

**Ezra's Program of Reform**

THE POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD TO CHANGE MEN'S LIVES

Scripture—Ezra 7-16.

By R. H. RAMSEY  
THE TWO Books of Ezra and Nehemiah continue the history of the Jewish people down to about 400 B.C. Ezra appears in both books, but there is no reference to him in the Book of Ezra until the seventh chapter which begins today's lesson.

Aside from the program of reform which Ezra instituted for the Jews, he is an important Biblical character because he edited most of the books of the Old Testament and put them in their present form. A great deal of knowledge and scholarly ability was necessary to do this, but Ezra apparently was not a "trendy scribe in the law of Moses." He was a descendant of Aaron, brother of Moses, intelligently taught in the word of God, capable of leadership and skillful in using the appropriate means to accomplish his work.

Apparently Ezra was on good terms with Artaxerxes, king of Persia, for he received a commission from him to go to Judah with another detachment of Jews and put the nation in order politically and religiously. This was not a forced recon-

surrounding them. Like Daniel, Ezra identified himself with his people in their guilt and acknowledges that they have forsaken His commandments in this matter, despite God's goodness in bringing them out of captivity and back to their homeland.

The land, for them, was unclean, not because it had been devastated, but morally unclean. Its inhabitants were descendants of the Babylonian colonists, the wretched remnant of the Hebrews who had not been taken into captivity, the idolatrous Canaanites.

Idolatry, both then and now, has practically no regard for moral values. Modern love of money, pleasure, indulgence and power constitute idolatry as serious as the idolatry of antiquity which involved graven images and pagan incantations. Incapable of compromise regarding matters of morality, Ezra insisted that moral values be given first place in men's lives.

Ezra realized that the only hope for the returned remnant of the Jewish people lay in exclusiveness of faith. Past and

**GOLDEN TEXT**

"For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy in the way; because we had spoken unto the king, saying, The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek Him; but His power and His wrath is against all them that forsake Him."—Ezra 8:22.

zation, for only those who wished to return to Jerusalem went. To finance the 900-mile journey Ezra was allowed to collect monies from the Jews living in Babylon and from the Babylonians themselves. Artaxerxes gave Ezra money from the royal treasury and ordered that the treasures of Babylon's satellite nations contribute to the return of the Jews if appealed to.

In addition, the priests, the Levites, singers, porters, the Nethinim and the ministers of the house of God were given a tax-exempt status; Ezra was commissioned to make inquiries for the king regarding conditions in Palestine, to enforce the Law of God in Palestine by teaching the ignorant and punishing the disobedient.

Again, as in Chapter 2, we have a roster of the 1,496 persons who accompanied Ezra to Jerusalem, and the 900-mile journey was apparently uneventful.

Ezra's great prayer of confession (Chapter 9), was prompted by his discovery that the Jews had intermarried with the pagan idolatrous nations.

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**Local Students Attend Yearbook Workshop Here**

Tenth grade students from throughout the Southeast attended a yearbook workshop at Camp Deerwood in Brevard.

The camp was under the direction of Earl McDermott, Jr., of Greenville, S. C.

Among the local students attending were: Billy Boggs, Miss Lindsay Ayres and Miss Kathy Hendricks, all of Brevard high school.

Calendar for August 1968 showing dates from 1 to 31.

August 1, 1790 — The first U. S. census showed a population of 3,939,214 in sixteen states and the Ohio Territory.

August 6, 1806 — The Holy Roman Empire came to an end, after 1006 years, when Francis II of Austria was forced to surrender his title.

August 11, 1887—Asaph Hall, at Washington's Naval Observatory, discovered the first satellite of Mars.

August 17, 1915 — C. F. Kettering patented his auto electric self-starter.

August 19, 1871 — Orville Wright, the father of aviation, was born at Dayton, Ohio.

August 24, 1891 — Thomas A. Edison applied for a patent on a motion picture camera.

August 31, 1862 — William Penn sailed from England to America with Quaker settlers.

"Sclerosis" means "thickening or hardening" says the North Carolina Heart Association. Atherosclerosis is a thickening of the arteries produced by a "mush-like" fatty deposit on the inner coat.

