

(BP)**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICE

SBC Executive Committee
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
(615) 244-2355W. C. Fields, Director
Robert J. O'Brien, News Editor
Norman Jameson, Feature Editor**BUREAUS****ATLANTA** Walker L. Knight, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041**DALLAS** _____, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Tex. 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996**MEMPHIS** Roy Jennings, Chief, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104, Telephone (901) 272-2461**NASHVILLE** (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lloyd T. Householder, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2798**RICHMOND** Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151**WASHINGTON** Stan L. Hastey, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

June 9, 1980

80-92

**Time for 'Prayer, Not
Politicking,' Pastors Told**

ST. LOUIS (BP)--The Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference opened here with a call for denominational unity and for "prayer, not politicking."

Jack Taylor, director of Dimensions in Christian Living, Fort Worth, Texas, told a near-capacity crowd at Cervantes Convention Center that being disagreeable among Baptists is "inexcusable."

"We can disagree and still love each other," the former Southern Baptist pastor began. He said that one of his reasons for being a Baptist is that Baptists can go to conventions, disagree, and still love one another.

Clearly alluding to pre-convention speculation that the 123rd annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, which follows the Pastors' Conference, may be marked by heated debate over biblical disagreements, Taylor warned, "These are not days to draw our daggers and run them through."

Assigned to speak on "Prayer and Awakening," Taylor declared, "I am absolutely convinced...that if we decide to pray, we will see a spiritual awakening."

Prayer is needed first in the lives of ministers, he said, because "we're following our Baals" (heathen gods). He declared that pastors who measure their success by the world's standards are "out of business."

Taylor told the assembled ministers, many accompanied by their wives, that "preachers are going to have to lay down their egos" and "get over talking about each other."

He went on to say that preachers ought to be doing more than "comforting the troubled." In addition, "you ought to be troubling the comfortable."

Earlier in the opening session, John Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, declared that the second coming of Jesus is the event "to which all history is moving and without which history makes no sense."

Bisagno admitted to having adopted a premillennial view of the end of time over the past year during an intensive study of the book of Revelation. He said he has been preaching through the last book of the Bible "verse-by-verse and word-by-word" for nearly a year and has concluded that it "is not a closed book."

Premillennialism is the view that Jesus will come back to rule on earth for a thousand-year period after the rise of the antichrist, Bisagno explained. The latter will be "a smooth-talking dude," he predicted.

"Things are ripe for the antichrist," the Houston pastor said, pointing to what he called a "one-world" system of government, language, measures, and military force, among others.

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He also assailed U. S. foreign policy as contributing to international instability which will hasten the end of time. He cited what he called America's "forsaking" of Taiwan and "arming" of Communist China, as well as increasing support for Arab nations at Israel's expense.

Bisagno predicted that armies from all over the world will eventually converge on Israel to settle "Satan's original proposition, 'Who's going to rule the world?'"

But when that cataclysmic event occurs, he concluded, the world will see that "Jesus hasn't given up on the church."

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Revival Called Barrier
To World War III

by Stan Hasteley

Baptist Press
6/9/80

ST. LOUIS (BP)--One of the chief leaders of the movement in the Southern Baptist Convention promoting biblical inerrancy said here that he will stop fighting his battle for the Bible when others "stop attacking it."

Paige Patterson, president of Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, Dallas, Texas, declared further that World War III can be avoided only if the United States experiences spiritual revival, which in turn hinges on acceptance of the Bible as inerrant (without error in the original manuscripts). "That alone can stave off" global conflict, he said.

Speaking less than an hour later from the same pulpit, the president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' conference urged Southern Baptists to avoid fighting among themselves.

Jimmy Draper, pastor of First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas, reminded the capacity crowd at the morning worship service at Tower Grove Baptist Church, Sunday, June 8, that because the most bitter of fights occur in families, Southern Baptists must not jeopardize their influence with internal battles.

"Southern Baptists will never be what we might be and what we could be until...we are devoted to each other." he said.

Preaching the morning sermon immediately after Patterson had addressed a joint adult-youth Sunday School assembly in the Tower Grove sanctuary, Draper identified what he called the "basic distinctives" of first century Christians enabling them to become "a revolutionary church."

The Texas pastor said early Christians had a sense of their destiny, had made a firm decision to begin a new way of life, had Jesus as their director, and were possessed by the dynamic of the Holy Spirit.

