

Bible Studies for Life Series for December 24: Jesus, God's greatest gift to his people

December 13, 2006

Posted: 12/13/06

Bible Studies for Life Series for December 24

Jesus, God's greatest gift to his people

- Luke 1:26-35; 2:4-7

By Kenneth Lyle

Explore the Bible Series for December 24: Honor the Savior's birth with worship

December 13, 2006

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Explore the Bible Series for December 24

Honor the Savior's birth with worship

• Matthew 1:18-2:12

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

Joseph, the husband of Mary, was a direct descendant of David. Jesus was not the physical son of Joseph. Mary conceived Jesus through the Holy Spirit. Christ is the "Anointed One."

Dine on the sweet bread of life, speakers urge at Congreso_41904

December 13, 2006

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Dine on the sweet bread of life, speakers urge at Congreso

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

SAN ANTONIO-Speakers challenged more than 3,700 young people to dine

on the “pan dulce” of Jesus—the sweet bread of life—at the Texas Baptist Hispanic Youth and Singles Congreso.

Group asks SBC to reconsider tongues policy

December 13, 2006

Posted: 12/08/06

Group asks SBC to reconsider tongues policy

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

ARLINGTON (ABP)—A group of Baptist pastors and church leaders at a Dec. 5 roundtable discussion voted unanimously to ask Southern Baptist Convention officials to reconsider restrictive policies regarding speaking in tongues.

Dwight McKissic

The more than 80 pastors and laypeople who attended the half-day event at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Arlington also agreed to submit a resolution on “partnership and free religious expression” at the next SBC annual

convention, to be held June 12-13 in San Antonio.

See Related Articles:

- [McKissic wants SBC to address 'tongues' in Baptist Faith & Message 9/22/06](#)
- [Rankin discusses private prayer language 3/03/06](#)
- [International Mission Board seeks to tie tongues 12/02/05](#)
- [ANOTHER VIEW: Baptists, Pentecostals stand stronger on common ground 4/02/04](#)

Bible Studies for Life Series for December 17: The intermingling of faith, hope &

love

December 13, 2006

Posted: 12/11/06

Bible Studies for Life Series for December 17

The intermingling of faith, hope & love

- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

By Kenneth Lyle

BaptistWay Bible Series for December 17: In the light of the noonday, darkness abounds

December 13, 2006

Posted: 12/11/06

BaptistWay Bible Series for December 17

In the light of the noonday, darkness

abounds

- John 4:1-30; 39-42

By David Wilkinson

Explore the Bible Series for December 17: God works through spiritual leaders

December 13, 2006

Posted: 12/11/06

Explore the Bible Series for December 17

God works through spiritual leaders

- Ezra 7:8-10; 9:1-2, 4; 10:1-5

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

Ezra proves to be a godly spiritual leader coming to Jerusalem during the reign of Artaxerxes, probably over a century after the completion of the temple in 516 B.C.

BGCT responds to clergy sex abuse; victims want more

December 13, 2006

Posted: 12/08/06

BGCT responds to clergy sex abuse; victims want more

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

DALLAS (ABP)—Recent sex scandals among [Catholic](#) and evangelical leaders are prompting renewed calls for action against clergy sexual abuse. But with [research](#) indicating such abuse is more prevalent among clergy—including [Baptists](#)—than other counseling professionals, abuse-victim advocates are asking if enough is being done.

Comprehensive studies are difficult to find. But a 1993 survey by the [Journal of Pastoral Care](#) found that 14 percent of Southern Baptist ministers admitted to engaging in inappropriate sexual behavior. Seventy percent said they knew another minister who had.

See Related Articles:

- [Victims urge BGCT to release list \(3/03/06\)](#)
- [Abuse means betrayal, panelists say \(3/03/06\)](#)
- [Editorial: Churches must act to prevent clergy sexual abuse \(4/22/02\)](#)
- [BGCT churches urged to report clergy sexual abuse \(11/11/02\)](#)
- [Predicting which ministers will cross sexual boundaries 'nearly impossible' \(11/11/02\)](#)
- [BGCT will provide information on verified clergy sexual abusers \(10/02/00\)](#)

CYBER COLUMN by John

Duncan: Wishing for Christmas

December 13, 2006

Posted: 12/08/06

CYBER COLUMN: Wishing for Christmas

By John Duncan

I'm sitting here under the old oak tree, wishing for Christmas. Here in our town, it feels like Christmas. Ice, sleet and snow fell from the sky. Winter's chill thrills the air. Giving swells in my heart. And Christmas soon comes!

