



John Peeples,
IBFI Mission Director

MISSION UPDATE *A Focus on Home Missions*

A Word from Bro. Peeples: *We hope you will seriously consider having one, or all three of these men in - with our without their families - to present their ministry. They are very worthy of your support.*

*Paul had much help in ministry
Romans 16!*

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH PLANTERS

Zack & Charish Doty Family, Jacob & Lindy Luman Family, Tony & Melissa Roa Family

And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled." Acts 14:26

EXALTING CHRIST: ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH PLANTERS

A YEAR IN REVIEW

We have reached the one-year mark of the launching of our ministry. It is our prayer that over the past year that we have helped to encourage churches and strengthen God's people.

Many churches across America are facing the struggles that were brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and are trying to keep their doors open. While we are happy to help wherever we are able, we are also aware that this is happening across our country. We hope that others will catch the vision and burden that God has laid on our hearts to see America as a mission field that is in desperate need of a Savior.



Evangelist Andrew Johnson, on the far right, with the three men directing the ABCP ministry.

LOOKING BACK



Antioch Baptist Church Planters started their first work at Gospel Light Baptist Church in Roanoke, TX, with Bro. Doug Ellis on January 3, 2021. It was a blessing to work with GLBC. While we were there we helped with youth, children's and music ministries, as well as adult Sunday School, outreach, yard work, building maintenance and repairs. We praise the Lord for allowing us to help in strengthening the brethren in the time that we were there.

Throughout the past year, the Roa family was also able to help with outreach at Harvest Baptist Church in Allen, TX, under Bro. J. D. Leake. Each family was also able to minister at Rockwall Baptist Church and fill the pulpit several times. Please pray for Rockwall BC as they need a pastor.



LOOKING AHEAD

We are preparing for the Grand Opening of Antioch Baptist Church on February 27, 2022. We intend to help pass out 20,000 John and Romans door-to-door over the next few weeks. Please pray for Rhome, TX.

PRAYER NEEDS



- Gospel Light Baptist Church in Roanoke, TX and Pastor Doug Ellis
- Heath Van Zandt - Church planter to Rhome, TX
- Washington St. Baptist Church, Stephenville, TX - currently without pastor
- Rockwall Baptist Church, Rockwall, TX - currently without pastor
- Hannah Leake (13 years) Daughter of church planter J.D. Leake. Hannah has been dealing with multiple health issues for 8+ months.
- Individual support for each ABCP missionary

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The Searchlight

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022 VOLUME 38 ISSUE 4

Training Preachers: Pastors, Missionaries and Evangelists
(Also, Their Wives, and Women in General, for Church Ministry)




NBBS - Mirroring the Old Bible Baptist Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas, Since 1984

IBFI Mission Agency
Helping independent Baptist churches get their missionaries to the field

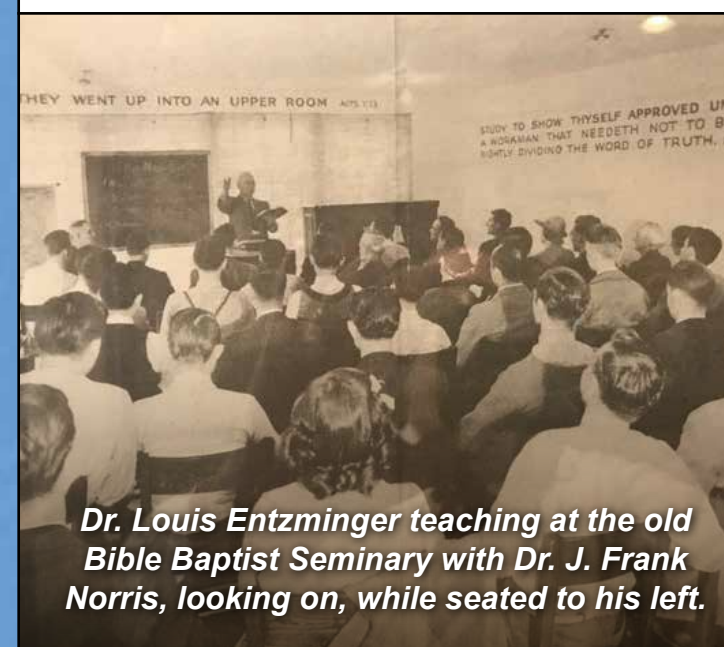
Individual Church Sent Missionaries - Supported by Many Churches in:

- North America
- Central America
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- Africa

For Specific Nations See
Website: www.ibfi.us
Email: missionoffice@ibfi.us





NBBS is Continuing What was Started Over 80 Years Ago!



Dr. Louis Entzminger teaching at the old Bible Baptist Seminary with Dr. J. Frank Norris, looking on, while seated to his left.

Norris Bible Baptist Seminary
2022 GRADUATION
Tuesday, May 17

A New Day Dawned for Us 38 Years Ago!

