

Bishops Leading Tour

North Carolina's two United Methodist Bishops, Robert M. Blackburn of Raleigh and Earl G. Hunt of Charlotte, will lead some 300 Tar Heel Methodists on a nine-day Heritage Tour of England.

The North Carolina Conference group will depart from Raleigh-Durham airport and the Western North Carolina contingent from the Charlotte airport. The Heritage Tour will leave November 27.

The North Carolina tour is one of twenty-eight led by the Bishops of United Methodism to the scenes where their denomination had its beginnings.

The tour will fly directly to Manchester, England and the first stop will be Epworth where John and Charles Wesley and their seventeen brothers and sisters were born. Their father, the Rev. Samuel Wesley, served as a minister of the Church of England in Epworth.

On successive days the Tar Heels will travel through the Lincolnshire country to Francis Asbury's boyhood home at West Bromwich. Asbury is considered the "father of American Methodism" and held the first Methodist annual Conference in America at the home of Green Hill near Louisburg in 1785. Among the sites visited will be Stratford-on-Avon, the Shakespeare country and Oxford University where Wesley studied and was ordained.

Bishop Blackburn will preach on the group at the "New Room" in Bristol, one of world Methodism's shrines. The group will then go to London to visit the Wesley shrines there. Optional tours in London and a one day tour of Paris or Edinburgh, Scotland will also be available.

A study Book written by Dr. Frank Baker of Duke University will be used by the Methodists in preparation for the pilgrimage.

United Methodist ministers and laity who wish to participate should contact Tour Directors, Dr. Julian Lindsey of Charlotte and Dr. William K. Quick of Durham. Lindsey is Administrative Assistant to Bishop Hunt and Quick is pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church.



MEN FELLOWSHIP — First United Methodist Church in Hertford observed its Men's Night last Wednesday when it held its annual cookout in Henry Stokes yard. After the cookout many of the men participated in choir practice. (Ward Photo)

Social Security Members Must Submit Proper I.D.

Under new regulations all applicants for social security numbers must submit evidence to establish their age, citizenship, alien status and true identity. This new regulation is based on the 1972 amendments to the Social Security act and requires all persons applying for a social security card to present their birth certificate.

The regulations further provide for the issuance of social security numbers to members of groups or categories of individuals such

as individuals who are beneficiaries under any program financed from Federal funds or individuals who are entering the United States for permanent residence. United States consular offices throughout the world would obtain applications for social security numbers for the latter individuals.

In the past, social security numbers were issued in social security offices throughout the country.

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FROM DURHAM
Dr. and Mrs. Bill Nixon and family of Durham were guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Preston Nixon and Mr. and Mrs. Arvin Hudson, during the week-end.

PLYMOUTH GUESTS
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lee Dail and family of Plymouth were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Hurdle and C.L. Dail on Sunday.

OVERNITE GUESTS
Mrs. Otto Caudle of Burlington and Miss Katherine Bell of Davidson were overnight guests of Miss Louise Chalk on Saturday.



By

Marion Swindell

A sophomore in Washington College was summoned to the President's office and gently admonished that only perseverance and industry would prevent that failure that would inevitably come to him through college and through life.

"But, General (President) Robert E. Lee, you failed," remarked the sophomore.

"I hope that you will be more fortunate than I," was the tranquil answer.

To fail is no disgrace, but to fail and never rise again is tragic. Sometimes a treasure reclaimed from a shipwreck at the bottom of the sea is twice as valuable as before.

OUR THOUGHT TO REMEMBER: "SUCCESS IS SELDOM ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT SOME FAILURES."

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Sunday's Church Lesson

GOOD NEWS for SINNERS
(Romans 1:16-25)

Daniel Webster said, "My heart has always assured and reassured me that the gospel of Christ must be a Divine reality. This belief enters into the very depth of my conscience. The whole history of man proves it."

Such a note of assurance is sounded by the Apostle Paul in our lesson today. Such assurance is essential for all who would be bearers of the "Good news" to the lost.

Worth, Romans 1:16-17

Paul had been imprisoned in Philippi because of the Gospel. He had been chased out of the city of Thessalonica, smuggled out of Berea, and ignored in Athens because of the Gospel. Yet he says he is proud of the Gospel of Christ. Paul sees the good news (gospel) as the power of God unto salvation to all who will believe.

Man's greatest need in every age is salvation from the penalty and power of sin. The Bible pictures man as being lost (Matthew 18:11; Luke 19:10). Man is not on the right road unless he has experienced the spiritual birth (John 3:3,5).

