

The Baptist Builder

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PALAFOX and LaRUA STS.
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA
JAMES L. PLEITZ, D.D.
PASTOR

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NO 52

The Gate Of The New Year

By Marcus L. Filley

I said to a man
Who stood at the gate
The gate of the coming year:
"Give me a light
That I safely tread
Into the Dark
And unknown land;
Give me a light to banish fear.
Take from my heart
This haunting dread."
He said to me,
This man that stood
At the gate of the coming year:
"Go into the dark
And unknown land
And place in God's
Your trembling hand.
Far better than the light of day,
Far safer than any man-known way,"
Said the man that stood
At the open gate —
The gate of the coming year.

Pastor's Paragraphs



Since the new year is just a matter of a few days away, many of us will be thinking about our resolutions for 1972. Let me suggest that you give prayerful consideration to the following:

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

I WILL forget the past and honor God more in 1972!

“...forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” Phil. 3:13b, 14.

I WILL live for Christ before the world! “For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”—Phil. 1:21

I WILL trust God with a strong faith! “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”—Hebrews 11:1

I WILL be faithful to my Church! “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”—Hebrews 10:25

I WILL honor God with my income! “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.”—Malachi 3:10

I WILL help bear the other's burdens! “Bear one another burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”—Galatians 6:2

I WILL train whatever talents God has given me for His Church!

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”—II Timothy 2:15

I WILL faithfully witness to the Lost! “They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”—Psalms 126:5, 6.

I'll look forward to seeing you Sunday in God's House. Remember, so far this year your record is perfect. Don't break it!

Faithfully your pastor,

James L. Pleitz

THREE SUNDAY UNIT ON “OUR BIBLE—HOW IT CAME TO US”

We're happy to announce that for the first 3 Sunday nights in January, we'll present at the Church Training Hour a special unit of study designed to bring Bible history to life. This unit entitled “Our Bible — How it came to us” will utilize 3 motion picture films produced by the American Bible Society. No part of our Christian heritage is more dramatic or more inspiring than the story of our Bible — How it came to be written and how it has come down to us through the ages in our own English language. It is a story every Christian should know. We urge you to make your plans to be a part of these 3 sessions.

Sunday, January 2—Part I—“Formation of the Bible”

Sunday, January 9—Part II—“The Bible Spreads across Europe”

Sunday, January 16—Part III—“Making of The English Bible”

BAPTIST WOMEN GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, January 4, 1972

10:00 A.M.—Bible Study

10:30 A.M.—Program—Guest speaker will be Rev. Joseph P. DuBoise, pastor of East Hill Baptist Church.

11:00 A.M.—Business Meeting

11:30 A.M.—Luncheon—The General Officers will be hostesses.

SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.
“UNHAPPY NEW YEAR!”
(Psalm 17:1-15)

7:15 P.M.
“I CAN DREAM, CAN'T I?”
Genesis (37:1-19)

An unknown poet has said of the Bible:

“This Book unfolds Jehovah's mind,
This Voice salutes in accents kind,
This Friend will all your need supply.
This Fountain send forth streams of joy,
This Mine affords us boundless wealth,
This Good Physician gives us health,
This Sun renews and warms the soul,
This Sword both wounds and makes us whole,

This Letter shows our sins forgiven,
This Guide conducts us safe to heaven,
This Charter has been sealed with blood,
This Volume is the Word of God.”

NEW YEAR'S EVALUATION

Do I mean what I could to my church?
Do I make myself available for places of service?
Do I volunteer rather than have to be sought out?
Do I regularly pray for the effectiveness of the preaching, teaching and training ministries?
Am I faithful in attendance?
Am I a good steward of my material gain?
Do I "talk up" the good things about our church?
Do I look for people to invite to attend our church?
Do I share my knowledge of people's needs with the church staff and other members?
Is my general attitude toward by church a helpful, strengthening one?

MY CHURCH WILL BE A BETTER CHURCH WHEN I HELP IT TO BE BETTER!

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

Regrettably, the Argentine students will not be coming to visit with us here in the United States during the month of January, as previously planned. We received a phone call on Friday morning, December 17, 1971 from the People to People International Office saying that due to financial difficulties within their own Country, the Argentine students would not be able to come to the United States at this time. We have now been asked, however, to host a group of 35 French teachers and students who will be coming to the United States between July 14 and August 11. They will be in Pensacola only 5 nights and there will be approximately 35. Later, we will be asking you to volunteer to serve as a host for some of these French students and teachers who will be visiting with us. We feel that this will still be an opportunity for us to witness to some International students and show them how we live here in the United States as Christian people.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary this Sunday are in memory of Mrs. Annie Belford and are given by Mr. & Mrs. Walter L. Belford.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

GOAL	\$10,000.00
GIVEN TO DATE	9,418.96

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

IN THE HOSPITALS:

Baptist:

Mrs. M. W. (Marjorie) Gilchrist, Mr. Austin Rye, Mrs. Sam Eickler

Specialty Care Center

Mrs. George (Evon) Riva
Transferred to

Haven of Our Lady of Peace

Mr. Christian C. Mertins

HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL:

Mrs. Robert (Patsy) Hatcher, Mr. Bill Moore, Mrs. Lennie Bonham, Mr. C. O. Stewart, Keith Davis, Mary Royals

SYMPATHY TO:

Mrs. W. H. Smith, Jr. in the loss of her mother.

