

Cybercolumn by Jinny Henson: Resolutions

January 12, 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 12, 2007

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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 12, 2007

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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?

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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 12, 2007

Storylist for week of 1/08/07

TAKE ME TO: [Top Story](#) | [Texas](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Baptists](#) | [Faith & Culture](#) | [Book Reviews](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Departments](#) | [Bible Study](#)



- [Seminary president urges neighboring pastor to resign](#)



- [DRINK TO THAT? Have Baptists watered down their objections to alcohol?](#)



- [After 52 years at one church, pastor has no plans to quit](#)
- [Texas Legislature faces critical issues](#)
- [By removing barriers, church reclaims families](#)
- [Volunteers warm orphans' heartsâand feetâin Moldova](#)
- [On the Move](#)
- [Around the State](#)
- [Texas Tidbits](#)



- [DRINK TO THAT? Have Baptists watered down their objections to alcohol?](#)

- [Alcoholism: No easy fix or single remedy](#)

- [Baptist battles dominated news in 2006, editors say](#)

- [Graham named among most-admired in poll for 50th time](#)

- [Baptist Briefs](#)



- [Amish response to violence rated top '06 newsmaker](#)

- [New Congress displays America's religious diversity](#)

- [Baptists in the House of Representatives](#)

- [Religious affiliations of Texas congressional delegation](#)

- [Exhibits feed the public's hunger for biblical history](#)

- [Apostle's grave may be beneath Rome church](#)

- [Prize-winning biologist issues plea for religion, science to save creation](#)

- [Documentary explores faith of televangelists' son](#)



- [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.



- [Around the State](#)

- [Cartoon](#)
- [Classified Ads](#)
- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)



- [EDITORIAL: Prophecies needed for coming year](#)
- [DOWN HOME: Are you too old to wear corduroys?](#)
- [2nd Opinion: Six tips for building better sermons](#)
- [TOGETHER: 2007: The emphasis is on missions](#)
- [RIGHT or WRONG? Christian Reconstructionism](#) • [Texas Baptist Forum](#)
- [CYBER COLUMN by John Duncan: Grandmother's simple faith](#)



- [BaptistWay Bible Series for January 7: Believing in Jesus as the Resurrection & the Life](#)
- [Bible Studies for Life Series for January 7: Why am I here?](#)
- [Explore the Bible Series for January 7: God will guide his people past obstacles](#)

Previously Posted

- [Students provide family with extreme home makeover](#)
- [Church's flexibility helps in encounter with Hispanic seekers](#)
- [Volunteer builders ramp up efforts to assist the disabled](#)

- [UMHB student adds German flavor to Texas Christmas](#)
- [Texas Baptist Men seek to provide pure Water of Life](#)
- [Researcher finds Wayland imprint far and wide](#)
- [Movie's themes experienced by church that produced it](#)
- [Small-church pastors challenged to make a difference](#)
- [Former WMU President Huis Coy Egge dead at 95](#)
- [Georgia church votes to purge piggy name](#)
- [Volunteers' love encourages Moldovan women](#)



- [Pastors rank among top 10 on ethics list](#)
- [Holiday traditions vary among Baptists around the world](#)
- [Holiday Health: How to survive flu season](#)
- [Holiday Health: Don't ditch diet during holidays](#)
- [Holiday Health: Ways to care for your heart](#)
- [Baptists urge Wal-Mart to practice Golden Rule](#)
- [The Baptist Standard family wishes our readers a Merry Christmas! Click to see our card](#)
- [BGCT African-American ministries director named](#)

- [Baylor's oldest new graduate receives long-awaited degree](#)
- [Chrismukkah? Hybrid holiday shows tension in religiously blended families](#)
- [Court to decide if taxpayers can sue over faith-based plan](#)
- [Ex-gay says: Treat homosexuality as temptation, not orientation](#)
- [DBU students raise funds to help hungry](#)

[See complete list of articles from our 12/18/ 2006 issue here.](#)

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

January 12, 2007

Posted: 1/09/07

[**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

January 12, 2007

Posted: 1/08/07

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 12, 2007

Posted: 1/08/07

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.