Man is enslaved by sin and needs to be saved from

sin (Matthew 1:21). Paul knew from his own personal experience that the Gospel of Christ is God's power for salvation. Paul knew this from a thorough and diligent study of the Old Testament Scriptures. He also knew it from observing its power in the lives of other people.

The Gospel of Christ was God's appointed and revealed way. It had to work. It did work. It does work.

Wrath, Romans 1:18-23

Not only had the good news of the Gospel been revealed from heaven, but the wrath of God had also been revealed. Samuel Warren asks, "Did you ever notice that while the gospel gets before us a higher and more blessed heaven than any other religion, its hell is also deeper and darker than any other?"

Someone has said, "Because God is God, because God is God, because God is God, God cannot tolerate sin, and the wrath of God is God's annihilating reaction against sin."

There is ample warning through the Bible to man to flee the wrath of God. This wrath is directed against men who hinder the truth by

suppressing it. Men who choose to ignore God and give God up will be given up by God!

Man is without excuse. All of the visible things of creation teach us that there are invisible things of God. Luther said, "God writes the gospel not in the Bible alone, but on trees, and flowers, and clouds, and stars."

Wanton, Romans 1:24-25

The result of giving Up God is to be abandoned by God. When they turned away from God (the Creator) and turned to themselves (the creatures), they went from bad to worse. They became unchaste, licentious, lewd, and lustful. They were turned loose with themselves.

They actually went so far as to change the truth of God into a lie and worship and serve the creature more than the Creator. What a contrast to the Gospel of Christ!

Question of the Week: What was the first New Testament Book to be written?

Answer: Probably First Thessalonians.

SEARCH FOR TRUTH

By Larry Swaim
Christians and Politics

"Mr. Swaim, I believe that almost all politicians are crooked and I believe it is impossible for a Christian to be a politician. Don't you believe that Christians should stay out of politics?"

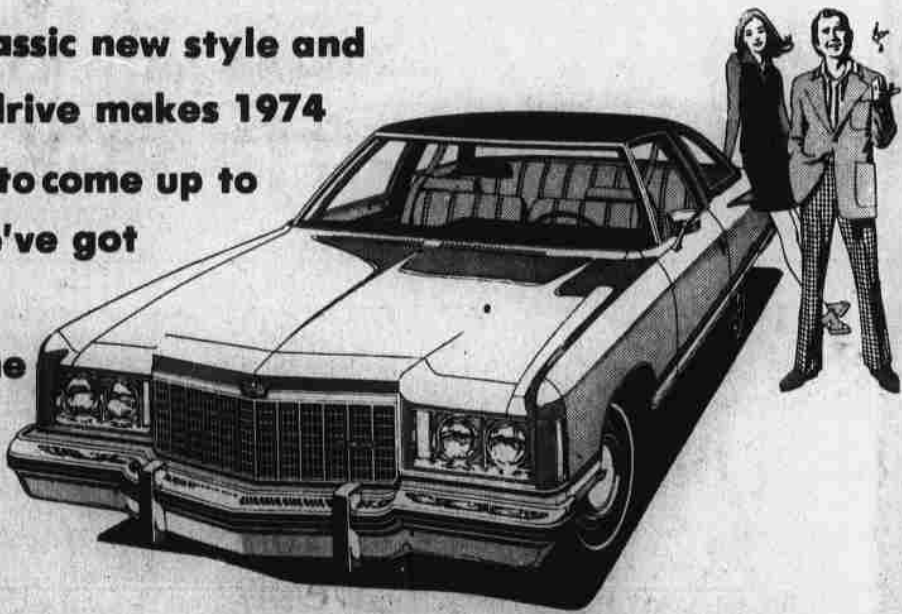
You have made several broad, sweeping generalities that I cannot agree with. First, I do not believe that all politicians are crooked, and I do believe it is possible for a Christian to be involved in politics and government. "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's."

I am sure nothing would please the racketeers, gangsters and underworld more than for all Christians and honest people to stay away from the polls on election day and to refuse to get involved in politics. Not only do I believe that Christians can be involved in governmental affairs, but I urge Christians to do so. The cliché, "Politics is dirty" is untrue. There are many men in government who have very high principles, fine motives and unquestionable integrity—they have sacrificed personally to effectively serve the people they represent. It is true that there are some crooked politicians. We need to be well enough informed on the issues and men in political elections to vote out the bad ones and vote in the good ones, otherwise, the cliché, "All politics is dirty," may become a reality.

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