

the PRESBYTERIAN JOURNAL

advocating continuation of a Presbyterian Church loyal to Scripture and the Reformed faith

Preach, Teach, Share, Live

Yes, you are a preacher. You are to preach the Gospel to every single creature on God's earth. But you say, "I can't preach," and maybe you can't, but you can live a holy life. That's the declaration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You can quit running your life on your own ground rules and begin to function in the way God would have you live.

—John A. Huffman Jr.
(See p. 7)

S. S. LESSON AND YOUTH PROGRAM FOR AUGUST 20

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MAILBAG

WHERE AM I?

Yesterday I had a dream (or maybe it was a nightmare). I was attending a meeting, and before me was the agenda for the meeting. As I carefully read each item, I suddenly stopped and asked myself: Where am I? The agenda went like this:

Centralization, Total Support of the Organization, Vietnam, Food & Medical Supplies for Africa, Welfare Reform, Breakfast & Lunch Programs in Public Schools, Minority Employment, Minority Banks & Saving & Loan Associations, Public Education, Realignment of Boun-

daries, Membership in Outside Organizations, Women's Lib, Prison Reform, Movies, Low-Cost Housing Secrecy and the Federal Government, Diplomatic Relations with Cuba, Homosexuality.

Where am I? At the Democratic National Convention? Or perhaps the Republican National Convention? Am I attending a meeting of the Urban League? Or is it the School Board? Am I at a meeting of the Public Welfare Board? Or a congressional hearing? Perhaps it is a meeting of Women's Lib? Or the U.N.? Where am I?

I awoke from my dream and began reading a copy of "The Assembly in Brief," published by the General Council of the Presbyterian Church US, and telling the story of the 112th General Assembly. I could not believe my eyes. This had been the very source of my dream, for the agenda of my dream corresponded exactly to most of the business transacted at the Assembly.

It came as a shock to realize that such an agenda majoring on social and political issues could occupy the major time and efforts of a Church court. Do these issues reflect the purpose and mission of the Church of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ? I can not believe that such an agenda really represents the major business of the Church. Neither do I believe that thoughtful Presbyterians will "eat the whole thing"!

—(Rev.) Jack W. Bowling
Kingsport, Tenn.

SHE WANTS TO HELP

Enclosed is my check in support of the *Journal* at this critical time. I want to make this contribution because I am concerned that nothing shall stop the effort to bring about a continuing Presbyterian Church, faithful to the doctrines of our Reformed faith.

As I see it, the conservatives may very well have a doubly difficult time with so many "reconciling" efforts at work in the denomination. Many will be confused and probably convinced by those who say that it is possible to be faithful to Christ by continuing a "witness" within the denomination regardless of any Church union or any departure from the faith. These may not see the fallacy of "reconciliation" on the basis it is being offered until too late.

—Mrs. Gilbert F. Dukes
Mobile, Ala.

the PRESBYTERIAN JOURNAL

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Circulation leader among independent publications in the Presbyterian-Reformed world

THIS WEEK—

Vol. XXXI, No. 14, August 2, 1972

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THE PRESBYTERIAN JOURNAL, a Presbyterian weekly magazine, devoted to the statement, defense, and propagation of the Gospel, the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints, is published every Wednesday by the Southern Presbyterian Journal Co., Inc., in Weaverville, N. C.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$4 a year for individuals, \$3 for members of Every Family Plan churches. All correspondence regarding subscriptions, advertising or other business matters, should be addressed to the business office in Weaverville, N. C. 28787. Second class postage paid at Weaverville, N. C. 28787.

POSTMASTER: Send Form 3579 to Presbyterian Journal, Box 635, Weaverville, N. C. 28787. Subscribers should allow three weeks for change of address in continental U. S. Change of address notices should include both old and new addresses (with zip codes).

NEWS AND EDITORIAL correspondence should be addressed to P. O. Box 3108, Asheville, N. C. 28802. Editorial offices located at 247 Charlotte St. in Asheville.

TELEPHONES: (All area 704) editorial office, 254-4015, 254-4016; business office, 645-3310, 645-3962.

of the coin from revealed religion ever since Marx proposed that the social implications of Christianity operate as universal laws without any spiritual considerations whatever.

The strength of Communism has been its gospel that the future for mankind does not consist of "pie in the sky by and by" but rather "pie on earth by and by" when the inequities of wealth have been eliminated through revolution.

Mr. Harris has simply called attention to the fact that Marxist philosophy (aided and abetted by liberal religion), has had an enormous effect on the world which Lenin said would fall into the Communist orbit like an overripe plum.

