

CORBITT'S COMMENTS

Corbitt's Comments for July:

For God's people, *Heritage* has always been a powerful and important *Core Value*. *Heritage* was lauded in both the Old Testament (Psalm 61:5) and the New Testament (Luke 1:50). One of the biggest failures of the Children of Israel was that they often forgot their *Heritage* and turned to other gods. Their lack of respect for their *Heritage* in God is the main theme of the Book of Judges. Whenever Israel would forget their *Heritage* they suffered defeat and oppression until they repented.

We, too, will suffer if we forget our *Heritage* as Southern Baptists. Our forefathers believed in an inerrant Bible, and the need for personal salvation through Jesus for their sin. They believed in personal and mass evangelism, Bible study and discipleship, autonomous local churches and congregational decision making. They believed in regularly assembling together for worship and in cooperating with other churches of like faith and order to fulfill the Great Commandments and the Great Commission. They believed in supporting our missionaries by giving through Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, and the Cooperative Program. On this foundation we created strong local churches and a powerful missionary force. If we forget our *Heritage* it will be to the detriment of our ministries and to the cause of the Gospel.

We also need to remember that *Heritage* is not the same as *Tradition*. As long ago as 1973, Ralph Neighbour wrote a book entitled, *The Seven Last Words of the Church: "We never tried it that way before."* His thesis was that local churches had become trapped by *Tradition* into doing the same thing they had always done the same way that they had always done it. More than forty years ago Neighbour saw that if churches did not adapt their methods of ministry then they would become ineffective in ministering to the needs of a changing society. Elmer Towns, "Mister Sunday School," has often repeated this little rhyme: "Methods are many - principles are few. Methods always change but principles never do." This is the essence of *Heritage*.

We must renew our commitment to those essential and foundational beliefs in our *Heritage*, while also adapting our ministry methods to the changing society around us. We must not fail on either account if we are to succeed in our task of advancing the Christian faith!

Every blessing,

Otis Corbitt, Director of Missions

MARTY'S COMMENTS FOR JULY

God, can do more in a moment than we can ever do in a lifetime.

On page 20 of his book *Revival*, Richard Owen Roberts observes:

"Despite the tremendous amount of activity found in religious circles today, there is a very real sense in which the Church itself is like a sleeping giant ... When revival comes, the giant will not only stir and awaken, but also move with dynamic power and glorious impact. Can you imagine the entire Body of Christ moving throughout the earth with unified purpose and Holy Spirit power? ...

Unleash all this transforming power against the forces of sin and evil in your community. This is what revival is."

Robert's description of revival as the awakening of a sleeping giant – the church – has been evidenced in **some remarkable seasons in history – moments** when God sovereignly revealed His glory and released the power of His Spirit in an unusual way, in and through His church. Even in the history of America, there have been such **moments** – four Great Awakenings. **Moments** when God awakened His sleeping churches; drew 1000's to Christ; raised up a host of ministers; birthed missionary societies, Christian colleges, and other ministries; and changed the very fabric of society.

"Even so Lord God, we pray for such a moment again. Awaken the sleeping giant – the church- throughout this nation. Set us to passionately seek You with true repentance and to passionately reach the world for Christ." For You, Oh God, can do more in a moment than we can ever do in a lifetime."

Marty Holley

See: http://www.liveleak.com/ll_embed?f=93080190a563

<http://warroomthemovie.com#sthash.6E0j7ysr>

<https://vimeo.com/125082844>



ASSOCIATION NEWS

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Proclaiming Jesus, Serving Churches
Since 1856

JULY 2015

ASSOCIATION NEWS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

Southside Baptist Church, 1210 Bypass West, Andalusia, will hold Vacation Bible School July 12 – 17 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Ages 4 years through 5th grade are invited to attend the "JOURNEY OFF THE MAP." For further information please call the church office

at 222-4300.

IMPORTANT DATA FOR CHURCH CLERKS

Church clerks will be receiving Church Profiles during the latter part of July. Forms are to be completed as of August 31, 2015 and received at the Association Office NO LATER THAN 1 Oct 15.

Please remind your church to elect Messengers to the Association Annual Meeting at a business meeting PRIOR to or during August 2015. Also, 2 individuals should be elected to serve on the Executive Committee at the same time. Please look for your letter which will be mailed approximately July 20, 2015.

ANNUAL MEETING DATE

Covington Baptist Association Annual Meeting date is

OCTOBER 22, 2015 AT BLUE SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH OPP, AL AT 5:00 P.M. WITH EVENING MEAL AND proceedings to follow. Rev. Randy Breedlove, FBC, Opp will bring the message.

