

July 3, 1958

Sorensen Explains What Being Christian Means

TORONTO--(BP)--The answer to the question "What does it mean to be a Christian?" must be discovered afresh by each generation of young Christians, a Baptist youth leader declared here.

The speaker was Joel Sorensen, Stockholm, Sweden, prominent European Baptist and chairman of the youth committee of the Baptist World Alliance.

8000 young people from many nations around the world formed the audience. They were in Toronto for the fifth Baptist Youth World Conference.

Sorensen told them that the answer to the meaning of Christianity is also "very personal." His was the keynote address of the conference.

"Christianity of the 20th century is fighting a dead-serious battle with the non-Christian forces of the world," the Swedish leader continued. "And you young people will be in it all your lives---if you take your Christianity seriously."

He cautioned the Baptist youth that "It is easy to be carried away by elevated emotions and great singing about a great Kingdom.

"Actual life is different," he said. "In the cross and the resurrection the evil reality of life lost the decisive battle. Yet, the victory in its full sense is yet to come. . . . And this dualism is what always keeps the Christian alert, watching, ready for battle and service."

According to Sorensen, "The question of peace and understanding is a religious question and Christ points the way: all one in him."

Christians, he said, "cannot get around such problems as race relations and the problems of the technically undeveloped countries." He also said, "We need in many countries to deepen our understanding of what evangelism really is."

He told the young people they should "acquire a deeper appreciation of what God has called the Baptists to give to the world." This, Sorensen added, is not "a question of being 'anti' other Christians, far from it."

Rather, he explained, "it is a question of being true to the light which has broken forth from God's word---and still is breaking through---on such questions as faith and baptism, religious liberty, the dignity of man, the priesthood of all believers."

His closing words to them were, "Our desire should be one alone: to be a part of the redemptive work of Christ---now."

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Maryland Mission Board Votes On New Equipment

BALTIMORE--(BP)--The board of missions of Maryland Baptist Union Association voted to buy modern duplicating and mailing equipment to speed up circulation of the Association's semi-monthly newspaper and other denominational literature.

The board also approved employment of an area missionary for the Northern District Association, which covers extreme northeastern Maryland including Havre de Grace, Elkton, and other communities.

The board adopted a set of bylaws to cover its work. Previously there have been no bylaws regarding the duties of officers and committees of the state board of missions.

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A budget for the new fiscal year will be considered during the period before the next state board meeting Oct. 20, and be voted on at that time.

The new equipment---to cost over \$6000---will include a multilith and addressograph machine for use by all departments of the Association. The new equipment will replace outmoded machines which have been used, General Secretary Roy D. Gresham said. They will be installed in the immediate future.

The Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board, the Maryland state board, the Maryland Woman's Missionary Union, and Northern District Association will share in the expenses of the new area missionary. No one has been called to fill the post yet.

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Greyhound Bus Driver
Is 'Pastor Of A Bus'

MIAMI--(BP)--Oscar Capo of Miami drives for Greyhound Lines. His bus run is the 160-mile, picturesque Overseas Highway which hops from island to island between Miami and Key West, Fla.

Advertised as a feature travel attraction throughout the nation, this run attracts thousands of tourists as well as the normal traffic between the two points.

Riding with Oscar Capo at the wheel is something of an experience, plus. Capo, a member of Flagler St. Baptist Church in Miami, once felt he wanted to be sort of a "pastor of a bus."

So, when passengers board his bus they are greeted by such signs as "He Travels Safely Who Travels with God," "God is Love," and "The Future is as Bright as the Promises of God."

Before the run starts, Capo gives the passengers a preview of the travel experience before them as they cross the more than 30 bridges linking the chain of Florida keys.

Then to this travelogue, he adds: "God is a good God. He has given me so much joy that I would like to share it. He loves you. You need his love. If you love him, you will seek him. And if you seek, you will find him.

"I pray that he will bless this trip that it will be a pleasant one for you."

At the end of the line, Capo "signs off" with a verse of Scripture or quotes a verse from a hymn.

Passengers have written the Greyhound Co. expressing appreciation for the "extra service." From time to time, passengers will call Capo aside at rest stops en route and ask advice on personal problems.

"I don't give them advice," Capo said. "I just tell them to pray about it and leave it in the Lord's hands."