

February 26, 1974

'Christ Makes Man Total
Person,' Astronaut Says

By John Rutledge

HOUSTON (BP)--Southern Baptist astronaut William R. Pogue said his 84 days on the Skylab III mission, the longest manned space voyage, made him realize that man is more than just an intellectual being and needs Christ in his heart to become a total person.

The mission also gave Pogue a heightened awareness of life and his relationships with people. The same thing has happened to others who have gone into space, Pogue, a Baptist deacon, said when interviewed here with his pastor, Bill Darnell, of Nassau Bay (Tex.) Baptist Church.

As a result of the Skylab mission, Pogue said, "I'm firmly convinced that there's more to life than the body and intellect--it's the soul. Raw intellectual capacity is just the shell."

The Baptist astronaut said he now realizes more than ever, "There's that kernel that most of us miss. When a person finds Christ, he becomes a total person."

Pogue said this discovery was renewed and heightened for him during the mission. Being convinced and having it proven are two different things, he said.

At a press conference, Pogue said the flight made him more attuned to his own thought process and the way he looked at the world.

"I hope it restored a proper balance in the way I look at life," he said.

"I certainly have a greater sense of the value of the individual and of the potential of the individual to contribute to society," he continued.

"Relationships with people and our attitudes and feelings are most important," he added.

Pogue said that during the flight he missed "mostly just being with the family and eating dinner."

The difficulties he and fellow astronauts Gerald Carr and Edward Gibson had during the first part of the mission were caused by too heavy a schedule but were cleared up when the crew and the ground control talked it out, the astronauts said.

"It doesn't take much of an overrun in schedule to destroy a mission," Pogue said. "It's the difference between contentment and misery. The schedule was just a little beyond what we could have done well and properly."

Darnell, Pogue's pastor who was with the astronaut's family during the splashdown, said the crew had some problems during reentry and that it was a tense time.

"There was a squawk box that lets you hear everything that is said. We had prayer as they splashed down. It was almost like a religious service in their home," Darnell said.

Thirty per cent of the men who belong to Nassau Bay Baptist Church are in NASA-related jobs, he said. Many of the others work for computer companies or are engineers.

Pogue said he has a completely open mind toward the future--"one of the advantages of the flight."

Although he has worked with fellow astronaut Jim Irwin's High Flight Foundation, he said he had "one year of hard work ahead of me tying up loose ends of the flight."

After that? "Whichever way the Lord leads," he said.



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February 26, 1974

Missionary to Argentina
Surveys Political Climate

By James O. Teel Jr.

GUALEGUAYCHU, Argentina (BP)--The turmoil and uncertainties in troubled Argentina could dramatically effect the future of Christian witness in this second-largest Latin American nation.

Southern Baptist missionaries in Argentina live and work in an atmosphere of anti-Yankeeism. But it would be an error to say that the missionary's day in Argentina is over. Now more than ever, Argentina needs the saving power of Jesus Christ.

As kidnappings and killings continue, there are currently eight people being held by terrorists for exorbitant ransoms, such as the North American oil executive held for a reported \$10 million.

Juan Domingo Peron, a former president of Argentina exiled for 17 years, is back in power and trying to get this potentially great country back on the track again. One of his biggest problems is stopping the terrorism.

When 70 young extremists attempted to take over one of the largest army posts in the province of Buenos Aires, the post commander, his wife and a young soldier were killed.

The 78-year-old Peron delivered a message after this last massacre, timed to spur Congress into enacting more severe penal codes to help control violence. The next week the House of Representatives approved the measures.

Peron ended his speech with a blunt rejoinder, "It is time to stop shouting, 'Viva Peron.' It is time to start defending ourselves."

With the large majority approving Peron's drive to bring law and order to the country, some fear equally the repression that can be wrought by an empowered state.

Since evangelical Christians, including Baptists, suffered persecution under Peron's former governments, some wonder what the future holds for Baptist work now that he is back.

As the government tries to bring order to this frustrated land, all sectors are re-examining their values. Peace has its price. Law and order have to be paid for, and Argentines are great lovers of individual freedoms.

What is happening in Argentina is the life and death struggle for self-determination of a relatively young, extremely rich nation. The outcome of this struggle, whatever the result, will effect Baptist work in Argentina for many years.

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James O. Teel Jr. is a Southern Baptist missionary to Argentina.

