

Baylor provost's speech sparks debate over Baptist freedom_101804

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Baylor provost's speech sparks debate over Baptist freedom

By Marv Knox

Editor

WACO—"Baptist freedom" and the doctrine called the priesthood of the believer have taken center stage in a debate over academic freedom and the future of Baylor University.

Baptist scholars point to tension between individualism and community life_101804

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Baptist scholars point to tension between individualism and community life

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Do Baptists affirm the priesthood of the believer or the priesthood of believers?

Sloan: Balance demands both_101804

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Sloan: Balance demands both

Thinking theologically, Baptists need to affirm both the priesthood of the believer and the priesthood of believers, Baylor President Robert Sloan said.

Citing the New Testament book of 1 Peter, he observed: "The church is a 'body of priests,' and that means that I, both as a member of a regenerate congregation and as an individual, need no other priest than Jesus Christ.

The church does not need another mediator than Jesus Christ. There is no teaching authority beyond us that tells us how we must observe Scriptures.”

A proper understanding of the priesthood of the believer/believers involves balance, Sloan said.

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articles:**

- [Baylor provost's speech sparks debate over Baptist freedom](#)
- [Baptist scholars point to tension between individualism and community life](#)
- [Sloan: Balance demands both](#)

Organizers hope BGCT session

will be a family celebration_101804

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Organizers hope BGCT session will be a family celebration

By Ferrell Foster

Texas Baptist Communications

SAN ANTONIO-The Texas Baptist family looks different these days, and they're gathering Nov. 8-9 to celebrate it.

Baptist Briefs_101804

October 15, 2004

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Baptist Briefs

Gift benefits Hispanic church-starting. A \$100,000 gift will be used by the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship for a joint effort in helping to start Hispanic churches

throughout the United States. The donors, who chose to remain anonymous, asked that the money be combined with other gifts to help the Fellowship and the Convencion assist in training, equipping and encouraging church leaders to start 400 churches in eight years.

Iorg installed as seminary president. Jeff Iorg was installed Oct. 11 as the seventh president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif. Iorg was elected to the office in April and began serving as president in August. Iorg came to Golden Gate from the Northwestern Baptist Convention in Vancouver, Wash., where he served as executive director-treasurer from 1995 to 2004. He is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. Born in Georgia, Iorg moved to Texas at the age of 3, where he lived until after college. He and his wife, Ann, who have relocated to Mill Valley, have three children: Casey, 20; Melody, 17; and Caleb, 15.

Texan named Prague seminary chaplain. Larry Maddox recently was named chaplain at the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague, Czech Republic. The former associate pastor of administration and education at First Baptist Church in Waco has served as a Texas Envoy at the seminary with his wife, Betty, for the past four years. Texas Envoys is a program of the Texas Partnerships Resource Center of the Baptist General Convention of Texas that encourages long-term volunteer mission work. In addition to serving as chaplain, Maddox will continue teaching theology and representing the seminary across Eastern Europe.

Judge finds no evidence of racketeering in Criswell College lawsuit_101804

October 15, 2004

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Judge finds no evidence of racketeering in Criswell College lawsuit

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—A district judge found no evidence of racketeering by either the W.A. Criswell Foundation or Criswell College in a dispute with a computer contractor.

DOWN HOME: Complex cars; simple faith_101804

October 15, 2004

Posted: 10/15/04

DOWN HOME: Complex cars; simple faith

A radio reporter recently confirmed something I've known for years: Fewer people work on their own cars than they did decades ago.

Most guys don't need a Time/CNN poll to tell us the obvious.

When I was a teenager, I always changed the oil in our cars. Daddy probably figured the experience would “build character” (or maybe provide me with a useful skill if the college thing didn't work out). I just thought it was fun to crawl around underneath our cars, handle tools and keep the engines running smoothly.

**EDITORIAL: Unlikely pair
propose debate
question_101804**

October 15, 2004

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EDITORIAL: Unlikely pair propose debate question

Politics really does make strange bedfellows. The day after the third

presidential debate, Welton Gaddy, president of the Interfaith Alliance, and Paul Weyrich, chairman of the Free Congress Foundation, wrote a joint letter, thanking debate moderator Bob Schieffer for asking George W. Bush and John Kerry “a central question on faith and policy.”

Few Christians could be further apart politically than Gaddy of the left and Weyrich of the right. But before the third debate, they teamed up to ask Schieffer to “raise questions in the presidential debates about the influence of the candidates' religion and personal faith in making public policy.”

Schieffer complied. His 18th question of the night was, “What part does your faith play on your policy decisions?”

**Question for
candidates:
What role
should and
does your
religious
faith and
values play
in creating
public
policy?**

EDITORIAL: One option may be

foregone, but votes count for something_101804

October 15, 2004

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EDITORIAL:

One option may be foregone, but votes count for something

Friends here in the Lone Star State—Democrats and Republicans alike—have joked and/or griped in recent weeks about the apparent futility of voting in the 2004 presidential election. “Everyone already knows where Texas' electoral college votes are going,” one declared. “Yeah, my vote doesn't really seem to matter,” another added.

To a degree, they're right. No individual trip to a Texas voting booth is likely to impact the race for the White House. President Bush will capture his home state's electoral votes. (On the other hand, we may be thankful we don't live in one of the 10 so-called swing states. Voters there reportedly have been inundated by some of the harshest campaign ads in history.)

**Voting is a
spiritual
privilege and
responsibility.**

But we deceive ourselves if we think our votes do not count, that voting does not matter.

Voters register at ETBU_101804

October 15, 2004

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Voters register at ETBU

The Political
Awareness

Society of East
Texas Baptist
University

holds a voter
registration
drive in the
food court at
the university's
student center.

The society, a
student group
that promotes

political
awareness

among
students and
the campus
community,

registered
more than 300

during the
three-day-long

voter
registration
drive.

News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Oct. 24: No one is beyond the healing powers of Christ_101804

October 15, 2004

Posted: 10/15/04

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Oct. 24

No one is beyond the healing powers of Christ

Luke 8:1-56

By Pakon Chan

Chinese Baptist Church, Arlington

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Oct. 31: Give up your life so that Christ can fill it richly_10

October 15, 2004

Posted: 10/15/04

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Oct. 31

Give up your life so that Christ can fill it richly

Luke 9:1-50

By Pakon Chan

Chinese Baptist Church, Arlington