Training for Church Leaders: The Summit

July 31- Aug. 1 (Shocco Springs)

(Conferences for leaders in: SS, Worship, Families, Missions, Discipleship, Deacons, Women's Ministry, Age-group, Technology & Senior Adults)

www.alsbom.org/summit

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Association-Wide Missions Conference Jan 29-31

One of our major ministry emphases is Global Missions, and we want to make missions personal by bringing missionaries from all over the world and the United States to Covington County over the weekend of January 29-31, 2016. We want our church members to be able to hear directly from our Southern Baptist missionaries how much our support means to them and what our support equips them to do as they serve God on the mission field. This is what we have planned:

Friday, January 29th: Missions Banquet for our guests and representatives from each participating church.

Saturday, January 30th: Missions Fair during the day, with displays and activities for children and youth and the chance to meet and talk with our missionary guests, followed by a Missions Rally worship service that evening.

Sunday, January 31st: Missionaries will speak at participating churches during Sunday School, Morning Worship, and Evening Worship.

This will be an exciting time of connecting with our missionaries! We have much planning to do, but this is what we need to know now: we need your church to decide if you are willing to participate in the Missions Conference. In agreeing to participate, your church is agreeing to:

1. Have a representative at the Missions Banquet on Friday PM.
2. Advertise the Missions Fair to your church members.
3. Host a Missionary speaker Sunday School, Morning Worship, and Evening Worship.
4. Provide lunch for a missionary speaker on Sunday.
5. Collect a love offering to be shared among all the missionary speakers.

To register your church to participate in the conference go to this webpage: <http://ow.ly/O1ASb> or call the Association Office at 222-3009.

ASSOCIATION NEWS (Cont.)

JULY FOOD BANK DONORS

Babbie, Beulah, Cedar Grove, Rawls, Pleasant Home, Southside-Andy, Damascus, Southside-Opp, Damascus, Conecuh River, Pleasant Grove, Victory, Mt. Gilead, Mobley Creek

DIVORCE Care:

Find Help, Hope & Healing

from the hurt of separation & divorce

in a Caring Support Group for 13 Weekly Sessions

3 Component Design For Each Week:

- 40 minute video seminar portion
- the confidential small group discussion
- the workbook for personal study & reflection

Beginning Aug. 18th @ CBA Facility

www.divorcecare.org

CBA Pastors, Deacons & Spouses Banquet

Tuesday, September 15th @ 6 p.m.

Bethany Baptist Church

(***** MARK YOUR CALENDAR *****)

Guest Speaker: *Dr. Travis Coleman, Jr.*

President of Alabama Baptist Convention &

Pastor of First Baptist Church of Prattville

Worship Leader: *Jason Gunter*

NEWS FROM CHURCHES

HARMONY

REVIVAL

JULY 5TH, 2015 AT 10:30 A.M

GUEST SPEAKER: BRO. BILL PRITCHETT

EVERYONE IS INVITED !

HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH

WILL HOST: *THE UGANDAN THUNDER AFRICAN*

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

JULY 13TH, 2015 @ 6:30 P.M..

NEWS FROM CHURCHES (Cont.)

PIGEON CREEK

NEEDED – PIANIST, PIGEON CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

RED LEVEL, AL CALL [334-469-6161](tel:334-469-6161)

IF NO ANSWER PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE

ENON

Enon Baptist Church would like to borrow a workbook that accompanies the study "Experiencing God" for teenagers. If your church has a copy that you would loan, please contact pastor: Judd Holderfield at 764-5687.

EAST HIGHLAND

" Old Time Singing School,

East Highland will hold a singing school

July 6th – 10th 7:00pm each night.

School will be taught by Charles Towler song writer, publisher.

East Highland church is located at 109 Pecan St. Andalusia, AL

OAK GROVE

Oak Grove Baptist Church will celebrate their 125th Anniversary on August 2. Their theme is Celebrating the Gospel: 125 Years of Ministry! The Alabama Baptist Historical Society will be coming to present a certificate to the church during their Homecoming service. They will use Homecoming to launch into a revival with a different speaker each night: Larry Cummings, Barry Wilkinson, Gary Miller, and Tyler Ingram.

ZION HILL

Zion Hill will have the singing group VALOR III from Statesville, North Carolina in concert on Sunday, July 19, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited

BUCKCREEK

The ladies of Buck Creek Baptist Church will enjoy a Sisterhood "Luau" Supper on July 11th at the home of Charlene Griffin.

Homecoming will be celebrated on Sunday, July 19th. Bro. Alan Joyner will be the speaker. Dinner on the grounds will follow the morning service. There will be no evening service.