

BaptistWay Bible Series for February 17: Not Me

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BaptistWay Bible Series for February 17

Not Me

- Mark 14:10-31

[By Andrew Daugherty](#)

Panhandle Pastor's and Laymen's Conference slated

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Panhandle Pastor's and Laymen's Conference slated

PLAINVIEW—Author Calvin Miller will be a keynote speaker at the 87th annual Panhandle Pastor's and Laymen's Conference, Feb. 18-19 at

Wayland Baptist University in Plainview.

Calvin Miller

Miller, a native of Enid, Okla., teaches at Samford University's Beeson Divinity School and has written more than 40 books of popular theology and inspiration.

Other key speakers on the program include Sandy Maddox from Orlando, Fla., a veteran conference and retreat speaker who leads the Treasures of Heart and Home ministry, and Leighton Flowers, youth evangelism director for the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Musical guest Blake Bolerjack will perform mini-concerts during the Monday evening and Tuesday morning sessions.

Renewed violence forces Buckner to cancel mission trips to Kenya through May

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Renewed violence forces Buckner to cancel mission trips to Kenya through May

By Jenny Pope

Buckner International

DALLAS—All Buckner International mission trips to Kenya will be cancelled through May 2008, agency President Ken Hall said. The decision comes after violent unrest prompted by tainted presidential elections there Dec. 27.

The announcement follows a previous decision by Buckner to suspend mission trips until March. Hall and Vice President of Global Initiatives Randy Daniels announced the decision Jan. 30 after witnessing dangerous conditions first-hand in Nairobi and Kitale, Kenya.

Deadly Super Tuesday storms devastate Union University

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Deadly Super Tuesday storms devastate Union University

JACKSON, Tenn. (ABP)—Baptist-affiliated Union University was one of the hardest-hit spots as deadly tornadoes raked the Mid-South Feb. 5—the same day as Mardi Gras celebrations and the “Super Tuesday” primary elections.

The Tennessee Baptist Convention-related school’s campus sustained extensive damage as an evening tornado tore across the north side of Jackson, Tenn. The city of about 65,000 is located midway between Memphis and Nashville.

The *Jackson Sun* reported Feb. 6 that emergency workers rescued 13 students trapped in a demolished dormitory complex.

A rescue team carries a female student from a dorm where she was trapped by debris when walls collapsed during a tornado that ripped through Union University's campus on Feb. 5. (BP Photo/Morris Abernathy)

Union spokesman Tim Ellsworth told the paper that 51 students were transported to the hospital. While nine students had serious injuries, none of the injuries were life-threatening, he said. In an interview posted Feb. 6 on the website of local television station WBBJ, Ellsworth said school officials had confirmed that all of the seriously injured students “are going to be fine.”

Explore the Bible Series for February 17: Do you seek the Lord's guidance

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Explore the Bible Series for February 17

Do you seek the Lord's guidance

- Genesis 24:34-48

[By Donald Raney](#)

First Baptist Church, Petersburg

Anyone who has spent much time around a church certainly has heard that God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life. Believers understand that God desires to reveal that plan to each of us and to lead us in fulfilling that plan.

More than 1,600 Hispanic

Baptists gather for evangelism conference

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More than 1,600 Hispanic Baptists gather for evangelism conference

By Nora Frost

Texas Baptist Communications

HOUSTON—Tears fell like the emotional and spiritual baggage people carried to the Hispanic Evangelism Conference, sponsored by the Baptist General Convention of Texas Feb. 1-2.

Conference participants crowded in front of the altar and into the aisles each night to make spiritual decisions. People embraced and prayed for one another and for non-Christians around them as they professed Christ as Lord.

As Hispanic population grows,

so do ministry opportunities

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As Hispanic population grows, so do ministry opportunities

By Nora Frost

Texas Baptist Communications

HOUSTON—Hispanics are a fast-growing population in the country, bringing with them increasing ministry opportunities. But those opportunities aren't addressed as easily as providing material and training in Spanish, said Frank Palos, Baptist General Convention of Texas director of Hispanic evangelism.

