

Bryan Station Baptist Church

INDEPENDENT

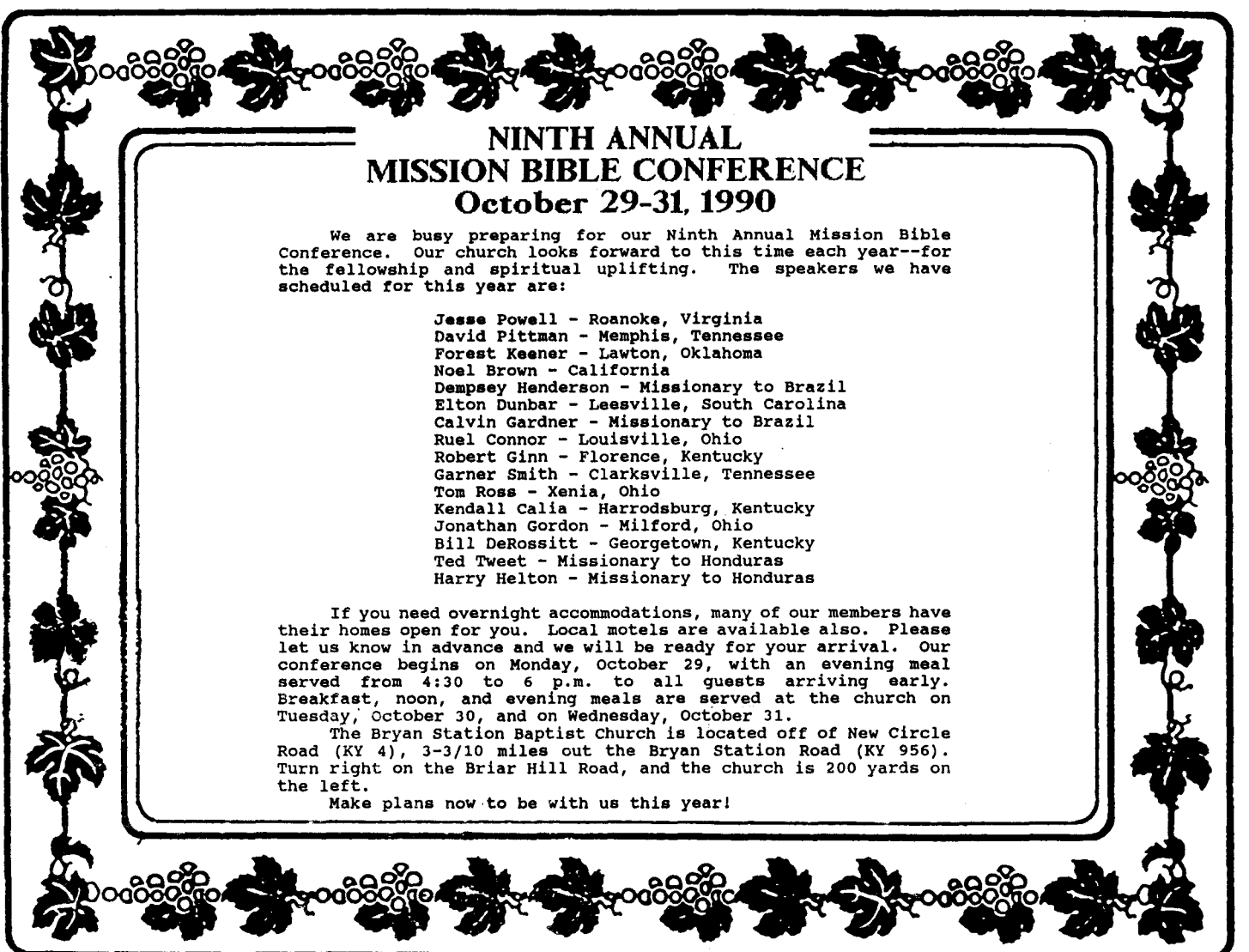
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MISSIONARY

THE PIONEER BAPTIST

"Preaching The Same Truth We Preached Before Kentucky Was A State"

VOL 22, NO. 1
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NINTH ANNUAL MISSION BIBLE CONFERENCE October 29-31, 1990

We are busy preparing for our Ninth Annual Mission Bible Conference. Our church looks forward to this time each year--for the fellowship and spiritual uplifting. The speakers we have scheduled for this year are:

Jesse Powell - Roanoke, Virginia
David Pittman - Memphis, Tennessee
Forest Keener - Lawton, Oklahoma
Noel Brown - California
Dempsey Henderson - Missionary to Brazil
Elton Dunbar - Leesville, South Carolina
Calvin Gardner - Missionary to Brazil
Ruel Connor - Louisville, Ohio
Robert Ginn - Florence, Kentucky
Garner Smith - Clarksville, Tennessee
Tom Ross - Xenia, Ohio
Kendall Calia - Harrodsburg, Kentucky
Jonathan Gordon - Milford, Ohio
Bill DeRossitt - Georgetown, Kentucky
Ted Tweet - Missionary to Honduras
Harry Helton - Missionary to Honduras

If you need overnight accommodations, many of our members have their homes open for you. Local motels are available also. Please let us know in advance and we will be ready for your arrival. Our conference begins on Monday, October 29, with an evening meal served from 4:30 to 6 p.m. to all guests arriving early. Breakfast, noon, and evening meals are served at the church on Tuesday, October 30, and on Wednesday, October 31.