But the distinctive which made the world take notice, he concluded, was their devotion to one another. The church must be the place where people know they are needed and loved, he said. Then he went on to apply the principle to the denomination.

Patterson had told the crowd earlier that Tower Grove pastor Larry Lewis had specifically asked him to address the subject of inerrancy. Lewis, who has identified himself with the group led by Patterson, called the Texas educator one of the "most brilliant and articulate" of Southern Baptists.

Patterson decried the position of those Southern Baptists who claim Jesus Christ rather than the Bible as their "ultimate authority." Patterson contended that Jesus himself believed and proclaimed an inerrant Bible.

Citing various quotations of Jesus in the Gospels, he said that Jesus believed in the plenary, verbal inspiration of the Bible and in both its infallibility and inerrancy.

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Patterson labeled a "tragedy" the practice of many lay people of leaving the question of biblical interpretation to preachers and pastors. He has held throughout the current SBC controversy over the Bible that most lay people believe in inerrancy but have in many cases been led astray by pastors tainted with liberal teaching in the denomination's seminaries.

"We are suffering today in our communion from a bad case of fear," he declared.

Patterson said that while he believes that evangelism and missions should be at the heart of Southern Baptist cooperative efforts, all such endeavors are impossible without belief in inerrancy.

Speaking to the danger of world war impressed upon him during a recent three-week visit to Israel, Patterson said that the Israelis have "at least 12 atomic warheads" pointed at their enemies. He predicted that because of what he called Israel's "Masada" complex, "when they go, they will take the world with them."

"We are poised on the brink" of nuclear destruction, he warned, concluding that Christians' "only weapon" is commitment to an inerrant Bible.

Also participating in the service was SBC president Adrian Rogers, who led the invocation, and the sanctuary choir and orchestra from First Church, Dallas.

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Deacons, Pastors Exhorted
To Work as Partners

by Mike Davis

Baptist Press
6/9/80

ST. LOUIS (BP)--More than 600 deacons from 17 states were exhorted here to "preach Jesus" and be humble, ministering partners with pastors.

Mobile Mayor Lambert Mims, a deacon at Riverside Baptist Church there, received a round of hearty amens at the first National Deacons Rally at Tower Grove Baptist Church when he told the deacons, "Preach Jesus, deacon, preach Jesus."

Noting that he had known some deacons "with backbones like cooked spaghetti," Mims challenged the deacons to have courage to "open your mouth and preach Jesus."

"If we leave out Jesus," he said of the deacon ministry, "we might as well stay home. A visit without mentioning Jesus is nothing more than a social call."

Mims, one of several speakers known to Southern Baptists because of contributions to the development of deacon ministries, called on the deacons to be "more than managers of material things," to be filled with the Holy Spirit and to be committed to ministering with a "love that takes us beyond the four walls of the church to the multitudes who need Christ."

Jesting that he had been "filled with the Holy Spirit and leaked down a few times," Mims told the men to let the Holy Spirit take over their lives and warned, "Satan's out there with his fiery little darts just waiting to puncture your balloon."

A. Morgan Brian Jr., attorney and deacon at First Baptist Church, New Orleans, outlined how deacons and pastors should become partners in ministering.

"The more humble we are, the more dynamic our ministry will be," he said. "There has to be an endearment if deacons and pastors are to minister and work together. We have to be true yokefellows."

Brian suggested that pastors and deacons should remember that they are called by God to lead the rest of the church to minister, not do everything themselves.

"Our real value is when we can help a person with his spiritual problems. Physical, economic, emotional problems all are easier to handle when you've taken care of the spiritual problems first."

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Brian urged the deacons to learn to know the condition of the persons to whom they minister and develop a personal involvement in the lives of church members and to save some of their energies for strengthening their pastors.

Deacons strengthening their pastors was the theme of another rally speaker. Charles Chandler, pastor of the Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church, Urbana, Ill., reminded the deacons that everybody needs ministering to, even the pastor's family.

Robert Naylor, whose book, The Baptist Deacon, was called a high watermark in the emerging deacon ministry, reminded the deacons that they are "always on God's active deacon body.

"Serve gladly and freely," added Naylor, retired president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Howard Foshee, author of the book, The Ministry of the Deacon, and director of the Christian development division of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, called deacons and pastors partners in ministry and told the deacons to be enablers.

Russell Tuck, deacon at Kirkwood Baptist Church in Kirkwood, Mo., and his wife told how they considered the deacon ministry a family ministry. Russell said he has seen the deacon ministry in his church change from administration of the church programs to a ministry to the members.