Worship culture for Hispanics is as diverse as its demographic composition. About 1,200 Hispanic congregations are affiliated with the BGCT. Although the majority of those churches worship mainly in Spanish, about one-third of them have bilingual worship services, and about 1 percent of the Hispanic churches worship in English.

Participants
pray at the
Hispanic
Evangelism
Conference
in Houston.
(Photo by
Nora Frost)

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New Baptist Covenant: Unity. Harmony. Now, what comes next?

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New Baptist Covenant: Unity. Harmony. Now, what comes next?

By Marv Knox

Baptist Standard

ATLANTA—Fifteen thousand participants in the New Baptist Covenant convocation arrived in Atlanta Jan. 30 seeking unity in Christ and departed Feb. 1 wondering where their quest will lead.

In the meantime, they demonstrated racial, theological and geographic harmony as they prayed, sang, listened to sermons and attended workshops focusing on ministry to the people Jesus called "the least of these" in society.

Author John Grisham

The unprecedented event brought together African-American, Anglo, Asian-American and Hispanic Baptists. They represented 30 Baptist conventions and organizations, all affiliated with the North American Baptist

Fellowship, the regional affiliate of the Baptist World Alliance. They also heard from two former U.S. presidents, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton, and a former vice president, Al Gore—all Baptists.

Inmates at Mexican women's prison find escape in music

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A group of prison inmates pose for a picture with their instruments.

These women have taken classes from Jorge Quezada, a member of Iglesia Bautista Horeb.

(Photos by Jorge Quezada/Buckner)

Inmates at Mexican women's

prison find escape in music

By Analiz González

Buckner International

MEXICO CITY— The windows at Santa Marta Prison face in, so the inmates can never look out to see the surrounding peaks, which rise around the prison at night like solid beacons of hope. All they ever see is gray—walls, floors, ceilings.

Delia Ramirez is 19, but could pass for 14. She was assaulted by a man who tried to rape her. So she killed him. Now she sits in prison with a khaki uniform, which means she's still awaiting trial. She is a child among women.

Atlanta meeting may prompt real change, some Baptists insist

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Atlanta meeting may prompt

real change, some Baptists insist

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

ATLANTA (ABP)—The [Celebration of a New Baptist Covenant](#) meeting will feature some big-name guests—Bill Clinton, Jimmy Carter, Al Gore, Tony Campolo and John Grisham, to name a few. But after the star-studded dust settles, what will emerge from the convocation?

Some say it's too soon to tell what exactly will come of the gathering, scheduled Jan. 30-Feb. 1 in Atlanta. Organizers hope it will improve Baptists' image and unite them in a new wave of social activism. Others wonder whether it will lead denominational bodies to work closer together or urge grassroots entities to band together—or both.

• [See latest photos](#) and the latest [video clips](#) from the New Baptist Covenant Meeting. ([And go here to see our complete coverage of the event](#)).

Unity the focus of New Baptist Covenant gathering, organizers insist

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Unity the focus of New Baptist Covenant gathering, organizers insist

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

ATLANTA—If a spirit of unity prevails at the Celebration of a New Baptist Covenant, organizers of the historic interracial meeting said they will consider the gathering a success.

And participants in the event will remain focused on the biblical mandate to show compassion and care for the needy, not become distracted by partisan politics “if we can prevent it,” former President Jimmy Carter added.

Jimmy Carter

Baptist unity takes center stage as New Covenant meeting opens

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A choir
sings at the
opening of
the
Celebration
of a New
Baptist
Covenant
meeting in
Atlanta,
Ga. (Photo
by Billy
Howard)

Baptist unity takes center stage as New Covenant meeting opens

By Marv Knox & Greg Warner

Baptist Standard & Associated Baptist Press

ATLANTA—Baptist unity took center stage during the opening night of the New Baptist Covenant convocation in Atlanta Jan. 30.

About 10,000 African-American, Anglo, Asian-American and Hispanic Baptists gathered at the urging of former President Jimmy Carter and Mercer University President Bill Underwood.



• [See latest photos](#) and the latest [video clips](#) from the New Baptist Covenant Meeting. [\(And go here to see our complete coverage of the event\).](#)