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Evangelical Baptist Group
Petitions to Leave U.S.S.R.

2/26/74

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (BP)--A group of evangelical Baptists in the Siberian city of Barnul have filed application with authorities in Moscow asking permission to leave the Soviet Union, according to a European Baptist Press (EPBS) release.

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EPBS, quoting "Veckoposten," weekly organ of the Swedish Baptist Union, said the evangelicals claim they are of German origin and have asked to be allowed to emigrate to West Germany.

The Baptist group cites as a precedent for their emigration from the Soviet Union, the fact that persons of Jewish origin have been permitted to leave the U.S.S.R. to live in Israel, the Swedish weekly was quoted as saying.

Sven Svenson of "Veckoposten," said it is the first time he has received such "underground" information about evangelical Baptists in the U.S.S.R. who have asked for emigration permission, EPBS said.

The newspaper article indicated that 42 members of the groups, presumably belonging to the "Initiative Baptist" movements, signed a letter to United Nations General Secretary Kurt Waldheim, claiming the Soviet Authorities had not replied to their demand, EPBS reported.

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'73 Missionary Appointees
Represent Baptist Colleges

2/26/74

RICHMOND (BP)--Graduates of 33 of the 43 four-year Southern Baptist colleges and universities were among the 229 persons appointed as Southern Baptist missionaries during 1973.

Eighty-one of the new missionaries were graduates of Baptist institutions. The appointees included career missionaries, missionary journeymen (college graduates under 27 years of age employed for a two-year term to work overseas with career missionaries) and missionary associates (persons 35-65 years of age appointed for renewable four-year terms).

"Baptist colleges and universities continue to have a vital role in training missionary candidates," said Louis R. Cobbs, secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's missionary personnel department.

"Although the percentage of Baptist students who attend these Baptist schools has decreased in the past 10 years," Cobbs noted, "in 1973, approximately 40 per cent of the career missionaries and 35 per cent of the journeymen appointed were graduates of Baptist colleges."

During the past ten years almost 40 per cent of the missionaries sent out by the Foreign Mission Board have been graduates of Baptist colleges.

During 1973, Baylor University in Waco, Tex., led the Baptist schools with 11 graduates appointed. Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark., was second with seven. Mississippi College, Clinton, and Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee. Each produced six missionaries and Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Tex., had five.

Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn., and Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., were represented by four graduates each. Georgetown (Ky.) College, Union University, Jackson, Tenn., Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N. C., and East Texas Baptist College in Marshall saw three graduates each appointed to missionary service.

Four Baptist schools each graduated two appointees: Campbell College, Buies Creek, N. C.; Howard Payne College in Brownwood, Tex.; Louisiana College, Pineville; and Mercer University in Macon, Ga.

Schools having one graduate among the appointees were: Belmont College in Nashville, Tenn.; Blue Mountain (Miss.) College; California Baptist College, Riverside; Campbellsville (Ky.) College; Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Ky.; Furman University, Greenville, S. C.; and Houston (Tex.) Baptist College.

Also represented by one graduate each were: Judson College, Marion, Ala.; Mary Hardin-Baylor College in Belton, Tex.; Mars Hill (N.C.) College; Meredith College, Raleigh,

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N. C.; Mobile (Ala.) Baptist College; Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, Mo.; Stetson University in Deland, Fla.; Tift College in Forsyth, Ga.; Wayland Baptist College in Plainview, Tex.; William Carey College in Hattiesburg, Miss.; and William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo.

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Samford Drops Inter-
Collegiate Football

2/26/74

BIRMINGHAM (BP)--Samford University here won't be kicking off when the 1974 football season rolls around.

Citing increased costs and dwindling gate receipts, spokesmen for the Baptist university announced that the school's intercollegiate football program is being discontinued.

Samford began its football program in 1902, fielding teams 68 years, with brief lapses during war-time.

Three seasons ago, Samford Varsity Coach Wayne Grubb led his team to a 9-1 record and they gained national recognition as the seventh ranked small college team in the United Press International poll of coaches, a University spokesman recalled.

For Samford to remain competitive even at the small college level, more scholarships were needed. "And the cost of a scholarship at privately-owned Samford is twice that of state-supported institutions in Alabama," the spokesman said.