Representatives of the pastoral ministries section of the Sunday School Board, sponsor of the rally, said they were pleased that the rally had accomplished its purpose of celebrating what God is doing in churches through the deacon ministry and to inspire deacons to greater service and ministry.

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Rogers Fills Vacancies
On Committee On Committees

Baptist Press
6/9/80

ST. LOUIS (BP)--Nine persons have been named to fill vacancies on the Southern Baptist Convention's Committee on Committees.

President Adrian Rogers named the nine replacements after original appointees were unable to serve.

Earlier, Rogers named 52 persons from 26 states to the committee, which will name the SBC Committee on Boards. That committee will compile lists of nominees for positions on boards of trustees of SBC agencies, to be voted on in the 1981 annual meeting in Los Angeles.

Jerry Glisson, pastor of Leawood Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., is chairman of the Committee on Committees.

Rogers named the following substitutes:

District of Columbia--Mrs. Dallas Pulliam, lay member, Greenbelt Baptist Church, Greenbelt, Md., to replace Mrs. Worth Grant, lay member, Temple Baptist Church; Georgia--E. B. Toles, lay member, Second Avenue Church, Rome, Ga., to replace Mrs. Grace Kinser, lay member, First Church, Atlanta, and Lester Buice, pastor, Rehobeth Church, Tucker, Ga., to replace A.B. Hatfield, pastor, Alpreta Church, Alpharetta, Ga.; Kansas-Nebraska--Mrs. Ernest Stewart, lay member, Harrison Church, Omaha, Neb., to replace James Jeffrey of Overland Park, Kan., lay member, Leawood (Kan.) Church; Maryland--James Hubbard, pastor, Bel Forest Church, Bel Air, Md., to replace Walter Agnor, director of missions, Susquehanna Baptist Association, Aberdeen, Md.; Michigan--Kenneth Stevens, pastor, Faith Church, Durand, Mich., to replace Milton Wood, pastor, Gorham Church, Jackson, Mich.; Northwest--John Hatch, pastor, First Church, Tacoma, Wash., to replace Don Clark, pastor, Orchards Church, Lewiston, Idaho; and Texas--Morris Cobb, lay member, First Church, Amarillo, Texas, to replace Mrs. Evelyn Lineberry, lay member, First Church, Midland, Texas, and Bob Eklund, pastor, First Church, Hurst, Texas, to replace Fred Wolfe, pastor, First Church, Lubbock.

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Other members of the Committee on Committees announced previously by Rogers are:

Alabama--Jimmy Jackson, pastor, Whitesburg Baptist Church, Huntsville, and James Gunn of Bessemer, lay member, Vineland Park Baptist Church, Hueytown; Arizona--Richard Jackson, pastor, North Phoenix (Ariz.) Church, and Harold Friend, lay member, First Southern Baptist Church, Scottsdale; Arkansas--Tommy Hinson, pastor, First Church, West Memphis, and Bill Bennett, pastor, First Church, Fort Smith; California--Glenn Paden, pastor, First Church, Sacramento, and Robert Zinn, pastor, Immanuel Church, San Bernardino; Colorado--Jim Henderson, pastor, Estes Park (Colo.) Church, and Bob Oxford, lay member, Applewood Church, Wheat Ridge; District of Columbia--C. Wade Freeman Jr., pastor, Capitol Hill Metropolitan Church;

Also, Florida--Joe Boatwright, pastor, Aloma Church, Winter Park, and Doyle I. Carlton, lay member, First Church, Merritt Island; Illinois--John Thomason, pastor, Temple Church, Champaign, and Edmund Hill, pastor, Bayle Church, Ramsey; Indiana--Garland Morrison, pastor, Sunnycrest Church, Marion, and Elvis Marcum, pastor, Graceland Church, New Albany; Kansas-Nebraska--Gene Hawkins, pastor, First Church, Topeka, Kan.; Kentucky--John Hicks, lay member, Cedar Creek Church, Louisville, and Harold Cathey, pastor, Unity Church, Ashland;

