

TOGETHER: Real missions makes us more like Jesus

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/29/06

TOGETHER: Real missions makes us more like Jesus

Can missions work ever be wrong? Does some kind of mission activity make God sick at heart? Apparently so.

Jesus spoke seven woes (Matthew 23) upon the [Pharisees](#) and other religious scholars and leaders of his day. They were more knowledgeable regarding the Bible than any other people. They were credentialed, admired, but haughty and self-righteous as well. And the second of the seven woes (in this word “woes” is the pathos of God’s heart including wrath and pain, anger and sorrow) is this surprising word: “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as you are” (Matthew 23:15).



The Judaism of Jesus' time was vigorous in its missionary efforts. This mission zeal abated after the destruction of the temple some 30 years after Jesus' death and resurrection. What is on Jesus' mind here? Could he mean that when converts are made by men, rather than by the power of God's Holy Spirit, they still are unconverted?

On one occasion, [Billy Graham](#) met a man on a downtown street who clearly was drunk and wasted by his sin. "Oh, Mr. Graham, I am so glad to see you. You converted me in one of your meetings."

UMHB students invest time in neighborhood children

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/29/06

Students from the University of Mary Hardin- Baylor teach neighborhood children a biblical story about sowing good seed.

UMHB students invest time in neighborhood children

By Jennifer Sicking

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

BELTON—Business management student Felicia Cano sees her Tuesday and Thursday afternoons as an investment.

“It really gives us the opportunity to invest in kids’ lives,” said Cano, a [University of Mary Hardin-Baylor](#) junior from Bay City.

Waco church for homeless inspires others

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About 20 Lexington, Ky.,-area churches, including six congregations in the Kentucky Baptist Convention, have helped conduct services for homeless people inspired by Waco's Church Under The Bridge.

Waco church for homeless inspires others

By Ken Walker

Special to the Baptist Standard

LEXINGTON, Ky.—The Church Under the Bridge in the Lexington, Ky., serves the same type of homeless and low-income people as a Waco congregation that inspired it—even though the Kentucky congregation

never has met under a bridge.

Valley investigation could cost \$150,000

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/29/06

Valley investigation could cost \$150,000

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—The Baptist General Convention of Texas Executive Board will learn Oct. 31 the results of an [investigation](#) into alleged mismanagement of church-starting funds in the Rio Grande Valley—a probe that could cost up to \$150,000.

At the board's Sept. 25-26 meeting, Chairman Bob Fowler of Houston announced a called board meeting from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 31 at the Baptist Building in Dallas. At that time, Brownsville Attorney Diane Dillard will present findings from the five-month investigation she has headed.

See Previous Articles:

- [Called board meeting focuses on Valley](#)
- [Executive Board endorses ongoing probe in Rio Grande Valley](#)
- [Attorney hired to guide church-starting fund investigation](#)
- [BGCT launches probe of church-planting funds in the Valley](#)

WorldconneX links layman's vision with village's need

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/29/06

WorldconneX links layman's vision with village's need

By David Williams

WorldconneX

PASADENA—A Texas Baptist layman wanted to provide a water well for

someone in another country. A village in Kenya needed a source for water. And the WorldconneX missions network matched the resource to the need through [Buckner Orphan Care International](#).

It started when Lee Vaughn, a retired oil company worker, approached retired missionary John Mills, who teaches adult Sunday school at [South Main Baptist Church in Pasadena](#).

Cybercolumn by Berry Simpson: Perfect lawn

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/29/06

CYBER COLUMN: Perfect lawn

By Berry Simpson

I have been reading a book I found on the new-book shelf at the Midland County Library, [American Green: The Obsessive Quest for the Perfect Lawn](#), by Ted Steinberg. One amazing fact I've learned: Americans spend an estimated \$40 billion a year on lawn care.

Steinberg would be disappointed to know that the Simpson family doesn't have a lawn in the front yard; at least, not a conventional turf-grass lawn. Some years ago, we replaced our grass with a variety of ground covers that

some former neighbors might say is nothing but “a big science fair experiment.” The reason we did it was because we wanted something different and more interesting, and because I decided I was sick of mowing. We were successful. Our yard is interesting, if confusing, and I only mow the front yard once a year when Cyndi makes me cut down the Vinca after the daisies have dropped their flowers.

Berry D. Simpson

Church arguments spilling out into blogs and websites

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/29/06

Church arguments spilling out into blogs and websites

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (ABP)—Bellevue Baptist Church is on the cutting edge of a growing trend—at least when it comes to conflict. Like members from several other prominent churches nationwide, congregants at the Memphis-area megachurch are using websites and blogs to post details

about ongoing dissent within the ranks.

But do such high-tech tactics empower church members to address conflict or merely make the conflict worse while airing a church's dirty laundry to the world?

BaptistWay Bible Series for October 8: The joy of worshipping together

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/28/06

BaptistWay Bible Series for October 8

The joy of worshipping together

- Psalm 84

By David Wilkinson

Bible Studies for Life Series for October 8: Take hold of godliness in action and attitude

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/28/06

Bible Studies for Life Series for October 8

Take hold of godliness in action and attitude

- 1 Timothy 4:6-16

By Kenneth Lyle

Explore the Bible Series for October 8: Christian maturity is not accidental

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/28/06

Explore the Bible Series for October 8

Christian maturity is not accidental

- Hebrews 5:11-6:12

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

The writer of Hebrews was discouraged because the Jewish believers could not grasp Christ's high priesthood. They could not grasp the basic truths, apply them, and by constant application, go on to maturity. These Christians are immature and "slow to learn" not having grasped even the elementary truths of the gospel. To be mature is to evolve toward full development. Immaturity is a lack of growth and development.

Cybercolumn by Jeanie Miley: Striving for excellence to please God

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/25/06

CYBER COLUMN: Striving for excellence to please God

By Jeanie Miley

On a warm fall Saturday night, I attended a concert put on by some of the most highly trained ministers of music in the country. The Centurymen is what they are called, and I'm pretty sure they are some of the best singers in the whole world. (They looked pretty handsome in their tuxes, too.)

I sat near the front, and so I got to watch the accompanists closely. I loved watching them do what they do. I felt so blessed, watching one of the world's great choral conductors, a genius among us, conduct those professional musicians in a concert that made chills run up and down my spine over and over.

Jeanie Miley

McKissic wants SBC to address 'tongues' in Baptist Faith & Message

September 29, 2006

Posted: 9/22/06

McKissic wants SBC to address 'tongues' in Baptist Faith & Message

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

NASHVILLE (ABP)—A Southern Baptist trustee, whose [recent seminary chapel sermon](#) was partially censored over his comments on speaking in tongues, has asked that the denomination address the issue in its official confession of faith.

Dwight McKissic, pastor of [Cornerstone Baptist Church in Arlington](#), and a trustee at [Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary](#) in nearby Fort Worth, publicized a letter he sent to members of the Southern Baptist Convention's [Executive Committee](#), which met Sept. 18-19 in Nashville, Tenn.

Dwight McKissic