The Bryan Station Baptist Church is located off of New Circle Road (KY 4), 3-3/10 miles out the Bryan Station Road (KY 956). Turn right on the Briar Hill Road, and the church is 200 yards on the left.

Make plans now to be with us this year!

THE FEAR OF GOD

By DR. C. D. COLE,

INTRODUCTION: It is so easy for us to become lopsided in the truth, go off at a tangent, or ride a hobby. It is sometimes said of a preacher that all his sermons are just alike. We say of such a preacher that he harps on one string all the time. We need so much to hold truth in its proper balance. There has been much preaching on the love of God, but very little on the fear of God. If you will use your concordance, you will see that there is quite as much said about our duty to fear God as there is about His love for us. Preaching the love of God to sinners is like casting pearls before swine when there is no fear of God in their hearts.

The fear of God is made up of reverence and awe and love. It is what we call filial fear.

Many are the blessings pronounced upon that fear Him. Psm. 33:18 **Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy.** Psm. 34:7 **The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.**

Three times we read that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Psm. 111:10 **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.** Prov. 1:7 **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.** Prov. 9:10 **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.**

Psm. 34:11 **Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.** David was a famous musician, statesman, and soldier, but he did not say, "I will teach you how to use the harp, or

handle the sword, or rule a nation, but I will teach you the fear of the Lord."

The fear of God is the mark of a saint. A Christian is a God fearing man. The lost have no fear of God before their eyes. Many who are cowards before men who have no fear of God. Natural for a woman to fear snakes, but no woman naturally fears God. Girls, as a rule, are easily frightened, but it is not natural for a girl to fear God.

HOW MAY I KNOW WHETHER I FEAR GOD OR NOT? How does the God-fearing man behave?

1. He delights in conversation about God. He does not shun God. He will enjoy a sermon upon the divine attributes. Mal. 3:16 **Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.**

2. He will keep company with others that fear God. They will come together. If you fear God you will love His people. I John 3:14 **We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.** Every man has two kinds of associates: necessary and voluntary. Psm. 119:63 **I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.** I Cor. 5:9 **I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators.** The church of Christ is the only organization that is open for membership to all ranks and classes of men, rich and poor, learned and ignorant, famous and obscure, handsome and ugly, with or without a good name. Human institutions seek certain kinds of people. Literary clubs want only the educated. Social clubs invite only those in their social rank. Political clubs want only those who believe in their political philosophy. Musical clubs want only those of musical talent. But the church wants everybody who fears God and keeps his precepts.

3. The God-fearing man will be obedient. It is the fear of God that produces the spirit of obedience in men. Heb. 11:7 **By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.** It was the fear of God that led

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Alfred M. Gormley, Pastor and Editor

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Abraham to offer up Isaac. Gen 22:12 **And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.** Prov. 16:6 **By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the Lord men depart from evil.** Psm. 36:1-2 **The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes. For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful.** Men's sins have a voice to Godly ears. God-fearing men see their sins and bewail them. The man who does not fear God flatters himself, he counts himself as a fine fellow. He fixes up his sins with his own conscience, so that his conscience is easy. Spurgeon: "To smoothe over one's own sinful conduct to one's conscience is to smoothe one's own path to hell."

Self-flattery is a grease that makes slick the road to hell. Self-flattery is the hand that breaks the alarm clock of the conscience so that the sinner can sleep till he wakes in hell.

4. The God-fearing man will understand the secrets of God: he will know truths that an Ingersol cannot learn. Psm. 25:14 **The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.** I Cor. 2:14 **But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.** I Cor. 4:4 **For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord.**

Every trade has its secrets to the uninitiated. The realities of the Christian experience are strange things to the natural, self-righteous man. To speak about conviction for sin, the abhorrence of self, the witness of the Spirit, the struggles against sin, the hope in Christ is like reasoning with a blind man about colors or trying to explain musical harmony to a deaf man.

God shows his covenant glories to those that fear him. Many books coming off the press but how few of them explain the deep things of God. Too little of the fear of God among us today.

WHY ARE WE TO FEAR GOD? Job 36:18 **Because there is wrath, beware lest he take thee away with his stroke: then a great ransom cannot deliver thee.** Matt. 10:28 **And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and**

body in hell. Luke 12:4-5 **And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.**

MANY ARE GOING TO FEAR HIM TOO LATE. Men who do not fear Him in this day of grace will fear him in the day of judgment. Prov. 1:26 **I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh.**

I had a dream the other night. I do not often tell dreams in the pulpit, but this dream illustrates the truth I want to give you. I was visiting here in our community. We soon observed something wrong at the next house; there was terrible excitement; something awful had happened, people there were dying. We saw men carrying a dead child. They seemed to know what had happened but were too busy to tell us. Several men were trying to get a man in a car to take him to the doctor, but he did not want to go, and he was kicking and knocking with all his might, and then the men got rough with him, and began to use force and rough speech. The best we could learn was that he had been bitten by a deadly insect like a black widow spider, but he insisted there was nothing wrong with him, and did not want to go to the doctor. That is a parable. Men all about us are bitten by the serpent of moral death, in danger of hell fire, the time is short to get them saved. We try to get them to go to Christ the only physician who can save them, and they have no fear of the lawgiver who is able to save them or destroy them. When you hear about the judgment of God and that sin will be punished, you should fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Psm. 130:3-4 **If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.**

Yes, there is forgiveness with the Lord but that forgiveness comes with an awful price to God in that he had to punish his Son that you might go free by faith in Him. Acts 13:38-39 **Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.** John 3:16 **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**