DALLAS (BP)--Former Southern Baptist Convention president W.A. Criswell told reporters covering the General Assembly of the National Council of Churches that he "would not be opposed" to dialogue with the ecumenical body.

The pastor of the 17,000-member First Baptist Church here did not endorse Southern Baptist Convention membership in the National Council of Churches but said, "Any man who names the name of Christ in truth and sincerity is my brother in the faith."

The outspoken Baptist pastor made it clear, however, that he was not going liberal, but only remaining open to brothers in Christ who may not agree completely with him theologically.

Criswell told reporters in his office, "I believe the literal translation of the scripture, the virgin birth, resurrection, the miracles and all.

"But I believe it is possible, if a man is really right with God and has the spirit of Christ, to stay true to any position and yet sit down with his brother whose theology differs."

With typical Criswell humor, he quipped there are some who call him a "funny-damn-mentalistic."

Criswell said later in another interview that he considers himself a fundamentalist. "My definition of a fundamentalist," he said, "is someone who believes all the Bible is literally true; a liberal is someone who doesn't.

"A man can be a sincere Christian and a soul winner and not be a fundamentalist," Criswell said. "In our convention, we are so deeply conservative that even a liberal in our midst looks like a conservative in any other context."

Gesturing with a Bible, he told reporters here that Paul's writings about sending apostles to minister to different kinds of people compare to present-day denominationalism.

"The genius of our denomination lies in the sovereignty of the local church," he said later. "No convention or association or executive group can take a Southern Baptist church into anything or anywhere.

"But, on the other hand," he continued, "if the Southern Baptist Convention so voted to do a thing like that there is nothing to keep it from so voting.

"American Baptist Convention churches are also sovereign, but the American Baptist Convention, on the national level, belongs to the National Council of Churches.

"I would not recommend that for our convention, but I would love for us to have a willingness to talk to anybody and to present those deep religious convictions that make us Southern Baptist," Criswell declared.

"There are more common grounds than we realize, more things that bind us together than separate us," Criswell told the religious news reporters. "We all too often magnify the differences.

"For us to be bitter in our actions, and accusations is acting in a manner the devil can use, he said. "The better way is love."

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The Southern Baptist Convention is not a member of the National Council of Churches. Although the council has sought to broaden its structure to include such groups as Roman Catholics, Southern Baptists and Missouri Synod Lutherans, no Southern Baptist body has taken action to participate in the National Council.

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Broadman Press Publishes  
New Sexuality Series

12/8/72

NASHVILLE (BP)--A "Sexuality in Christian Living" series of books will be released by Broadman Press in January, 1973, as a response to the 1969 Southern Baptist Convention vote "encouraging all agencies and curriculum planners to give increasing attention" to such material.

The series of six books will provide factual information for leading the individual to develop wholesome attitudes toward sexuality, according to officials of the SBC Sunday School Board here.

Each book is designed to present accurate information that is biblically, medically, socially and psychologically sound for the age group of the intended readers.

"Sexuality in Christian Living" books were planned following a resolution adopted by the 1969 Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans which urged agencies of the Convention "to give increasing attention to basic and special resource materials on family life and sex education for Southern Baptist families and churches," in accordance with their program assignments.

The resolution also stated that "human sexuality and personality fulfillment may best be understood through teaching in home and church."

Curriculum advisors for the series were the staff of the family ministries section of the Sunday School Board, plus an advisory group composed of laymen, board employees and a representative of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

As a beginning response to the Convention action, the family ministries section of the Sunday School Board worked closely with the Christian Life Commission in developing a collection of miscellaneous printed items for "Christian Sex Education: A Resource Packet" published by Broadman in 1971. More than 8,400 packets have been secured by individuals and churches thus far.

Broadman's "Sexuality in Christian Living" books are aimed for individuals six years of age and above, to be used by boys and girls, their parents and teachers.

Robert and Annette Harty have written "Made to Grow" for ages six to eight. This book lays the foundations for wholesome attitudes toward family relationships and human sexuality. God's creation of plants, animals and people sets the background of a natural discussion of where babies come from. God's plan is emphasized in discussing the care and love of parents for a child, the importance and wonder of the family, and the roles of fathers and mothers.

"The Changing Me," for ages 9-11, is by David Edens, director of the marriage and family program at Stephens College, Columbia, Mo., and author of other books in this subject area. Emphasizing God's creative intention, the book discusses six differences, the growth and birth of a baby, simple facts of heredity and family relationships.

For those who are 12 to 14, the series includes "Growing Up with Sex" by Dr. Kenneth Crawford, and Paul D. Simmons. Crawford is a pediatrician in Louisville, and Simmons is an instructor in Christian ethics at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. This book answers questions about the relationship of Christianity to sexuality, Christian value systems, male-female role development, biology of sex and socio-sexual problems.