Also, Louisiana--Ron Harrod, pastor, First Church, Keener, and Dick Quick, lay member, First Church, Baton Rouge; Maryland--Daniel Allen, pastor, Seabrook (Md.) Church; Michigan--David French, pastor, First Church, Swartz Creek; Mississippi--Dr. Russell Bush Sr., lay member, First Church, Columbia; and Joe McKeever, pastor, First Church, Columbus; Missouri--William Copeland, lay member, Kirkwood Church, Webster Grove, and Gary Robnett, pastor, First Church, Bethany; New Mexico--Tom Clayton Jr., pastor, First Church, Hobbs, and Stan Coffey, pastor, First Church, Albuquerque; North Carolina--Mark Corts, pastor, Calvary Church, Winston-Salem, and Mrs. Lavenia Blackburn, lay member, Pleasant Hill Church, Elkin;

Also, Northwest--William Peters, interim executive secretary and director of missions, Northwest Baptist Convention, Portland, Ore.; Ohio--J. W. Bearden Jr., of Cincinnati, lay member, First Church, Mt. Healthy; and Walter Davis, pastor, Dayton Avenue Church, Xenia; Oklahoma--Jerry Don Abernathy, director of evangelism for Oklahoma Baptists, Oklahoma City, and Robert Harris of Edmond, lay member, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City; South Carolina--Ira Craft, lay member, First Church, Columbia, and Alastair Walker, pastor, First Church, Spartanburg;

Also, Tennessee--Roland Maddox, lay member, Bellevue Church, Memphis, and Jerry Glisson, pastor, Leawood Church, Memphis; Virginia--Wayne Poplin, pastor, First Church, Suffolk, and Dan Shirkey, pastor, Tabernacle Church, Newport News.

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ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041
DALLAS _____, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Tex. 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1998
MEMPHIS Roy Jennings, Chief, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104, Telephone (901) 272-2461
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June 9, 1980

80-93

2nd of two mailings

Dan Martin Named News
 Editor of Baptist Press

ST. LOUIS (BP)--Daniel B. Martin Jr., a veteran of 23 years in secular and Southern Baptist journalism, will become news editor for Baptist Press, news service of the Southern Baptist Convention, on Aug. 1.

Martin, 42, editor of the news service at the SBC Home Mission Board, was approved for the position Monday by the Administrative Sub-Committee of the SBC Executive Committee. He will succeed Robert O'Brien, who will join the SBC Foreign Mission Board in July to pilot a program of overseas news coverage.

Martin will work alongside Norman Jameson, feature editor, who supervises the feature coverage and photography for Baptist Press.

A native Texan, Martin will supervise news coverage of the denomination's news service, coordinating work with six BP bureaus and other news sources and relations with secular and religious media. Each year, beginning with the 1981 SBC in Los Angeles, he will be the news-room manager at annual SBC meetings.

"Dan Martin has that rare combination of extensive experience with daily newspapers and with the denomination which the Baptist Press role requires," according to Wilmer C. Fields, director of Baptist Press.

"He is well prepared for this demanding task," Fields observed.

Before joining the Home Mission Board in Atlanta in 1976, Martin was press director for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, 1973-76. In both Dallas and Atlanta he coordinated news coverage for bureaus of Baptist Press.

Earlier, Martin spent 16 years on staffs of newspapers in Texas and Colorado in various capacities, including reporter, sports writer, editor and photographer. Among papers he worked for were the Lubbock Avalanche Journal, the Rocky Mountain News, Fort Worth Star Telegram, Dallas Morning News and Dallas Times Herald.

His writing has won 12 secular and religious journalism awards. He has authored three books.

Besides news experience, Martin has been pastor of churches in Bluegrove, Dundee, and Quanah, Texas. He is a graduate of Midwestern University, Wichita Falls, Texas, and has done work toward a master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

Martin is married to the former Colleen Taylor. They have four children, Jay Lynn, 24; David, 22; Daniel III, 17; and Jill, 11.

Grand Canyon Retires Coach
After Championship Drive

By Leonard Hill

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--The Grand Canyon baseball team that missed the 1979 NAIA Baseball World Series, stole the show in 1980, and won the national championship.

For coach Dave Brazell, the sweet aroma of victory had a bitter after-taste when school officials announced after the final come-from-behind victory that he would no longer be coach of the Antelopes.

The Grand Canyon team, rated the number one NAIA team in the nation last year, was forced to sit out the 1979 national playoffs after a wire service picture appeared in newspapers across the country showing players pouring champagne over one another after winning the Area 2 title in their home city, Phoenix.

President Bill R. Williams of the Arizona Baptist Convention-owned college withdrew the team from further competition for violating the school's ban against the possession of alcoholic beverages on campus.