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S. C. Church Designated
National Historic Landmark

2/26/74

WASHINGTON (BP)--The National Park Service here has designated First Baptist Church of Columbia, S. C., as a national historic landmark.

On Dec. 17, 1860, representatives of the state of South Carolina gathered at this church and decided to secede from the union. The actual ordinance of secession was signed later in Charleston, S. C.

In announcing its selection of the Columbia church among 33 new historic landmarks, the National Park Service cited the church's architectural features, including a Roman tuscan portico and tuscan pilasters down the sides in molded brick. The overall architectural design of the building is Greek revival.

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BWA Plans Conversations
With Reformed Churches

2/26/74

WASHINGTON (BP)--The Baptist World Alliance (BWA) and the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (Presbyterian and Congregational) (WARC) are planning dialogues "as a forum for the sharing of theological concepts and exploration of areas of mutual concern," according to a statement announcing the attempt toward greater communication between the groups.

Robert S. Denny, general secretary of BWA, said the plan for talks grew out of an invitation from the Reformed Church leaders and a recommendation of the BWA's Commission on Cooperative Christianity in 1972.

Denny said the plan was approved in principle by the BWA executive committee in 1972, and in greater detail in 1973. The WARC approved the detailed plan in January 1974, he said.

BWA President V. Carney Hargroves of Philadelphia said the dialogues will open later this year with an exchange of papers and correspondence and a three-day meeting in Europe.

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Superintendents of Missions
To Discuss "Pulling Together"

DALLAS (BP)--Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) President Owen Cooper will be one of four major speakers to the SBC's Conference of Superintendents of Missions at First Baptist Church, Dallas, June 10.

Theme for the conference, to begin at 9:30 a.m. on Monday (June 10) will be, "Connections that Count--Churches Pulling Together."

Joining Cooper, a layman from Yazoo City, Miss., as speaker will be: former SBC President H. Franklin Paschall, pastor, First Baptist Church, Nashville; Howard B. Foshee, secretary, church administration department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; and Hugh O. Chambliss, director of missions for the Madison Baptist Association, Huntsville, Ala., and conference president.

Cooper will speak in the afternoon on "The Fruits of Togetherness," while Paschall's morning address will be "The Unifying Power of Christ." Foshee's topic will be "Tolls for the Task," and Chambliss will relate to "Connections that Count," both morning addresses.

Special music will be provided by Mrs. Thomas Griffith of Duncanville, Tex., and by Sidney Reber, director of management services for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond. Reber will also lead congregational singing for the conference.

Conference officers for 1974-75 will be elected in the morning and presented in the afternoon.

Conference of Superintendents of Missions
Southern Baptist Convention
First Baptist Church
Dallas, Texas
June 10, 1974

Theme: "Connections That Count--
Churches Functioning Together"

- 9:25 Prelude, Mrs. Sidney Reber, Richmond, Va.
9:30 Call to Order, Hugh O. Chambliss, Huntsville, Ala.
9:30 Hymn, Sidney Reber, Richmond, Va.
9:35 Devotional, Lawrence Childs, Charlotte, N. C.
9:45 Welcome, Robert McGinnis, Dallas, Tex.
9:50 Hymn, Sidney Reber
9:55 Special Music, Sidney Reber
10:00 "The Unifying Power of Christ," H. Franklin Paschall, Nashville, Tenn.
10:25 Hymn, Sidney Reber
10:30 Special Music, Mrs. Thomas Griffith, Duncanville, Tex.
10:35 "Connections That Count," Hugh O. Chambliss
11:00 Business
 Treasurers Report
 Election of Officers
11:25 Hymn, Sidney Reber
11:30 Special Music, Mrs. Thomas Griffith
11:35 "Tools for the Task," Howard Foshee, Nashville, Tenn.
12:00 Luncheon, First Baptist Church
 Thanksgiving Prayer, Harold Blackburn
 Presentation, Thurman Allred
12:45 "Songs That Cheer," Sidney Reber
1:00 "The Fruits of Togetherness," Owen Cooper, Yazoo City, Miss.
1:30 Introduction of Officers
 Adjourn

President--Hugh O. Chambliss, Huntsville, Ala.
Vice President--Lawrence Childs, Charlotte, N. C.
Secretary--C. Burt Potter Jr., Raleigh, N. C.
Treasurer--Robert Helmich, Muskogee, Okla.
Editor--Gene Strahan, Champaign, Ill.