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April 13, 2007

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- [Spiritual 'smorgasbord' reveals hunger for ultimate meaning](#)

- [Novel challenges readers to view gospel through the eyes of Judas](#)

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- [Books reviewed in this issue:](#) *River Rising* by Athol Dickson, *The Gospel According to Starbucks: Living With a Grande Passion* by Leonard Sweet

and *Why Study the Past? The Quest for the Historical Church* by Rowan Williams.



- [Cartoon](#)
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- [EDITORIAL: BGCT prepares for torch to be passed](#)
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- [BaptistWay Bible Series for April 15: Barriers do not have to be barricades](#)
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- [BaptistWay Bible Series for April 22: Every Christian is called to missions](#)
- [Bible Studies for Life Series for April 22: Loving like Christ bears fruit](#)
- [Explore the Bible Series for April 22: Christians should exude Christ when squeezed](#)

Previously Posted

- [Mission Waco volunteers offer pure water, living water](#)
- [Evangelical leaders join broad coalition urging immigration reform](#)
- [Friona church's furniture bears mark of 92-year-old carpenter](#)
- [Buckner orphan writes her story](#)
- [Frye has seen change over 50 years at the organ bench](#)
- [Wanted: Gospel preachers for South Africa](#)
- [Study shows intact, religious family reduces achievement gap for minority children](#)
- [Texas House bill would expand CHIP](#)
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Student actors say portraying Christ becomes role of a lifetime

April 13, 2007

Posted: 4/13/07

Student Jeff Sutton portrays Christ during the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor outdoor Easter pageant, a campus tradition for more than 60 years.
(Photos/Carol Woodward)

Student actors say portraying Christ becomes role of a lifetime

By Jennifer Sicking

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

BELTON—Three times Jeff Sutton was raised up on a cross, and each time he felt the power of what it represented.

“It is powerful to realize that what I did was imitation, acting, but what Christ did was real,” Sutton, a religion major from Dallas, said about his role as Jesus in the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor’s 68th annual Easter pageant. “Every time I would lay down on the cross, my heart would get in a knot. Christ did it for real. Nails would go through his hands; his blood was shed.”

RIGHT or WRONG? Santa and lying

April 13, 2007

Posted: 4/13/07

RIGHT or WRONG? Santa and lying

What should I tell my preschooler about Santa Claus? Is it wrong to tell a “little white lie” if it brings happiness to a child?

Wade announces plans to retire as BGCT executive director

April 13, 2007

Updated: 4/12/07

BGCT Executive Director Charles Wade talks with Associate Executive Director/COO Ron Gunter after Wade's retirement announcement (BGCT photo).
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Wade announces plans to retire as BGCT executive director

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—Charles Wade, who led the Baptist General Convention of Texas through major changes in its governance and reorganization of its Executive Board staff, has announced plans to retire as [executive director](#) Jan. 31, 2008.

Wade told Baptist Building employees of his plans at an April 11 staff meeting after he informed BGCT President Steve Vernon and Executive Board Chairman Bob Fowler.

- [Listen to Charles Wade announce his retirement with comments from Bob Fowler and Steve Vernon.](#)

- [Read the text \[here\]\(#\).](#)

Text of Charles Wade's address to the BGCT staff

April 13, 2007

Posted: 4/11/07

Text of Charles Wade's address to the

BGCT staff

As I have said to Texas Baptists in many places and many times: “I thank my God every time I think of you. I pray for you with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.”

Especially, I am glad to say that to this staff who serve Texas Baptists in myriad ways with steadfast faith and impressive skill. No leader of Texas Baptists could ever hope for a more dedicated and able group of women and men to serve alongside than I have enjoyed the past seven years.

Charles Wade

We have accomplished much together, and there is more to be done. We will continue to give our full energies to the task Texas Baptists assigned to my care and God called me to do when I began this journey with you in November 1999.

It is now time to announce that I will retire from the role of Executive Director of the BGCT on January 31, 2008. Though I will continue to give leadership and encouragement to you, the Executive Board of the Convention, and Texas Baptists for the next 9 1/2 months, it is necessary for me to give this advance notice so there can be adequate time for the Executive Board to initiate the search process to find the next Executive Director whom I believe God has already been preparing to take up this critical and special calling.

oneday_60203

April 13, 2007

Posted: 5/30/03

OneDay03 perpetuates passion for following God

SHERMAN-Rather than spending Memorial Day weekend at beaches or amusement parks, nearly 30,000 college students and young adults sought God on a 400-acre ranch near Sherman.

OneDay03 encompassed the weekend, climaxing in seven hours of worship, teaching and prayer on Memorial Day.

Almost
30,000
college
students
converged
on a ranch
near
Sherman
over the
Memorial
Day
weekend
to
participate
in
OneDay03,
a
nationwide
"sacred
assembly"
designed
to help
them focus
on God.
(Leann
Callaway
Photo)

Led by Louie Giglio, founder and director of Passion Conferences for youth and young adults, OneDay included a number of well-known speakers, worship artists and other Christian leaders.

BaptistWay Bible Series for April 15: Barriers do not have to be barricades

April 13, 2007

Posted: 4/05/07

BaptistWay Bible Series for April 15

Barriers do not have to be barricades

- Acts 11:1-18

[By Leroy Fenton](#)

Bible Studies for Life Series for April 15: The way of Christ involves service and sacrifice

April 13, 2007

Posted: 4/05/07

Bible Studies for Life Series for April 15

The way of Christ involves service and sacrifice

- John 13:1-17

[By David Harp](#)

Explore the Bible Series for April 15: Acting like Jesus in the face of suffering

April 13, 2007

Posted: 4/05/07

Explore the Bible Series for April 15

Acting like Jesus in the face of suffering

- 1 Peter 3:13-4:6

[By Kathryn Aragon](#)

First Baptist Church, Duncanville

I wonder if we confessed to people when we witness that Christianity is a life of suffering if there would be as many Christians. There certainly would be fewer shallow Christians.

TBM delivers computers to Mexico

April 13, 2007

Posted: 4/05/07

TBM delivers computers to Mexico

By Barbara Bedrick

Texas Baptist Communications

ZACATECAS, Mexico—Students in Zacatecas, Mexico, don't send e-mail or search the Internet for resources for their homework. But that is about to change.

Texas Baptist Men volunteers recently delivered 40 computers to a school in Zacatecas.

Houston students unite to serve in Acuña

April 13, 2007

Posted: 4/05/07

Houston students unite to serve in Acuña

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

HOUSTON—When a group of Texas Baptist students arrived to set up clinics in Acuña, Mexico, local residents already were lined up to be examined. They continued lining up all day long, and the students worked into the night looking after them.

It was worth it to spread the gospel, the students said.

Students
from
Houston
served
more
than 100
people
day in
clinics in
Acuna,
Mexico.
(Photo
courtesy
of Jason
Harrell)

CYBER COLUMN by Jinny Henson: Wielding power like God

April 13, 2007
Posted: 4/06/07

CYBER COLUMN: Wielding power like

God

By Jinny Henson

“Jesus knew that God had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with a towel that was wrapped around him” (John 12:3-5).

Absolute power. Absolutely uncorrupted. Here stands Jesus in the verge his own sacrificial death, having everything under his power. He could have opted out. He could have been an earthly king theoretically; he could have painted the sky chartreuse and flooded the world with boysenberry yogurt.

Jinny Henson

It was all under Jesus’ power. Do we really get that he could have turned the wheels of history in an opposite direction? Refused to follow through and fulfill his destiny? Dodge the utter humiliation, pain and rejection waiting for him in a few, small hours.