

Explore the Bible Series for January 28: It is important to keep commitments

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Explore the Bible Series for January 28

It is important to keep commitments

- Nehemiah 13:1-18

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

Nehemiah left Jerusalem in the 32nd year of Artaxerxes, circa 433 B.C., and returned to Persia as he promised. During his absence, the people returned to their former ways, led by the high priest Eliashib. Such a defection called for the needed reforms.

Belmont subpoenas church

records in Tennessee Baptist lawsuit

January 18, 2007

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Belmont subpoenas church records in Tennessee Baptist lawsuit

By Lonnie Wilkey

Tennessee Baptist & Reflector

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (ABP)—Belmont University has subpoenaed giving records from 100 Tennessee Baptist Convention churches in an ongoing legal dispute with the convention over control of the school's assets.

The subpoena asks for records on churches' giving to the Cooperative Program—the unified budget of the Southern Baptist Convention and its affiliated state conventions—between 1951, when the school became affiliated with the convention, and 2005, when Belmont trustees removed the school from convention control.

In a Jan. 3 letter accompanying the subpoenas, Belmont trustee chairman Marty Dickens asked if, “in making those gifts, the churches knew about or relied upon the 1951 document that is the focus of the (Tennessee Baptist) Executive Board's lawsuit against Belmont.”

The reference was to a once-forgotten document convention officials are relying on in the suit, filed last year. The agreement says that, should the school ever remove itself from convention control, it would owe the

convention for all the Cooperative Program funds it has received.

Carter, Clinton use convocation to call Baptists to compassion

January 18, 2007

Posted: 1/09/07

Carter, Clinton use convocation to call Baptists to compassion

By Marv Knox & Greg Warner

ATLANTA—Baptists from across North America will convene in Atlanta early next year to emphasize compassion rather than the racial, theological and social conflict that has divided them for 160 years.

Headed by former U.S presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton—two of the world’s most famous Baptist laymen—about 80 leaders of 40 Baptist organizations gathered at the [Carter Center](#) in Atlanta Jan. 9 to announce the Celebration of a New Baptist Covenant. The event is tentatively set for Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 2008.

The convocation will be “one of the most historic events, at least in the history of Baptists in this country, maybe Christianity,” Carter predicted.

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Explore the Bible Series for January 21: Every person is intimately known by God

January 18, 2007

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Explore the Bible Series for January 21

Every person is intimately known by God

- Psalm 139:1-24

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

Psalm 139 is attributed to David and describes the attributes of the Lord not as abstract qualities, but as active qualities by which he relates himself to his people. God's omniscience, omnipresence and omnipotence allow him to know everything about us.

Cybercolumn by Jinny Henson: Resolutions

January 18, 2007

Posted: 1/12/07

CYBER COLUMN: Resolutions

By Jinny Henson

Reaping the punishment of my Christmas cookie metabolism

experiment—you know the one, where you see if eating 40 cookies really does make your pants any tighter—I wrapped up the last ornament, stripped the front door of her garland and laid to rest the pillaged Greenburg turkey carcass in a terrier-proof zip lock bag. Christmas, indeed, was over for another year.

With the simple flip of the calendar from December to January, I find myself on the threshold again. Measurer by nature, I glance over my shoulder at who I was this past 12 months and contemplate what I could be in the next. With each New Year comes the patina of potential covering the lens of my perception, and it is with the bolstered vision, I resolve.

Jinny Henson

BaptistWay Bible Series for January 21: In good times and bad, Jesus is there

January 18, 2007

Posted: 1/11/07

BaptistWay Bible Series for January 21

In good times and bad, Jesus is there

• John 14:1-11, 15-18, 25-27

By David Wilkinson

Bible Studies for Life Series for January 14: Sin has far- reaching consequences

January 18, 2007

Posted: 1/10/07

Bible Studies for Life Series for January 14

Sin has far-reaching consequences

• Genesis 3:1-8,15-19,22-24

By Kenneth Lyle

Bible Studies for Life Series for January 21: What is human life worth?

January 18, 2007

Posted: 1/10/07

Bible Studies for Life Series for January 21

What is human life worth?

- Genesis 9:5-6; Psalm 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:10-11,15-16,18; 24:10-12

By Kenneth Lyle

Storylist for 1/08/07 issue

January 18, 2007

Storylist for week of 1/08/07

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• [Books reviewed in this issue are:](#) *Reimagining Evangelism: Inviting Friends on a Spiritual Journey* by Rick Richardson, *Exiled: Voices of the Southern Baptist Convention Holy War* edited by Carl L. Kell and *Learning to Pray Through the Psalms* by James W. Sire.



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Explore the Bible Series for January 14: Hearing God's word brings revival, worship

January 18, 2007

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Explore the Bible Series for January 14

Hearing God's word brings revival, worship

• Nehemiah 8:1-18; 9:1-37; 9:38-10:39

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

The first day of the seventh month was a day of convocation. The Water Gate became the place of cleansing by the refreshing power of God's word. The effect of the word was revival and keeping of the Feast of Tabernacles. Reading, hearing, believing, obeying the word brought spiritual revival with humiliation, self-judgment, confession and true worship. The renewed covenant ushered a commitment to support God's house and a rededication

to live according to God's word and to pursue his purposes.

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Kokomo church rises from ashes, celebrates centennial

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Kokomo church rises from ashes, celebrates centennial

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

GORMAN—Kokomo Baptist Church found plenty of reasons to rejoice two weeks before Christmas, as members belatedly celebrated the church's centennial and dedicated new facilities, completed less than a year after its previous building burned in a wildfire.

Worshippers packed the sanctuary for the dedication of the new building, with former members and pastors returning to be part of the celebration. Old friends reconnected, and old memories were revisited, participants said.

Missouri Baptist leaders approve team to investigate executive

January 18, 2007

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Missouri Baptist leaders approve team to investigate executive

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (ABP)—In a sign of continuing turmoil within the Missouri Baptist Convention, the body's Executive Board has appointed a committee to investigate their embattled executive director.

The group also discussed allegations that a four-year-old church in St. Louis, supported by a convention loan, is encouraging alcohol consumption.