**Flat Rock Playhouse Is Now Presenting The "Cradle Song"**

Comedy is going gentle this week at Flat Rock Playhouse as the Vagabonds present the beautiful "Cradle Song," by G. Martinez-Sierja, translated from the Spanish by John Garrett Underhill.

When Eva LeGallienne added this play to her Civic Repertory schedule in 1927, no one expected much from it even with Miss LeGallienne, Josephine Hutchinson and Beatrice Terry in the cast; but it soared to underlying popularity.

When Vagabond Director Anita Gramis included "Cradle Song" in her 1967 winter schedule at the Racine, Wisconsin Theatre Guild, it was named production of the year. Beautiful costumes designed for this Wisconsin production have been brought to Flat Rock Playhouse for this week.

A simple story dramatically told in two acts separated by eighteen years lapse of time, the play gains comedy from the real personalities of the nuns and novices. A baby is left on the convent doorstep. The kindly doctor adopts the waif and the nuns raise her to young womanhood and to love. There is laughter and pathos, joy and a mounting excitement, but all in all a comedy because it ends exactly as it should.

The huge cast is headed by Virginia Kerr as Sister Joanna of the Cross, the LeGallienne role. Helen Bragdon is the sharp-tongued Vicarress, and Pat Fuleihan of Brevard, last seen at Flat Rock in 1966 as the Madame in "Strange Bedfellows," plays the wise Prioress of the convent. Carol Ann McKenzie is the young girl at eighteen.

The leading male role, the doctor, only man allowed into the convent, is being played by Jan Clausing, well-known Hendersonville actor and artist, who recently appeared as General Potter in "Make a Million." Mack Travis is the young lover, and Tom Campbell, the poet.

Maggie Masters, also of Brevard, is playing the important Mistress of Novices, with Denise

Eastman, Susan Hurst, Toni Loogo and Diane Mastromi as the most vocal of her charges. Others appearing as nuns, novices or monitors are: Jan Allred, Susan Bates, Mary Campbell, Harriett Flanagan, Sharon Horansky, Ellen Kelly, Diane LeGrand, Betsy Patterson, Fran Norman and Charlene Richards.

Walter O'Rourke has designed the Spanish convent settings and supervised technical construction, assisted by James Twynham, Mary Arnold Garvin, Joe Young, Thomas Merritt and Patrick Ashton. Dick King is stage manager, with Clara Bennett and Ellen Kelly as property mistresses.

**NOTICE**

North Carolina Transylvania County

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust executed by Hattie Walker and husband Filmore Walker dated the 13th day of April 1954 and recorded in Book 49 page 114, in the office of the Register of Deeds of Transylvania County, North Carolina, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured and said deed of trust being by the terms thereof subject to foreclosure, the undersigned trustee will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the courthouse door in Brevard, North Carolina at noon on the 3rd day of September, 1968, the property conveyed in said deed of trust the same lying and being in the County of Transylvania, state of North Carolina, in Boyd Township, and more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING on a stone in the Southwest margin of Glade Creek Road, the R. T. Norman corner, and runs thence with the margin of said road North 40 deg. West 150 1/2 feet to a stake; the old C. M. Smith corner; thence with the old Smith line South 56 deg. West 211 feet to a stake; thence South 40 deg. East 106 1/2 feet to a stake in the Norman line; thence North 58 deg. East 211 feet with the Norman line to



**AIRMAN RONNIE S. FISHER**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Obie S. Fisher of 114 Presley Ave., Brevard, has completed basic training at Lackland AFB, Tex. He has been assigned to the Air Force Technical Training Center at Keesler AFB, Miss., for specialized schooling as a radar operator. Airman Fisher is a graduate of Brevard senior high school.

**Transylvania Council Of Social Services Meets Thursday**

The Transylvania Council of Social Services will meet Thursday, August 22nd at 7:30 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge of Brevard College.

Dr. Alfred Elwell will discuss the Transylvania County Mental Health program.