"Sex Is More than a Word" for ages 15-17 is by Andrew Jester, director of the School of Pastoral Care at the North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem. The book shows the relationship of developing human sexuality to other facets of personality and answers questions honestly and constructively. Included are discussion of male-female role development,

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biology of sex and human reproduction, the biblical approach to sexuality, sexual expression in personality development and the significance of marriage.

"Teaching Your Children About Sex" is a resource book for parents to use in connection with one or more of the age group books. The first three chapters present biblical insights and a theological basis for the Christian view of sex, the physiology of sex, and the intrinsic sexuality of life and the need for a wholesome attitude toward it. Subsequent chapters deal with each of the four age groups, reviewing the questions, problems and needs typical of each group. A glossary defines special words used throughout the series. The author is John Howell, professor of Christian ethics, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City.

"Made for Each Other" is by John W. Drakeford, professor of religious education and counselor in family life, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth. This book is intended to help young adults, whether married or unmarried, understand themselves and their roles. The book is more concerned with beliefs, attitudes and relationships than with mere physiology. It discusses masculinity and femininity, the significance of marriage, sexuality and personality development, sexuality and the single person and misconceptions of the past in contrast with the idea of sex as God's gift.

"Sexuality in Christian Living" books will be available in Baptist and general book stores January 1.

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Hollingsworth Awarded  
Degree Posthumously

12/8/72

FORT WORTH(BP)--Tom C. Hollingsworth Jr., was not able to complete all requirements for two degrees at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

But the faculty voted here to grant the 24-year-old student the master of divinity degree, posthumously.

Hollingsworth was beaten, robbed and murdered in Alabama this summer while selling Bibles to earn funds to complete his seminary degrees.

He has completed all required hours for the master of divinity degree, according to seminary dean Jesse Northcutt here, but had elected to work simultaneously on the master of religious education degree with hopes of receiving both degrees in December.

His body was found by hunters north of Camp Hill, Ala., in a wooded area so dense that search planes flying overhead could not spot his car only 200 yards away.

Police sources said his head had been bashed in by a blunt instrument, and the Bibles he had been selling were scattered around in the woods.

In October, two 17-year-old youth from Camp Hill, Ala., Jimmy Lorenzo Hicks and Ramon Silmon, were sentenced to 30 years imprisonment each after pleading guilty to the murder of Hollingsworth. The sheriff was quoted as saying the youths told him they had promised to buy Bibles from Hollingsworth if he would drive them home to get some money.

Instead, they forced him to stop the car in the woods, robbed him of \$9.07 and killed him, the sheriff said.

Hollingsworth, a native of Gatesville, Tex., and graduate of Baylor University was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom C. Hollingsworth, Southern Baptist missionaries to Argentina for 22 years.

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### Carter Named New Interior Designer

NASHVILLE (BP)--Gene Carter, draftsman in the church architecture department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board for 11 years, has been promoted to interior designer in the department to help Southern Baptist churches in interior design.

The interior design consultation program was approved at the July, 1972, meeting of the Sunday School Board trustees at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center. This program is intended to provide a tailored service to fit the individual needs and wants of churches.

The interior designer will be available to give guidance, on a cost recovery basis, to Southern Baptist churches planning new space or renovation of existing buildings.

The individual church requesting the service would be expected to reimburse the board at a pre-determined rate for time spent on the project, travel expense and living expenses while on the field.

The program design service of suggesting building arrangements for churches will still be available to Southern Baptist churches at no cost.

Carter, a native of Montgomery, Ala., received a bachelor of interior design degree from Auburn University in 1960. Before coming to the Sunday School Board, he worked as an interior designer for a private company in New Orleans, La. He is a member of the American Institute of Interior Designers.

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### Baylor Football Mentor Named "Coach of Year"

12/8/72

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Grant Teaff, whose Baylor University football team won more games than the Bears had won in three previous seasons, has been named coach of the year in the Southwest Conference.

In the 38-year-old Southern Baptist deacon's first year as head coach, the Baptist school here compiled a 5-6 won lost record, compared to a 3-28 record over the last three years.

At a crucial point late in the Southwest Conference race, Baylor had a chance to take over first place from the nationally ranked University of Texas Longhorns.

But the Longhorns broke a 3-3 tie with two fourth quarter touchdowns and dropped the young Bear team, 17-3.

The Longhorns went on to finish first and earn a spot against Alabama in the Cotton Bowl. The Bears, who set a conference record for fumbles and lost several close games, ended up in a fourth place tie.

Teaff, who has spoken 183 times to more than 50,000 people at mostly Christian gatherings since last December, came to Baylor from the head coaching job at Angelo State University, San Angelo, Tex.

"I'm just a football coach," Teaff says, "and I like to think I'm a good one. But I'm also a football coach who loves the Lord and I have no qualms about saying so."

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*460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219*

LYNN MAY HO  
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