Mrs. Oma Coker in the loss of her sister.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Miss Dorothy Morris and Ray Forehand on their marriage, December 27, 1971.

FOCUS ON FIRST FOLKS

Danny Pleitz has been named to Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Pleitz, A Baylor University senior history major, and 35 others from Baylor were named to the national student group. Membership is extended based on academic standing, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential of the student.

Diane Thrash received the Exchange Club of North Pensacola's Girl of the Month award.

CHURCH ENVELOPES

All members of the Sunday School and Church have received in the mail your 1972 Church Envelopes. You will remember that your 1972 Pledge begins with the first Sunday in 1972. Most of us pledged to enlarge our giving and will want to begin the very first Sunday. Your new envelopes contain the new Sunday School Record system presently in use and may be turned in at the Sunday School hour.

THE BAPTIST BUILDER

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CHURCH OFFICE 433-5631

CHURCH OFFICERS

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Ed Bell, Dir. of Church Training 476-5990
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CHURCH STAFF — Residence Phones

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Paul Royal, Minister of Music 432-8573
William V. (Bill) Phillips,
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Ernest B'rrineau, Treasurer 432-5079
Mrs. Kitty Manning, Dietician 456-2124
All material to be included in the Builder
should be in the office, preferably in
writing, not later than 9:00 a.m. Mondays.

NEW YEAR'S MEDITATION

Dear Lord, as I close the door on this old
year,

I ponder on the things I've done . . .
On the things I've said and the joys I've
had . . .

Then I wonder, have I lost or won?
I've thought of the new friends I have
made,

And of the old ones staunch and true . . .
The path of the old year was made easier
Lord,

Because I have walked it with You.
I think of all the many times,
When my burdens were so heavy to bear,
And how my faith slipped away from me .
But somehow You were always standing
there.

Now as I open the door to this New Year,
And carefully peep inside,
I wonder what it holds for me
But I'll throw the door open wide.
And whatever it brings to me and mine,
I'll meet it with a heart so true
I know that, Lord whate'er it may be
You'll be there to carry me through.

Opportunities of the Week

Sunday, January 2

- * 9:30 A.M.—Sunday School
- * 11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
- 3:00 P.M.—“The Reasons Why”
Rehearsal
- 4:00 P.M.—Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 5:15 P.M.—Youth Bible Drill
(for grades 7-9) in 6th Grade
Dept.
- * 6:00 P.M.—Christian Training Hour —
Part I of Unit on “Our Bible
—How It Came To Us”
- 7:15 P.M.—Evening Worship

Tuesday, January 4

- * 10:00 A.M.—Baptist Women
- 6:00 P.M.—Baptist Women

Wednesday, January 5

- * 4:45 P.M.—Choirs
- * 5:50 P.M.—Fellowship Dinner
- * 6:30 P.M.—Sunday School Officers and
Teachers Meeting, Mission
Friends, GA's, Acteens and
RA's, Brass Ensemble Re-
hearsal
- * 7:30 P.M.—Prayer Service
- * 8:00 P.M.—Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 6

- * 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.—Mother's Day Out
- 2:00 P.M.—Faithful Workers Class Meet-
ing in “The Cellar”

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, January 2: “Growth of Jesus”
Luke 2:40-42, 52

Monday, January 3: “The Christian's
Growth” Philippians 3:12-17

Tuesday, January 4: “Growth in Know-
ledge John 16: 2-15

Wednesday, January 5: “Growth in Re-
lationships” Colossians 3:9-17

Thursday, January 6: “Growth in the
Church” I Corinthians 12:20-27

Friday, January 7: “Growth in Respon-
sibility” Matthew 25:14-30

Saturday, January 8: “Growth in Concern”
Matthew 25:31-40

LOOKING AT LAST WEEK

The Church in Study	816
Main Sunday School	809
Crippled Children's Home	7
The Church in Training	194
Other Training Activities	194
Tithes and Offerings:	
Budget	\$9,285.70
Specials	2,428.51
TOTAL OFFERING	\$11,714.21