All persons interested in social services in the county are invited to attend.

the BEGINNING. Being as surveyed and platted by T. N. Davis, RLS, on March 10, 1954. Copies of said plat being on file with Brevard Federal Savings and Loan Association and Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation. But this sale will be made subject to all outstanding and unpaid taxes. This 1st day of August, 1968. ROBERT T. GASH Trustee

**Legal Notices**

**NOTICE OF SALE**

State of North Carolina County of Transylvania

Under and by virtue of the powers of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust executed by Johnny Stewart Powell and wife, Doris Powell, dated February 24, 1966, and recorded in Book 75, page 525, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Transylvania County, North Carolina, and under and by virtue of the authority vested in the undersigned as substitute trustee by an instrument dated the 9th day of August, 1968, and recorded in Deed Book 177, page 590, Records of Transylvania County, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured, the said Deed of Trust being by the terms thereof subject to foreclosure, the undersigned Trustee will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, at the Courthouse door in Brevard, North Carolina, at noon on the 10th day of September, 1968, and properly conveyed in the said Deed of Trust, the same lying and being in the County of Transylvania, in the Township of Cathey's Creek, and State of North Carolina, and more particularly bounded and described as follows:

TRACT ONE: BEGINNING at a stake in the north margin of a sixteen foot right-of-way leading to Clay Pole Road, north-west corner of Lot No. 24 of Middlefork Farm, and runs thence with the line of Lot No. 24, South 21 degrees West 197.29 feet to a stake, southwest corner of Lot No. 24; thence with the line of Lot No. 26, North 51 degrees 46' West 62 feet to a stake; thence along the line of Lots 10, 11, 12 and 13, North 9 degrees 40' East 200 feet to a stake; thence South 59 degrees East 100 feet to the BEGINNING. Being all of Lot No. 25 of the Middlefork Farm Subdivision, plat of which said subdivision is on file in Plat Book 2, page 140, Records of Plats for Transylvania County, North Carolina.

TRACT TWO: BEGINNING at a stake standing in the north margin of a sixteen-foot right-of-way leading to the Clay Pole Road, northeast corner of Lot No. 25 of the Middlefork Farm Subdivision, and runs thence with the line of Lot No. 25, South 16 degrees West 184 feet to a stake in the line of Lot No. 26; thence with the line of Lot No. 26, South 54 degrees East 62 feet to a stake, southwest corner of Lot No. 23; thence with the line of Lot No. 23, North 20 degrees East 187 feet to a stake in the north margin of said sixteen-foot right-of-way, south-east corner of Lot No. 21; thence with the north margin of said right-of-way, North 59 degrees West 75 feet to the BEGINNING. Being all of Lot No. 24 of the Middlefork Farm Subdivision, plat of which said subdivision is recorded in Plat Book 2, page 140, Records of Transylvania County, North Carolina.

This sale will be subject to all outstanding and unpaid taxes. This the 9th day of August, 1968. JOHN K. SMART, Jr. 8-15-4tc Substitute Trustee

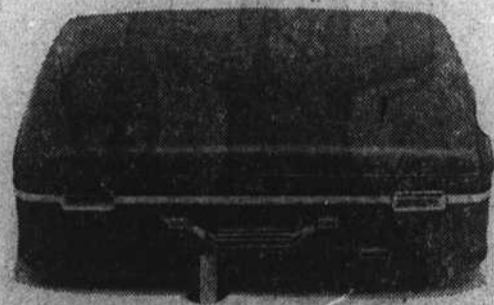
This the 15th day of August, 1968. BOBBY EARL HAMILTON Administrator Estate of Winfred Earl Hamilton, deceased. 8-15-4tp

**ADMINISTRATORS NOTICE**

State of North Carolina County of Transylvania Having qualified as the administrator of the estate of Winfred Earl Hamilton, deceased, late of the county of Transylvania, North Carolina, this is to give notice that all persons having claims against the estate of the deceased to present them to the undersigned administrator at 38 Davenport Road, Asheville, N. C. 28906 on or before the 15th day of February, 1969 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the said estate will please make immediate settlement. This the 15th day of August, 1968.

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**Patterson's of Brevard**

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