



BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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February 25, 1974

Asian Baptists Outnumber European Counterparts

WASHINGTON (BP)--For the first time in history, Baptists in Asia outnumber Baptists in Europe, a recent study by the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) shows.

The new statistical study reports a January 1974 total of 1,160,893 members of Baptist churches in Asia, compared with 1,159,718 in Europe.

The shift came when Asian churches grew by 26,417 while European churches gained 18,504 during 1973. This places Asia second on the Baptist population table. North America continues by far to be first, with about 29 million Baptists.

Asia's growth last year is significant, according to Carl W. Tiller, associate secretary and statistician of the BWA.

"Europe has often been considered the cradle of Baptist faith and witness, and Asia has been traditionally regarded as a mission field," Tiller said. "The 'younger churches' have now grown to the point where their voices will be heard and heeded more than ever before in the world dialogues. Of course, the insights and experiences of the European Baptists will continue to be of great value also to the Baptist community."

Two nations account for most of the Baptist population of Asia--India, which has 734,203 church members, and Burma, with 290,631. The alliance counts the Philippines in its Oceania classification instead of in Asia; otherwise, its figures, along with those of the Middle East nations of Asia, also grouped separately by the alliance, would have put Asia ahead of Europe some years ago.

The extent of Baptist growth is made vivid in a comparison of the new figures with those reported at the time the Baptist World Alliance was formed in 1905. The 1905 Asia figure of 137,352 has multiplied eight times, while the European total of 522,397 has slightly more than doubled.

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Radio Spots Win Awards For Baptist Agency

2/25/74

FORT WORTH (BP)--A series of Independence Day radio spot announcements, produced for Baptists by the radio department of their Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission here, have won a citation from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge (Pa.) for "outstanding accomplishment in helping achieve a better understanding of America and Americans."

The series of spot announcements, endorsed by the Religious Heritage of America before they were released to more than 700 radio stations in 1973, featured historic events, linked with scripture commentary from The Living Bible (paraphrased).

"The spots were designed to help radio stations observe Independence Day in a patriotic manner," observed Edwin Malone, the commission's vice president, radio services.

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Jones, McCullough
Wed Easter Week

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Glendon McCullough, executive director of the Brotherhood Commission, and Miss Marjorie Jones, a Southern Baptist missionary to Equatorial Brazil, will marry during Easter week.

The place and exact date of the private wedding will depend on where and when Miss Jones enters the United States, McCullough said.

The wedding will be the second for McCullough. His first wife, the former Ernestine Kesler, died almost five years ago.

Miss Jones, who was born in Alexandria, La., and reared in Baton Rouge, holds a bachelor of arts degree from Louisiana College and a master's degree in religious education from Woman's Missionary Union Training School, Louisville, Ky.

After stints as a state WMU leader in Kentucky and Louisiana, she began her foreign missionary service in 1955 in Nigeria.

During 1965-69, Miss Jones served as director of Girls Auxiliary (missions education program for girls) for WMU in Birmingham. She was reassigned to Brazil by the Foreign Mission Board in 1970.

Before joining the Brotherhood Commission as chief administrative officer in 1971, McCullough served as director of the division of personnel for the Home Mission Board in Atlanta.

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Pastor's Conference to Open
With Sunday Eve Spectacular

2/25/74

DALLAS (BP)--A Sunday evening "Spiritual Spectacular" rally, featuring a 500-voice choir, addresses by two outstanding preachers and a Christian counselor-psychiatrist and a testimonial from the governor of Texas, will begin the 39th Annual Pastor's Conference to be held here, June 9-10.

A 30-minute concert by the 500-voice combined choirs of First Baptist Church, Dallas, will kick off the Sunday evening rally at 6:30 p.m. in the Dallas Convention Center.

Among speakers for the Sunday evening event will be Texas Governor Dolph Briscoe, who will relate his spiritual experience. The keynote address will be given by W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, to speak on, "The Old Time Religion."

Other Sunday evening speakers are S. M. Lockridge, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, San Diego, Calif., and Dr. Henry Brandt, Christian counselor and psychiatrist.

Lockridge will preach his best know sermon, titled, "Amen." Brandt, who will speak in three conference sessions on topics related to modern preachers' problems, will relate to "The Pastor and His Resources," for his Sunday evening address.

Special music for the evening will be provided by Dan Sampson, Pasadena, Tex., and by Claude Rhea, head of the music department at Samford University in Birmingham.

Three sessions on Monday, to begin at 9:15 a.m., will carry the theme, "There is Hope for Your Church," with Brandt to speak in the morning session on, "The Pastor and His Tools."

J. D. Grey, retired pastor from New Orleans, will discuss the pastor's role as "The Undershepherd of the Flock," and Ronald Prince, pastor from Minden, La., will address the conference on, "The Church is Here to Stay."

Completing the Monday morning slate will be Lockridge, whose topic will be, "Lordship of Christ."

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Special music on Monday morning will be presented by Doug and Mary Scott and by the Free Spirit, from Mobile, Ala.