Following last year's champagne incident, Brazell's role as athletic director was assumed by Bill Estes who was named athletic administrator this year, on the day the Antelopes returned to Phoenix. Estes released a statement indicating that a letter of resignation submitted by Brazell last December had been unanimously accepted by the school's board of trustees during their March meeting, with the understanding no announcement would be made until after the baseball season.

The announcement also indicated Brazell, who has a doctorate, will continue as head of the department of health and physical education. School officials also indicated that Mrs. Brazell, who also has a doctor's degree, would continue teaching at the college.

Brazell told his players and reporters that his retirement was not voluntary. "They (Grand Canyon administrators) wanted me to step down. I told them I wanted to continue... I am not retiring. They are retiring me," he said.

With all the turmoil, and with many players threatening to transfer, many wondered if Brazell would even be able to field a team this year. But tempers cooled, and the low-keyed coach, who'd been at Grand Canyon since the college started 20 years ago, gathered his players as school began last fall and told them to forget the past and to set new goals.

One goal was a national championship.

Few thought the Antelopes had any hope for success. Brazell, one of only four baseball coaches to ever win more than 700 games, faced serious problems in addition to the well-publicized champagne incident and conflicts with the administration.

The team was missing four of the five starting pitchers from the 1979 team, along with three others who graduated. And there was the problem of deciding what to do about an infielder who had been a disruptive influence the year before.

"I really didn't want the boy back on the team," Brazell confided. "His moodiness and temper had a disruptive effect on his teammates, and on one occasion I'd even had to suspend him a week for a minor infraction. But he called me up before school began last fall and asked to be given another chance."

Brazell gives God credit for what happened after that. So does the player in question, senior third baseman Brian Anderson. Last fall Brian made a commitment to Christ, and his life changed dramatically.

Instead of disrupter and spoiler, he became a team leader, scoring the winning run in the tenth inning of the final tournament game, and winning the coveted Perry Hustle Award.

After the final game, the smiling but weary player praised God for the change in his life. "I actually became a Christian about five years ago," he said, "but within a few months I was rebelling against God in everything."

But when trying to go against God proved as fruitless as running the bases in the wrong direction, Brian rededicated his life to Christ. "After that, everything really changed for the better," he said.

Influencing Brian's turnaround was the battle a teammate was waging, a battle much bigger than the drive for the national championship. Pitcher Jeff Fiechtner was fighting just to stay alive after the discovery of cancer during a routine physical examination in the fall of 1979.

The 6-2, 215-pounder, who got credit for Grand Canyon's fourth win in the tournament, was forced to skip last season and return home for medical treatment. After three operations and the loss of 40 pounds, Fiechtner is winning both off the field as well as on, thanks to continuing chemotherapy.

His treatments--during which chemicals are flushed through his system 24-hours a day for three or four days at a time every three weeks--are scheduled to end in September. He skipped his last scheduled chemotherapy session because "I always feel bad for a few days after the treatments and there was no way I was going to be too sick to pitch in this tournament."

Last year, while Fiechtner was back in his home in Fargo, N.D., not a game went by without his teammates mentioning him by name in their pre-game prayer. "Those prayer petitions didn't go unnoticed by Brian, who was a close friend of Fiechtner's," said Brazell, "and the prayers had an effect on others on the team, too."

During the World Series, Grand Canyon became the sentimental favorite. But while the players and coach refused to dwell on last year's champagne incident, it was often a subject in the media.

One sports writer went so far as to humorously suggest that baseball park employees, delivering after-game pizzas and beer to the umpires' locker room, were instructed to veer wide while passing the Antelope's dugout.

After the final game, Anderson admitted that the players couldn't put last year completely out of their minds. "But last year was over. He had to look ahead," he said.

Jim Gerlach the one returning pitcher from last year and winner of the most valuable player award in the tournament, said, "It's been a long year to wait. But it was worth it. We dedicated ourselves to win the national title. And we did. I'm glad I was still here to have a part in it."

After his team won the championship, Brazell, who was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1974 and was named NAIA Baseball Coach of the Year in 1979, told a reporter who marveled at his calmness, "I may not look happy on the outside, but it's got to be my biggest thrill." One reason for his subdued elation had to be the knowledge of his impending retirement.

At a midnight steak supper, as tired players and fans celebrated with plenty of milk, Pepsi, and coffee, Brazell's speech was short and to the point. He told his players, "You are champions. Never forget it. And never forget to thank God for his help."