BaptistWay Bible Series for January 14: Practice love beyond the limits

January 12, 2007

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BaptistWay Bible Series for January 14

Practice love beyond the limits

• John 13:1-17, 34-35

By David Wilkinson

RIGHT or WRONG? Christian Reconstructionism

January 12, 2007

Posted: 1/05/07

RIGHT or WRONG? Christian Reconstructionism

I recently heard about “Christian Reconstructionism.” Some facets of it seem to run counter to historic Baptist distinctives. Is that a valid conclusion?

Evaluation of Christian Reconstructionism is difficult for two reasons. First, there is diversity and even division in the movement on key issues. Second, the literary output of the movement is so enormous there is always the possibility of having missed some nuance. Certainly Rousas Rushdoony’s *Institutes of Biblical Law* and the works of [Gary North](#) are important resources for understanding this movement. Many features of Christian

Reconstructionism are faithful renderings of Christian doctrine and as such will be favorably viewed by most Baptists. These would include the authority of Scripture, the necessity of salvation by grace through faith and the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ to transform our world by the work of the Holy Spirit. At least one major aspect of Christian Reconstructionism will create distance between it and important Baptist distinctives, however—its understanding of the relationship between biblical law and civil government. Christian Reconstructionists insist they do not seek Christianization of the political order by a minority of believers so as to impose a biblical ethic “on a pervasively unbelieving populace.”

[Previous Columns](#)

Texas Baptist Forum

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Texas Baptist Forum

‘Baby Jesus’

Merry Christmas. And, oh, by the way, there is no more “baby Jesus.”

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Letters are welcomed. Send them to marvknox@baptiststandard.com; 250 words maximum.



"There are people who feel 'excluded' by Christian symbolism and are offended by the manger and the angels and the Child, but there have always been humorless, legalistic people. Complaint is an American art form, and in our time, it has been raised to an operatic level. To which one can only say: 'Get a life.'"

Garrison Keillor

Author and radio personality (RNS)

"My sense so far speaking to people is that they are understanding. They're taking the high road and being compassionate, not condemning her."

Oscar Isaac

Actor who plays Joseph in *The Nativity Story*, speaking about the revelation that actress Keisha Castle-Hughes, who plays Mary, is pregnant and unwed at age 16.

(USA Today/RNS)

"If I really want to last in life, I've got to stop and realize there's a whole journey of life to live. I've got to remember it's not how fast I live that's important; it's how well I live."

Rick Warren

Pastor of Saddleback Community Church in Southern California

(www.pastors.com)

"Let us pray for brotherhood and for all humanity."

Pope Benedict XVI

Joining Mustafa Cagrici, the grand mufti of Istanbul, in prayer beneath the dome of the Blue Mosque, one of the most prominent landmarks in the Muslim world, in Istanbul (RNS)

As one who has a relationship with God through his Son, Jesus the Messiah, I am disturbed by the image of a baby in a manger that is so prevalent at this time of year. The reasoning for this is that children can relate easily to a baby when being taught about Jesus.

At face value, the statement sounds good. I can buy into the idea of children relating to a “baby Jesus” when they are “introduced” to the Lord. But even children understand the concept of growing up.

Baptist battles dominated news in 2006, editors say

January 12, 2007

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Baptist battles dominated news in 2006, editors say

DALLAS (ABP)—The election of a pastor outside the fundamentalist power structure as president of the Southern Baptist Convention was chosen by Baptist journalists as the most important story in Baptist life in 2006—a year when denominational affairs outweighed world news in the minds of Baptists of the South.

The election of SBC President Frank Page by discontented conservatives and the resignation of Bob Reccord as head of the North American Mission Board, after a probe found ineffectiveness and extravagant spending, were

the most important Baptist news stories of the past year, an annual survey of journalists conducted by Associated Baptist Press revealed.

Meanwhile, the controversy between “blogging trustee” Wade Burleson and the SBC International Mission Board and a scandal in the Rio Grande Valley over funding for phony church starts also commanded the attention of Baptists. The shift in power to a Democratic-controlled Congress was the only non-Baptist story to crack the top five.

Top five stories identified were: