

Cybercolumn for 12/22: Pondering by Berry D. Simpson_122203

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/19/03

CYBERCOLUMN Pondering

By Berry D, Simpson

This morning at my weekly McDonald's Power Breakfast (hotcakes and large Diet Coke), my friend Bear was talking about a phrase from Sunday morning's sermon, that "Mary pondered these things in her heart" (Luke 2:19).

There was no one closer to the person of Jesus or the circumstances of his origin than Mary, yet she still did not understand the meaning of it all. The one who was closest still had some things to ponder. And even in her pondering, she was obedient at every step. Without knowing all the answers, she still did everything God asked of her in spite of the fact that it caused her great discomfort and public humiliation and a lifetime of being misunderstood. She not only obeyed, but she also praised God with her life and her words. She said, "My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."



Berry D.
Simpson

Mother, heaven and Christmas by Debbie Davies_122203

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/19/03

Mother, heaven and Christmas

By Debbi Davies

Unbelievably, 2003 is almost over, and we're into the eye of the holiday storm.

To me, the first thing that comes to my mind is that it has been two full years since my mother unexpectedly died, and praise God, waits for me in Heaven. Even two years later, everything to me is either before my mother died or after my mother died. It has that impact on me.

storylist_120803

December 19, 2003

Posted 12/05/03

Article List for 12/08/03 issue

GO TO SECTIONS:

- [Texas](#)
- [Baptists](#)
- [Religion](#)
- [Departments](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Bible Study](#)

ARTICLES FROM OUR FRONT PAGE

- [Even Baptists light a candle for Advent](#)
- [Raising an Ebenezer](#)
- ['Nones' aren't the loneliest number when it comes to religion](#)



- [Raising an Ebenezer](#)
- [Houston flooding sweeps ministry's residents into sudden evacuation](#)
- [Baylor seeks to pamper president's papers](#)
- [Baylor Christmas program airing](#)
- [Grand Prairie sewing ministry mends broken hearts, covers fragile lives](#)
- [Friendly families sought to host international students at holidays](#)
- [Texas religious leaders convene to consider human needs](#)

- [El Paso Baptists surpass goals for church start](#)
- [ETBU students fall for intercultural ministry during break](#)
- [Bell Baptists send kids shopping for clothing](#)
- [On the Move](#)
- [Around the State](#)
- [Texas Tidbits](#)



- [Asians critical of LifeWay's 'Rickshaw Rally' VBS](#)
- [Conservatives fail to gain ground in Tennessee](#)
- [Virginia threatens Averett's funding](#)
- [Theological society won't oust two 'open theists'](#)
- [Missouri president bans newspaper from convention events](#)
- [Association removes Florida church](#)
- [Baptist Briefs](#)



- ['Nones' aren't the loneliest number when it comes to religion](#)
- [Even Baptists light a candle for Advent](#)

- [Advent traditions](#)



- [Can tax-funded church schools discriminate?](#)
- [Marriage amendment proposed in U.S. Congress](#)
- [Must states recognize same-sex marriage?](#)
- [Court hears arguments in religious funding case](#)
- [Students don't know much of First Amendment](#)



- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)
- [Cartoon](#)
- [Classified Ads](#)
- [On the Move](#)
- [Around the State](#)



- [EDITORIAL: 'Biblical worldview' should prompt Christ-like actions](#)
- [DOWN HOME: Humble pie with side of broccoli](#)
- [TOGETHER: Advent transforms darkness to light](#)

- [ANOTHER VIEW: Nativity statuettes prompt questions of Christmas](#)
- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)
- [Cybercolumn for 12/15: Of Christmas and angels by John Duncan](#)
- [Cybercolumn for 12/8: The career plan by Donna Van Cleve](#)



- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Dec. 14: When God speaks, it would be wise to listen](#)
- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Dec. 21: This is a time to rejoice at the Savior's birth](#)
- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for Dec. 14: Finding delight in giving that honors God](#)
- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for Dec. 21: God's unexpected arrival on the world scene](#)

[See articles from previous issue 11/24/03 here.](#)

Cubercolumn for 12/15: Of Christmas and angels by John Duncan_120803

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/15/03

CYBERCOLUMN Of Christmas and angels

By John Duncan

I am sitting here under the old oak tree, thinking of Christmas. What do you remember about Christmas?

It was Christmas 2002. Our family opened gifts. Crinkled wrapping paper littered the living room floor. Gifts were stacked in small piles. The Christmas tree appeared barren, empty, awash with pine needles loosely scattered.

CYBERCOLUMN: The career plan by Donna Van

Cleve_120803

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/09/03

CYBERCOLUMN: The career plan

By Donna Van Cleve

I thought I was ready to be put out to pasture. I thought I was on the downhill side of my life. I thought I could retire the rest of those brain cells that had been misfiring for years now.

I was wrong.

Paul Powell to stay on as Truett dean_122203

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/09/03

Paul Powell to stay on as Truett dean

WACO-Although he had intended to retire at the end of the current academic year, Paul Powell will stay on as dean of Baylor University's

Truett Theological Seminary.