Once again, here's a thought to underscore the urgent need for a countering influence — a Church faithful to the Gospel and to Scripture which will proclaim the truth about God and man to a floundering world. ☩

Presbyterian Baptism

The answer to the 165th question in the Larger Catechism is a concise yet comprehensive definition of baptism. The Church of Scotland has adapted it as the introduction of its sacrament of baptism. The words of this preface together with the questions in our Book of Church Order, fit into a proper Presbyterian and Biblical baptism service:

Baptism is a sacrament of the New Testament, ordained by Christ in the Great Commission (Matt. 28: 19). By the washing of water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, God signifies and seals our ingrafting into Christ, the remission of our sins by His blood and regeneration by His Spirit, our adoption into His family and resurrection unto everlasting life. Thereby those baptized are solemnly admitted into the visible Church, and enter into an open and professed engagement to be wholly and openly the Lord's:

1) Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

2) Do you claim God's covenant promises in (his) behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus

(Continued on p. 19, col. 1)

THE LAYMAN AND HIS CHURCH



A Different View

I was a commissioner to the recent General Assembly when Dr. Albert Winn, president of Louisville Theological Seminary, spoke against the Vietnam war. He said, in part, "There are powerful forces in our society that are determined none of us will ever again know anything but a war-oriented society. The powers that run our society are so war-oriented that a public prayer for peace is to them a subversive act. The American people have not been told the truth. We have been lied to so long that even when the truth comes out, we cannot hear it . . ."

Although I had hoped to reply to this at the General Assembly, I was unable to get a microphone before debate time ran out. Since the press was present and gave Dr. Winn's speech so much publicity, I want to present another view of the situation, although it is old "news." I respect the sincerity of Dr. Winn and I respect his right to express his view on the war in Vietnam. I trust that he will not mind my having the same privilege extended to me through another medium.

I strongly disagree with Dr. Winn in his implication that the United States is primarily to blame for this war and that this nation is not doing much to seek a real peace. His devastating attack on this nation was unfair, unjust and unnecessary.

No doubt there will be great rejoicing in Hanoi when his speech is read there! Had he made his speech in Hanoi, Peking or Moscow, attacking those governments as he did our nation, he would probably have gone to prison for life — if he did not receive the death sentence — yet the very nation he attacked is the one which gave him the right to speak his views.

More than 500,000 combat soldiers have been brought home from Vietnam, leaving only 60,000 in that country. We must protect these men who are left there and the only

way to do that is by bombing North Vietnam and mining its harbors. If we did not do these things, those 60,000 American soldiers would be killed by the enemy.

The United States government officials have worked hard for peace and our nation has offered Hanoi a most reasonable peace settlement. Our President has talked in person with high officials in Russia and China seeking peace. One of our former moderators of the Presbyterian Church US made a trip to Paris in hopes of obtaining peace. He failed, too.

We all want peace; we all deplore war. Our enemies, however, do not want peace; they understand only power and force. I will work for peace and pray for peace, but I do not want us to have the kind of peace Chamberlain made with Hitler. By the grace of God, let us have peace with honor.

Our great nation has made some grave mistakes and will continue to make them. So has our General Assembly. It is because these bodies are made up of human beings who are not perfect. In spite of our mistakes and shortcomings, I would not trade my country for any other in the world.

I cannot and I will not sit idly by and let someone run down America and Americans unjustly, even to the stab in the back. We owe this much to the honor and glory of many thousands of our fighting men who have died in battle so that all of us can breathe the air of freedom and enjoy our American democratic way of life today.

This wonderful nation has more Christians and more churches, than any other nation on earth. The people of the United States are more generous with material wealth to charitable causes, be they individuals, or defeated or undeveloped nations, than any other people in the world's history. Here we enjoy more freedom to worship, live and give.

So I do not condemn America as Dr. Winn did. Instead, I thank God for the United States; may America live until Christ returns. ☩

This week the layman's viewpoint is brought by M. P. Niven, an elder of Greenville, S. C.

events involving her prayers, the author has included some homespun interpretations of Scripture. She solves the problem of the authorship of Hebrews by ascribing the epistle to an unknown writer more than a century after the crucifixion. There is very little about the book to commend it.

Editorial—from p. 13

Christ for (his) salvation as you do for your own?

3) Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before (him) a Godly example, that you will pray with and for (him), that you will teach (him) the doctrines of our holy religion, and that

you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring (him) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Thus do we, in accord with Romans 6:3, baptize into the death of Christ. — WM. C. ROBINSON.

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Isaiah 43:10

Luke 24:48

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August 18-23, 1972

Earlier ads in the Journal listed the Main Address speakers, Bible Hour speaker and the Music program. Future ads will feature information on the 27 Evangelism seminar leaders. Listed below are those who will be in charge of the YOUTH PROGRAM.

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Campus Crusade for Christ
Chapel Hill, N. C.



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Campus Crusade High
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