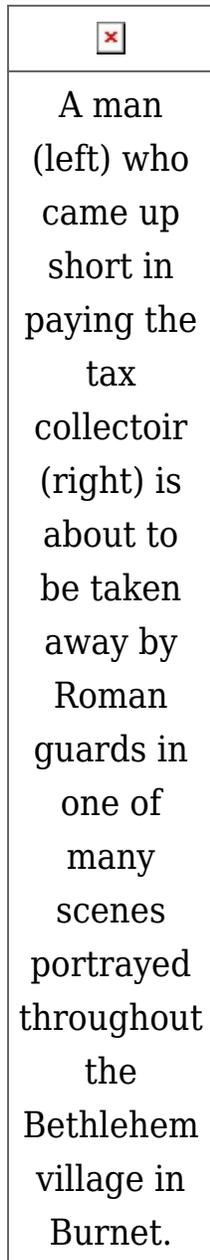


# Burnet readies for Bethlehem role\_110303

October 31, 2003

Posted: 10/31/03



# Burnet readies for Bethlehem role

**By George Henson**

*Staff Writer*

BURNET-While political unrest will keep tourists away from the city of Jesus' birth this Christmas, more than 20,000 are expected to descend on Bethlehem in the Texas Hill Country.

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## **cartoon\_110303**

October 31, 2003

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<p>“And tonight, our pastor search committee will combine with our youth group for a unique scavenger hunt.”</p>
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News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention ( SBC ) and around the world.

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# **CBF not a denomination but becoming more like one, Vestal tells council\_110303**

October 31, 2003

Posted: 10/31/03

## **CBF not a denomination but becoming more like one, Vestal tells council**

**By Greg Warner**

*Associated Baptist Press*

ATLANTA (ABP)-The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is not really a denomination, says CBF Coordinator Daniel Vestal, but it is becoming more like a denomination and indeed functions as one for some churches.

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# **BGCT-endorsed chaplains urged to keep going, to fulfill their calls\_110303**

October 31, 2003

Posted: 10/31/03

## **BGCT-endorsed chaplains urged to keep going, to fulfill their calls**

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

BURNET-Comparing chaplains to marathon runners, Bob Vickers urged chaplains endorsed by the Baptist General Convention of Texas to “finish the race” of fulfilling their call.

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## **Chaplains' personal stories called pathway to faith\_110303**

October 31, 2003

Posted: 10/31/03

# Personal stories called pathway to faith

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

BURNET-Stories may be the pathway to faith, but few believers know how to put their personal narratives together, according to a Houston chaplain.

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# Oldest Chinese church faces toward the future\_110303

October 31, 2003

Posted: 10/31/03

# Oldest Chinese church faces toward the future

**By Craig Bird**

*Special to the Standard*

SAN ANTONIO-The past is a great place to visit, but it's not where First Chinese Baptist Church of San Antonio believes God wants the church to dwell.

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# **ANOTHER VIEW: Healthy faith leads to healthy life\_gushee\_110303**

October 31, 2003

Posted: 10/31/03

## **ANOTHER VIEW: Healthy faith leads to healthy life**

**By David Gushee**

Abundant research evidence now demonstrates a connection between spirituality, moral choices and health. Some of us are, quite literally, making ourselves sick through our spiritual emptiness and misdirected moral choices. Others are moving toward health by reconnecting to God and to the resources of faith.

Harold Koenig of Duke University has argued from research data that church attendance, religious practices and good health are correlated. He reported on a six-year study of 4,000 people over the age of 64. The report found that frequent attendance in religious services was correlated with a lower risk of dying, lower blood pressure and healthier immune systems. He also claimed that prayer “boosts morale, lowers agitation, loneliness and life dissatisfaction, and enhances the ability to cope.”



# American Baptist leader says Dobson misrepresented views\_110303

October 31, 2003

Posted: 10/31/03

## American Baptist leader says Dobson misrepresented views

**Bob Allen**

*EthicsDaily.com*

American Baptists' top leader has accused religious broadcaster James Dobson of misrepresenting the denomination by fostering "untrue, broadly brushed stereotypes" that American Baptists are strongly pro-homosexual.

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# **DOWN HOME: Furious moments & fervent thanks\_110303**

October 31, 2003

Posted: 10/31/03

## **DOWN HOME: Furious moments & fervent thanks**

Take some deep breaths. Feel your heart beat. Name five people you love. Now, thank God you've still got breaths to breathe and a heart to beat so you can go on loving them.

I admit I took breaths and heartbeats and, yes, even the love of family and friends a little bit for granted until a couple of Sundays ago.

Joanna, our daughter Molly, Molly's friends Ashton and Malsi, and I neared the end of a great weekend. We had driven from our home in Lewisville out to Abilene for Hardin-Simmons University's homecoming.



MARV

KNOX

*Editor*

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# **EDITORIAL: Promise & peril of president's plan\_110303**

October 31, 2003

Posted: 10/31/03

## **EDITORIAL:**

### **Promise & peril of president's plan**

President Bush's latest trip to Texas illustrates why he's enamored with faith-based initiatives and points to the peril of government entanglement in religion.

The president visited Dallas Oct. 29 to shine a spotlight on Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship, already one of the brightest lights in the south part of the city. The trip commemorated completion of the new \$25 million, 172,000-square-foot Christian Education Center that houses the church's school, athletics facilities and outreach ministries. It's home base for Project Turnaround, the mentoring program that helps children and youth avoid gangs and drugs.

"I'm glad to be with people who are transforming a community one heart and soul at a time," Bush declared. Who wouldn't? Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship has grown from 10 people meeting in Pastor Tony Evans' home in 1976 to 7,000 members today, plus ministries that touch many times that number. The church could be Exhibit A in any discussion of how faith-based initiatives can change lives and communities, and it has done so without government funding.

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# **EDITORIAL: World hunger merits response\_110303**

October 31, 2003

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## **EDITORIAL: World hunger merits response**

Little things make a difference, even when you look at the big picture. Take hunger, for example.

All over the world, people are so poor they go to sleep hungry every night. That's not hunger like most Texas Baptists know it, when the preacher goes too long on Sunday morning and our stomachs growl or when we're too busy to stop for lunch and feel like we're "starving" by late afternoon. No, it's deep hunger, malnutrition. Mothers too undernourished to nurse, fathers too weak to work, children dying before they're old enough to go to school if, indeed, they have a school to go to.

All this is horrifying enough, but then one detail brings it right on home. Maybe you saw it in the last Baptist Standard: Americans spend almost 50 times more on fast food than they do on helping poor children. The average U.S. household provides only \$5 a year to assist children in poverty, and half of all households had not donated anything to help the poor in the past year.

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# **LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Nov. 9: Paul desires 'good things to run wild' in hearts\_110303**

October 31, 2003

Posted: 10/31/03

**LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Nov. 9**

## **Paul desires 'good things to run wild' in hearts**

Colossians 1:24-2:5

**By John Duncan**