The Monday afternoon session will begin with a concert by the Centurymen, singing ensemble sponsored by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. The group is directed by Buryl Red, New York, and accompanied by Max Lyall, Nashville.

Speakers and their topics for the afternoon will include:

Brandt, on "The Pastor and His Family;" Harold Fickett, pastor from Van Nuys, Calif., on "The Priority on Evangelism," and James Pleitz, pastor from Pensacola, Fla., to speak on "The Pastor's Power."

Rounding out the Monday afternoon speaker's docket will be Warren C. Hultgren, pastor from Tulsa, Okla. His topic will be "Where Pastors Often Fail." New officers for the Pastor's Conference, 1974-75, will be elected on Monday afternoon and presented during the evening session.

The final session of the Pastor's Conference, on Monday evening, will feature a concert by New York City Opera stars, Robert Hale and Dean Wilder, and special music by George Beverly Shea of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. Cliff Barrows, also of the Graham organization, will speak on the subject, "The King is Coming."

Other speakers and topics for the final session will be: Eddie Leiberman, pastor from Greenville, S. C., on "The Preacher's Paradox;" Andrew Tampling, pastor from Birmingham, Ala., on "The Preacher's Message;" and Edwin Young, pastor from Columbia, S. C., on "The Pastor's Authority."

Jaroy Weber, president of the Pastor's Conference, SBC, and the pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock, Tex., said he hopes the conference will help to re-establish confidence and hope, where needed, in the minds of pastors "so they can return to their local situations committed to the task of reaching people and making disciples."

Weber said, "The idea in the sessions is that Jesus Christ has always been adequate, is adequate now and will always be so."



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39th Annual Pastor's Conference

Southern Baptist Convention

Dallas Convention Center

June 9-10, 1974

Theme: There is Hope for Your Church

Sunday Night Spectacular

- 6:30 Concert by 500 voice choir, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.
- 7:10 Scripture and Prayer, Don Dyer, Baton Rouge, La.
- 7:15 "Pastor and His Resources," Henry Brandt, Michigan
- 7:45 Testimony, Governor Dolph Briscoe, Texas
- 8:00 Congregational and Special Music, Dan Sampson, Pasadena, Tex.
- 8:10 "Amen," S. M. Lockridge, San Diego, Calif.
- 8:40 Offering
- 8:45 Special Music, Claude Rhea, Samford University, Birmingham
- 8:50 "Old Time Religion," W. A. Criswell, Dallas, Tex.
- 9:30 Benediction, Bill Sutton, Orlando, Fla.

Monday Morning Session

- 9:15 Hymn, Doug Scott, Mobile, Ala.
- 9:20 Scripture and Prayer, John Morgan, Houston, Tex.
- 9:25 Special Music, The Free Spirit, Mobile, Ala.
- 9:35 "The Pastor and His Tools," Henry Brandt
- 10:00 "The Church's Prophet," Bailey Smith, Del City, Okla.
- 10:25 Special Music
- 10:30 "The Church is Here to Stay," Ronald Prince, Minden, La.
- 10:55 Congregational Sing, Doug Scott
- 11:00 Offering
- 11:05 "The Undershepherd of the Flock," J. D. Grey, New Orleans, La.
- 11:35 Special Music, Doug and Mary Scott, Mobile, Ala.
- 11:40 "Lordship of Christ," S. M. Lockridge
- 12:10 Benediction, Larry Kennedy, Amory, Miss.

Monday Afternoon Session

- 1:45 Concert by the Centurymen
- 1:55 "Pastor and His Family," Henry Brandt
- 2:20 Special Music, Centurymen
- 2:25 "The Priority on Evangelism," Harold Fickett, Van Nuys, Calif.
- 2:55 Congregational Sing
- 3:00 Election of Officers
- 3:10 Offering
- 3:20 "Pastor's Power," James Pleitz, Pensacola, Fla.
- 3:40 Special Music, Nettie Weber, Lubbock, Tex.
- 3:50 "Where Pastors Often Fail," Warren Hultgren, Tulsa, Okla.
- 4:20 Benediction, Clark Hutchinson, Georgia

Monday Evening Session

- 6:45 Hymn and Prayer
- 6:55 Presentation of New Officers
- 7:00 "Preacher's Paradox," Eddie Leiberman, Greenville, S. C.
- 7:25 Concert, Robert Hale and Dean Wilder, New York City Opera
- 7:40 "The Preacher's Message," Andrew Tampling, Birmingham, Ala.
- 8:05 Congregational Sing
- 8:10 Offering

- 8:20 "The Pastor's Authority," Edwin Young, Columbia, S. C.
- 8:45 Special Music, George Beverly Shea, Billy Graham Evangelistic Association
- 8:50 "The King is Coming," Cliff Barrows, Billy Graham Evangelistic Association
- 9:30 Benediction, A. O. Jenkins, Homer, La.

President--Jaroy Weber, Lubbock, Tex.
Vice President--Bill Weber, Dallas, Tex.
Secretary--Harold H. Coble, Midway City, Calif.
Music Director--Ron Lowry, Lubbock, Tex.