The old preacher Philips Brooks in the 1800s said, "The earth has grown old with its burden of care, but at Christmas it is always young." How true. When it snowed here recently, I wished for inches, white covering the earth like a cotton blanket. I longed for the snow to pile up so I could grab the neighborhood kids and slide on boxes, throw snowballs and fix hot chocolate. I also wanted to run down to Blockbuster and rent three movies, *Elf* and *The Chronicles of Narnia* and *It's a Wonderful Life*, just hear those infamous movie lines: "I know him! I know him!" and "It's always winter but never Christmas" and "See (George) Bailey, you've had a wonderful life!" Ah, Christmas soon comes!

John Duncan

Commentary by Jinny Henson: Black Friday

December 13, 2006

Posted: 12/08/06

COMMENTARY: Black Friday

By Jinny Henson

It was Black Friday, the fabled day after Thanksgiving and I had absolutely no desire to shop. The consumerism, the materialism...I was taking the moral high ground and refusing to shop. My mother and I discussed how crazy people were to get up at dawn's crack and fight fellow citizens for the last low-priced cart wheeling tiger or karaoke machine.

But then I realized we needed orange juice and milk. Hmmm...you know, Target had such great prices on those things....a full .17 cents cheaper on the O.J. and a whopping .23 on the milk. It was the only fiscally responsible move one could make.

Jinny Henson

Can a university be distinctively Baptist and academically excellent? Or_seay_92203

December 13, 2006

Posted: 9/19/03

Can a university be distinctively Baptist and academically excellent? â Or ...

By Chris Seay

As I travel the country speaking to pastors, I get a lot of questions about my commitment to our denomination. I believe denominations are quickly becoming dinosaurs. So, many wonder why I invest my time and resources as a Texas Baptist. I tell them straight up that the Baptist General Convention of Texas is more like a family than a denomination. While segments of the Baptist faith have been fighting with moderates, Jews, Catholics and Mickey Mouse, my friends in Texas have been focusing on being the presence of Christ, starting churches, feeding the hungry, caring for orphans, opposing the death penalty and avoiding the wrong kind of controversy.

Maybe I spoke too soon. While the BGCT has remained above the fray, Baptists on the Brazos have locked themselves in a no-holds-barred cage match and thrust the worst stereotypes of people of faith onto the international stage. I, for one, have had enough. If being in the Baptist or Baylor family means taking sides and arms against one another, then I am

opting out.


Baylor's quest: Joel Gregory Ella Wall Prichard Chris Seay

Around the State

December 13, 2006

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Around the State

- The [University of Mary Hardin-Baylor](#) art department will sponsor the 10th Christmas Workshop Dec. 9 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. This year, the workshop will include a musical component, and a fee of \$15 will be charged instead a gift collection as in years past. Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult for the entire time. Children will make a variety of Christmas decorations and then will be entertained by Toucan Jam, a duo that plays musical instruments from around the world. Children who wish

to attend only the musical portion of the event will be charged \$8. Space is limited, and prior registration is recommended. For more information or to register, call (254) 295-4676.

[East Texas
Baptist
University](#)

mascot
“Toby the
Tiger” and
last year’s
homecoming
queen,
Lizzie
Wunsch,
crowned
Kerry Bryan
of Joaquin
and Corrin
Conway of
Glendale,
Ariz., as the
2006
homecoming
king and
queen.

- Phil Rhodes has been named director of institutional research and assessment at [Houston Baptist University](#), effective Dec. 11. He most recently was senior research analyst at Baylor University, serving in that position since 1998.

- Audrey Chumchal was crowned 2007 Miss Mary Hardin-Baylor at the university's annual pageant. Chumchal, who represented the freshman class, is a biblical studies major. Others honored included Lindsey Harkrider, first runner-up; Katrina Esco, second runner-up; Leslie Anne Estes; and Martha Sicking, fourth runner-up.

- Richard Blackaby, a well-known Canadian Baptist leader, was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree by Dallas Baptist University during its fall convocation. He is president of [Blackaby Ministries International](#), founded by his parents. For 13 years, he was president of Canadian Baptist Seminary in Cochrane, Alberta. He also is the author of several books. His father, Henry Blackaby, is author of the best-selling Experiencing God.