

Book Reviews

August 5, 2005

Posted: 8/05/05

Book Reviews

Why the Rest Hates the West by Meic Piese (InterVarsity Press)

Why the Rest Hates the West fills two important needs. First, it provides a helpful historical analysis of how Western culture (primarily North America and Western Europe) has evolved in ways that put it at odds with non-Westerners around the world. Second, it provides a critique of Western culture that avoids the extremes of both political and patriotic correctness. In fact, more than anything else, this balanced and well-articulated approach by Meic Pearse makes the book worth your time.

What will make this book especially helpful for the average Baptist is seeing how much of anti-Western resentment is grounded in assumptions that we (North Americans and Western Europeans) have rejected traditional morality and yet still assume a natural superiority over nations and cultures who aren't as "civilized" as we see ourselves. Understanding that point might soften the hearts of those of us who also place a high value on personal and societal morality yet still find it easy to harbor anger and resentment toward nations and cultures that reject America, sometimes violently.

The logo for "Off the Bookshelf" is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border. It features the words "Off the" in a small, red, sans-serif font, stacked vertically to the left of the word "Bookshelf", which is in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below "Bookshelf" is the tagline "What's everyone reading anyway?" in a smaller, grey, sans-serif font.

What are you reading that other Texas Baptists would find helpful? Send suggestions and reviews to books@baptiststandard.com.

Shoes for Orphan Souls launches annual national drive

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Shoes for Orphan Souls launches annual national drive

By Felicia Fuller

Buckner Baptist Benevolences

With its expanded global territory and record volunteer participation, Buckner Orphan Care International is launching its seventh year of giving new shoes to children worldwide through its annual Shoes for Orphan Souls national campaign.

Buckner marks 10 years of international orphan ministry

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Buckner marks 10 years of international orphan ministry

By Scott Collins

Buckner Baptist Benevolences

Some say we live in a world without borders-that technology has made the planet a global village where travel and communications are instant.

Africa the new center of Christianity

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An
African
group
sings at
the
Baptist
World
Centenary
Congress.
(Photos
by Ferrell
Foster)

Africa the new center of Christianity

By Tony Cartledge

North Carolina Biblical Recorder

BIRMINGHAM, England (ABP)—The center of Christianity has moved to Africa, and Baptists can be catalysts for changing the continent, Frank Adams told delegates to the Baptist World Centenary Congress.

British Baptists encouraged by

strong showing in Birmingham

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British Baptists encouraged by strong showing in Birmingham

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

BIRMINGHAM, England (ABP)—For one week, the halls of Birmingham's International Convention Center were filled with bustle and conversation of Baptists from around the world. But for British Baptists, the clamor sends one clear message: "You are not alone in a time of pain and uncertainty."

'We belong to each other because we belong to Christ'

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'We belong to each other

because we belong to Christ'

By Marv Knox

Editor

BIRMINGHAM, England—Margun Waren of Norway grew up in a country with a strong, state-sponsored Lutheran church. “As Baptists, we are a minority,” she said, reporting that only about 5,000 Baptists live in Norway. “It was very great for me when I first found out as a teenager that the Baptists were so many more than the small area where I grew up.”

Fight terrorism with dinnertime conversation

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Tony
Campolo
calls for a
committment
from
delegates to
the Baptist
World
Centenary
Congress.
(Photo by
Ian Britton)

Fight terrorism with dinnertime conversation

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

BIRMINGHAM, England (ABP)-The fight against terrorism is fought most effectively over a slice of pizza, not at airports and transit stations, global Baptist leaders insist.

Fundamentalism divides Christians, Carter tells Baptists

August 5, 2005

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Fundamentalism divides Christians, Carter tells Baptists

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

BIRMINGHAM, England-Fundamentalism characterized by rigidity, domination and exclusion-practiced primarily by authoritarian males-divides Christians by adding restrictive requirements to the simple gospel message, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter told delegates to the Baptist World Centenary Congress.

Couple celebrates 50th anniversary at BWA Congress

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Couple celebrates 50th anniversary at BWA Congress

By Marv Knox

Editor

BIRMINGHAM, England—Paul and Eveline Miller had good reason to feel a sense of déjà vu during the Baptist World Alliance's centennial congress.

Carter Hunger for healing, desire for justice transcend differences

August 5, 2005

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Carter: Hunger for healing, desire for justice transcend differences

By Greg Warner

Associated Baptist Press

BIRMINGHAM, England (ABP)—There is an “intense hunger” among Christians worldwide—and among people of all faiths—to work for justice

and oppose terrorism, despite serious differences of faith, former United States President Jimmy Carter told reporters at the Baptist World Congress.

Church should become new health service for the world

August 5, 2005

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Church should become new health service for the world

By Marv Knox

Editor

BIRMINGHAM, England—Like Cinderella, the 21st century church must leave the “scullery” and engage the world as Christ intended it to, Steve Chalke told participants at the Baptist World Centenary Congress.

Christ's love commands compassion for hurting & needy

August 5, 2005

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Christ's love commands compassion for hurting & needy

By Marv Knox

Editor

BIRMINGHAM, England—Christ's love commands compassion for a world filled with suffering and pain, speaker after speaker told participants at the Baptist World Centenary Congress.