Baylor President Robert Sloan announced Powell's decision Dec. 5.

Powell came to the post in February 2001 with a commitment to serve up to three years.

storylist_112403

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/05/03

Article List for 11/24/03 issue

GO TO SECTIONS:

- [Texas](#)
- [Baptists](#)
- [Religion](#)
- [Departments](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Bible Study](#)

OUR FRONT PAGE ARTICLES

- [Scarborough Hall begins new chapter at ETBU](#)
- [Wanted: Trained Hispanic pastors](#)
- [Fuller: Help Habitat build character](#)



- [Scarborough Hall begins new chapter at ETBU](#)

- [Wanted: Trained Hispanic pastors](#)
- [Where are the large Hispanic churches in Texas?](#)
- [With ETBU headed toward playoffs, player headed to Iraq](#)
- [Wingfield leaving Standard to serve Dallas congregation](#)
- [River Ministry honors church](#)
- [Texas Baptist Men attempts to walk between two Texas Baptist bodies](#)
- [Nacogdoches church builds interest in missions with house](#)
- [Baylor names Kim Gaynor interim vice president...](#)
- [Baseball manager believes he's in Japan for a reason](#)
- [Irving church changes course for Thanksgiving meal](#)
- [Pastor's wife featured in Standard recovering at home after surgery](#)
- [Bus crash claims another life](#)
- [On the Move](#)
- [Around the State](#)
- [Texas Tidbits](#)



- [SOUPER BOWL: Students tackle hunger](#)
- [Baylor nursing students care for neglected Texas community](#)



- [GIVE A GOAT: Alternative Christmas gifts](#)
- [Fuller: Help Habitat build character](#)



- [Rankin, IMB trustees respond to professor's critique](#)
- [LifeWay launches site to download Christian tunes](#)
- [BWA calls for reconciliation prayer](#)



- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)
- [Classified Ads](#)
- [On the Move](#)
- [Around the State](#)



- [EDITORIAL: Priesthood of the believer defines Baptists' differences](#)
- [DOWN HOME: Cranberry sauce or spicy salsa?](#)
- [TOGETHER: Do not call good what God calls sin](#)
- [ANOTHER VIEW: African-American lessons can instruct emerging Latinos](#)

- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)
- [He Said/ She Said: Front Seat](#)
- [Cybercolumn for 11/24: Risky faith by Berry D. Simpson](#)



- [BaptistWay Bible Study for Texas for Dec. 7: Jesus the only fix for broken lives](#)
- [BaptistWay Bible Study for Texas for Dec. 14: Show what you know to pass test](#)
- [Baptistway Bible Study for Texas for Dec. 21: God's children imitate Jesus](#)
- [Baptistway Bible Study for Texas for Dec. 28: We love because first we were loved](#)
- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Nov. 23: God's peace can rule, judge and regulate life](#)
- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for Nov. 23: Paul shines the light of truth into the darkness](#)
- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Nov. 30: Christians are heaven's ambassadors on earth](#)
- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for Nov. 30: Paul demonstrated God's life-changing power](#)
- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Dec. 7: A fish tale: When the grace of God spat](#)

- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for Dec. 7: Joy can be discovered through giving to others](#)

[See articles from previous issue 11/17/03 here.](#)

Even Baptists light a candle for Advent_120803

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/05/03

Even Baptists light a candle for Advent

By Christina Denny

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-Evangelical Christians, including Baptists, are increasingly jumping on the Advent bandwagon, according to an Oklahoma man who provides educational resources for observing the church year.

Advent traditions_120803

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/05/03

Advent traditions

Advent wreath

Perhaps the most popular Advent institution, the Advent wreath is a tradition shared by Catholics and Protestants. Made of evergreens to symbolize eternal life in Christ, the wreath has four candles that count down the four Sundays until Christmas. An additional candle is lit each week-traditionally three purple candles and one pink candle, lit on the third Sunday of Advent. A fifth white candle may be used in the center to represent Jesus.

Liturgical colors

Around the State_120803

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/05/03

Around the State

Appointments

Shad and **Michelle Spannagel** recently were appointed as apprentice missionaries to Fulani people of West Africa as church starters. Both are graduates of Hardin-Simmons University. She is the daughter of Southern Baptist missionaries **Marvin** and **La-Nette Thompson**, currently serving in Mali. The couple has a daughter, **Hannah**, who will celebrate her first birthday next month.



Baylor seeks to pamper president's papers_120803

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/05/03

Baylor seeks to pamper president's

papers

WACO-Baylor University has named a national steering committee for its proposed George W. Bush Presidential Library Center.

The committee's primary objectives are to oversee the university's formal presidential library planning committee and to direct fund-raising efforts for the library.

While the White House has not announced any decision on the location of the future presidential library, Baylor and Southern Methodist University are widely considered top contenders. The library of the current president's father, George Bush, is located at Texas A&M University in College Station.

**In selling
Waco as a
location,
Robert Sloan
noted that 80
percent of the
state's
population
lives within
200 miles of
Baylor.**

Baylor Christmas program airing_120803

December 19, 2003

Posted: 12/05/03