The players performed one other ritual that night, entirely in keeping with Baptist tradition. Taking advantage of a nearby motel swimming pool, they celebrated by throwing jubilant players and fans into the water.

Unification Church President
Dialogues at Golden Gate

By Mark Smith

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--Mose Durst, newly-elected president of the Unification Church of America, stepped before a cordial but skeptical audience of Southern Baptist seminary students and faculty members to carry out what he feels is the primary need of his church--clarification of its mission.

Despite his explanations, the audience of more than 400 at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, listening intently but quietly, declined to accept his contentions.

Durst participated in a dialogue with William L. Hendricks, professor of theology and philosophy of religion at Golden Gate, where he told about the Unification Church, its theology and practices, while Hendricks offered comparisons to the theology of Christianity and practices of Southern Baptists.

The seminary professor, who refuted Durst's position, asked about the Unification Church's views on the divinity of Christ, the Trinity and the adequacy of Christ as savior.

Durst's replies were evasive.

"Christianity is failing to address the issue of social corruption," Durst charged. "You don't need a messiah if the world is mature. When Jesus came to earth, unfortunately, people did not accept him and today the world is just as rotten as it was 2,000 years ago."

"Our idea of salvation is the restoration of humanity," he declared. "We believe that God is working through Rev. Moon (Sun Yung Moon, proclaimed leader of the Unification Church) to bring about that restoration. We believe that he comes as a central dispensational figure, and we feel that at the very least, he is a prophet. And if he does fulfill the restoration of humanity, then we will also recognize him as the messiah."

"We too believe that Jesus will come again," Durst explained, "but we feel he won't necessarily have to return as the same person. He can be someone else."

Hendricks said Christians view salvation as a matter of God's grace. He noted that the Unification Church recognizes salvation through works.

In response, Durst said, "Jesus came to provide the stimulus for the perfect restoration of creation." He noted that people did not accept Jesus and because of it, "we are now having to work to bring about that perfection."

On the matter of life after death, Durst explained, "We have an eternal spirit--it lives eternally. Believing in Jesus and trusting in him gives us a foundation for our spiritual life. The human body lives for a number of years and then goes back to earth, but the spirit lives on."

A comment that spawned a rumbling from the audience focused on a statement from the Unification Church doctrine that declares "God is the number three."

Durst said Jesus is divine and the church is divine, and that Jesus is man and the church is his bride. He said this signifies that men and women are equal, because God is himself, masculine and also feminine.

"God is the number three," he said.

The Moonie leader went a step further, adding that "this is why we are seeing women advance so rapidly today in terms of their equality to men."

Durst's comments that funds solicited by members in public places raise just enough money to class the church among the poor churches of the world met skeptical laughter.

Durst countered by saying that he believed the Golden Gate Seminary campus and facilities were worth more than the assets of the entire Unification Church. He also said that many congregations of other churches probably have more money than the Unification Church.

The president responded to the question of brainwashing techniques reportedly used by the church to convert members, saying that they never happen.

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6,500 Make Decisions In Korean Crusades

By Anita Bowden

Baptist Press
6/9/80

SEOUL, Korea (BP)--Plagued by riots at the beginning, the Korean-American major city crusade has attracted overflow crowds and resulted in more than 6,500 decisions for Christ.

Korean Baptists and Southern Baptist missionaries agreed the evangelistic campaign had raised the recognition level of Baptists in this East Asian country.

The central crusades in Seoul averaged nightly attendance of 2,400 in the 2,000-seat auditorium where services were held. Church revivals and visitation were to continue through the middle of June in Seoul.

The 1980 crusade, a culmination of three years of planning, training and preparation by Florida Baptists, Korean Baptists and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, had problems at the start. The Kwangju crusade, scheduled for May 18-21, was canceled after students rioted, protesting martial law and the government's slow move toward democratic elections. Church revivals in that city also were canceled.

But farther south in Pusan, the central crusade and church revivals went on as planned, strengthened by the addition of Florida Baptists originally scheduled for Kwangju. Stadium attendance averaged 5,200 for the four nights in that city of 2.5 million people.

One of the first Koreans to make a decision for Christ because of the crusade was Yun Kwa Ja, the travel agent in charge of transportation accommodations in Korea for the Florida Baptists.

Missionaries and Florida Baptists had witnessed to him during the preparation periods and he accepted Christ while on the train to Pusan for the first meeting of the crusade.

During his first witnessing visit in Pusan, Mike von Kanel, a musician from Cinco Baptist Church, Ft. Walton Beach, Fla., led a Korean doctor to Christ. The doctor said no one had ever explained it to him that way before. Mike said, "I shared my testimony with him and gave him a tract and he prayed the acceptance prayer (printed in the back of the tract) before I could suggest it."

The doctor, educated at Cornell and UCLA, attended all the church meetings and arrived at the church Wednesday morning with a list of doctor friends for the Florida Baptist team to visit. Missionaries in Pusan say he will be instrumental in opening doors for witnessing among the medical community.

Mike's team received 60 prospects to visit in five days. Not everyone was home, but team members saw 31 people pray to accept Christ into their lives.

During one of his visiting sessions Mike's interpreter led the team to a police station and introduced Mike to the man in charge. "He locked the doors, pulled the shades and got everyone together," Mike said. "I witnessed to them and five said they accepted Christ."

Another time as the team was walking down the street, the interpreter began yelling, Mike said. "He went in one of the shops, got a bench, told me to stand on it and said, 'Preach.' For 45 minutes, I preached. The crowds gathered so that we began interfering with traffic. The police came then, but before the crowd dispersed seven men accepted Christ."

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In Taejon, where government officials canceled the central crusade for fear undesirables would take advantage of the crowd, more than 2,000 made decisions during visitation and church revivals.

More than 2,300 attended the central crusade meetings each night in the 1,800-seat auditorium in Taegu. More than 300 made professions of faith during the central crusade in that city of one and half million and approximately 800 made decisions during the revivals and visitation.

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Mrs. Bowden, staff writer for the SBC Foreign Mission Board, is on assignment in East and Southeast Asia.

(BP) Photos mailed to state Baptist newspapers by the Richmond bureau of Baptist Press.

Sorrels Flown To Baylor
For Further Treatment

Baptist Press
6/9/80

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Robert W. Sorrels, Southern Baptist Mission Service Corps volunteer paralyzed following an automobile accident in Nigeria in mid-April, was flown to the United States June 6.

He entered Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, where he was to undergo diagnostic tests and X-rays beginning June 9, said John R. Mills, who visited Sorrels two days after his arrival in Dallas.

Mills, secretary for West Africa of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, said Sorrels faced possible surgery to remove bone chip from the vertebra which was broken in the head-on collision.

Sorrels is able to use his left arm and to move his right arm and shoulder and is optimistic and cheerful, said Mills.

"I'll get good care here, but I can't be anyplace where people will do more for me than Eku," Sorrels told Mills, also expressing appreciation to the people who prayed for him and wrote expressing their concern.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board arranged for Debbie Moss, a volunteer nurse from Birmingham, Ala., and Marie Johnston, a registered nurse and missionary living in Kafanchan, to help provide round-the-clock nursing care for Sorrels at Baptist Hospital, Eku, after the accident which claimed the lives of Nigerian Baptist leader Titus Oluwafemi and Southern Baptist missionary William D. Bender.

The staff of the Eku hospital, however, carried the main responsibility for his care, said Mills. The three doctors attending him consulted with another at University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria. Doctor David Newman of Winston-Salem, N.C., who had just completed a term as a medical receptor at the Eku hospital, accompanied Sorrels to Baylor.

Sorrels had taken a one-year leave of absence from his work with the Washington Savings and Loan firm to serve in Nigeria.

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Baptist Leaders Won't
Fire John Walsh

By Stan Hasteley

Baptist Press
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ST. LOUIS (BP)--John T. Walsh, one of 10 Americans who attended recent conference in Tehran looking into U.S. policy in Iran during the reign of the deposed shah, did so as a private citizen and will not lose his job, officials of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention said here.

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Walsh, employed by the Baptist Convention of New York and supported financially by the Home Mission Board, went to Iran in what for him "was an act of ministry," said the board's executive director-treasurer William G. Tanner of Atlanta. Walsh is Baptist campus minister at Princeton University.

Tanner, who reported he does not know Walsh personally, said he cannot judge "the rightness or wrongness" of the Missouri native's decision to make the trip in defiance of President Carter's ban on U.S. citizens' traveling to Iran.

"Given the constraints that he had as an individual," Tanner said, "I believe he had to do what he felt was right."

Tanner's view was backed by that of Jack P. Lowndes, executive secretary of the New York convention and one of Walsh's supervisors. "Whether it was right or wrong, I don't know," Lowndes said, adding, "I'm not God."

Both Lowndes and Gerald Palmer, director of the Home Mission Board's missions section, said they would have advised Walsh not to go to Tehran if he had asked them but refused to question his right to do so.

Lowndes said that the only requirement he makes before trips are made by personnel under his supervision is that he be notified, an action which Walsh took before leaving the country.

Lowndes confirmed that Walsh's expenses were not paid by the Home Mission Board and that he took personal leave time to make the trip.

Palmer, who supervises more than 2,900 home missionaries from the Home Mission Board's Atlanta headquarters, said that the agency's concern is that Walsh's action "not be seen as an official Home Mission Board visit."

Tanner and Lowndes emphasized that Walsh and fellow Southern Baptist Charles Kimball, a graduate student in Islamic studies at Harvard, delivered mail to hostages at the American embassy in Tehran. It was believed to be the first mail from relatives to reach the hostages since the aborted American rescue mission in April.

Walsh and Kimball were two of seven Americans to visit Tehran last Christmas in a delegation headed by former SBC president Jimmy R. Allen and sanctioned by U.S. government officials. The pair was included on a list of individuals to attend the recent conference at the invitation of Iranian officials.

Tanner, who said he has been advised by some individual Southern Baptists angered by Walsh's trip to fire him, said that based on his present knowledge of the facts he would not follow the advice.

"For Baptists, freedom of the individual conscience under God is a precious concept," Tanner declared.

Another reason for their refusal to take action against Walsh, the three Southern Baptist officials said, is the uncertainty over the response of high U.S. officials to the American delegation's presence at the conference.

Secretary of State Edmund S. Muskie said on NBC television's program "Meet the Press" that while the Justice Department will look into the question of whether the delegates violated any laws, the travel ban was imposed to protect American citizens from possible violence in Iran, not out of a desire to restrict freedom of movement.

Walsh returned Sunday from the four-day Tehran conference and was expected to arrive in St. Louis late Monday for a visit with relatives who live here.

WrapupDirectors of Missions
Focus on Churches

by Jim Lowry

ST. LOUIS (BP)--More than 300 persons learned at the annual Southern Baptist Conference for Directors of Missions here how to serve local churches and associations as better and more efficient mission leaders, administrators and counselors.

Denominational leaders, a North Carolina allergist, and missions directors provided the direction at Fee Fee Baptist Church.

The two-day meeting was one of seven which preceded the three-day annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention at Cervantes Convention Center.

Foreign Mission Board president R. Keith Parks of Richmond, Va., delivered the closing address, challenging missions directors to pray for at least one missionary preacher couple from each association by 1985.

"If that happens, it will just about be a 10-fold increase in the number of preachers going into missions," Parks said.

"If we send one couple from each association, then we will also have to support them financially, by increasing giving through the Cooperative Program," the denomination's unified giving plan, Parks added.

W. Randall Lolley, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., led three Bible study sessions, focusing on Joshua, Habakkuk and I Peter.

"Per square inch, Southern Baptists owe more and receive more from directors of missions than any other group in the denomination," Lolley said.

The directors of missions and their wives selected from several special interest conferences. For wives, "Where Do I Go To Scream" identified common problems and frustrations and offered possible solutions.

In addition to their role as missionary leader, many of the directors expressed hope that they could effectively serve as "pastor to the pastor," particularly in times of special need, either personally or professionally.

One of the sessions dealt with being pastor to pastors, while others related to administration in the association, working with bi-vocational pastors and financial support for the association.

Dr. Claude A. Frazier, an Asheville, N.C., allergist, told about his personal project of putting Bibles in taxi cabs.

Frazier said taxi cabs in Atlanta, Ga., and Bristol City, Tenn., are currently carrying Bible portions. Several of the missionaries expressed interest in the project and indicated they would consider it in their cities.

New officers elected to lead the conference in 1981 were Larry Rose, Waco Baptist Association, Texas, president; Cline Borders, Kings Mountain Association, North Carolina, president-elect; J.D. Passmore, Current-Gaines Association, Arkansas, secretary; Wayne Eurich, San Diego Association, California, treasurer; and Harold Blackburn, Baldwin Association, Alabama, editor. Edward Gilstrap, Atlanta Baptist Association, Georgia, is the outgoing president.