The Searchlight

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TWELVE KEYS THAT OPEN THE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH



*Dr. Raymond W. Barber,
IBFI President Emeritus*

(ISAIAH 6:1-8)

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH:

- **DATE OF BIRTH: 760 BC** (Rome was founded in 754 BC, when Isaiah was six years old.)
- **MEANING OF ISAIAH'S NAME:** "Salvation of Jehovah"
- **FAMILY:** Son of Amos (1:1), Isaiah came from a prominent family, and perhaps was related to King Uzziah. He was married and had two sons.
- **PROPHETIC MINISTRY:** Called into the Prophetic Ministry in 740 BC ("In the year that King Uzziah died" Isaiah 6:1).
- **MINISTRY:** 740 BC to 700 BC (forty years)
- **RATED:** Isaiah had a three-fold rating - **PROPHET, PREACHER, STATESMAN.**
- **MESSAGE:** Isaiah's message was to **Judah** and also to **Israel.**

**What Beethoven is to Music
And Shakespeare is to Literature,
ISAIAH is to Prophecy.**

He has no equal among the Prophets.

- He stands head and shoulders like a giant above all other prophets.
- He is considered the greatest man of the eighth century before Christ.
- He is known as "**THE PROPHET OF REDEMPTION.**"
- His Book has been called "**THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST ACCORDING TO ISAIAH.**"
- So much of his Prophecy is about the Messiah, that he is known as "**THE MESSIANIC PROPHET.**"
- **DEATH:** Tradition claims that he was nailed to boards and sawed into pieces. He was a hero of the faith. (Read Hebrews 11:37,38)

TWELVE KEYS THAT OPEN THE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH

- **KEY ONE:** Key of **INVITATION** (Isaiah 1:18)
- **KEY TWO:** Key of **INNOVATION** (Isaiah 2:4) Process of introducing New Methods Devices or Customs
- **KEY THREE:** Key of **INSPIRATION** (Isaiah 6:1)
- **KEY FOUR:** Key of **INCARNATION** (Isaiah 7:14) Prophecy of the Virgin Birth
- **KEY FIVE:** Key of **IDENTIFICATION** (Isaiah 9:6,7)
- **KEY SIX:** Key of **INDIGNATION** "Righteous Anger" (Isaiah 34:2; Psalm 7:12)
- **KEY SEVEN:** Key of **INTERVENTION** (Isaiah 37:36,37)
- **KEY EIGHT:** Key of **INITIATION** (Isaiah 40:3, John 1:23)
- **KEY NINE:** Key of **INDSCRIMINATION** (Isaiah 42:6; John 1:23; Rom.1:16; Acts 10:34)
- **KEY TEN:** Key of **INCORPORATION** (Isaiah 43:5,6)
- **KEY ELEVEN:** Key of **INOCULATION** (Isaiah 53:4-6)
- **KEY TWELVE:** Key of **INAUGURATION** (Isaiah 61:1,2; Luke 4:18,19)

ISAIAH CHAPTER 53: The Greatest Chapter in Bible!

In my days as a student seventy-two years ago, in the Bible Baptist

Seminary, Dr. J. Frank Norris required every student to memorize Isaiah 53. During my thirty-five years of teaching the "Major-Minor Prophets" course in Bible college, I required every student to memorize it and quote it to the class as a requirement for graduation. The memorization of Isaiah 53 by students is still a requirement at NBBS.

I have acquired the habit of reading **Isaiah Chapter 53** every day. In addition to reading it in my daily devotions, I quote it every morning before rising and every night before closing my eyes in sleep. **Try it for yourself if you want a big blessing!**

ANOTHER GREAT START



*Eric Crawford,
IBFI President*

The Opening Day Rally for the Norris Bible Baptist Seminary was a tremendous blessing. Pastor David Grice of Lighthouse Baptist Church, in Grand Prairie, Texas, and Pastor Charles Wetherbee

of Victory Baptist Church, in Weatherford, Texas, did a phenomenal job encouraging the students and the pastors in attendance for the event. The spirit was great, and everyone seemed to enjoy the student testimonies as well as the good fellowship afterwards "around the lunch table." NBBS is off to a great start this spring semester.

The need for more education space at our school is very evident as we enter the new semester. Classes are meeting in the conference room and other areas to accommodate the need. Also, the restroom facilities continue to prove to be very inadequate. The plan to sell our current facilities and relocate and build a new campus is still going forward. I am reminded every week that I must be patient, knowing that God has a plan, and that He will direct us. The raw land that the fellowship owns has risen in value over the last six months, so the possibility of expanding and remodeling our current facilities is also still an option. This has always been Plan B. So, I hope you will pray that God's will would be very evident as we go forward.

We are excited about our most recent alumni going out and "doing the work." They are joining the ranks of 38 years of alumni brothers and sisters at-large. Missionary Jarrod Tunnell, is soon to depart for Argentina with his family. He is at 95% of his needed support. Heath and Caryssa Van Zandt are soon to officially launch the Antioch Baptist Church in Rhome, Texas. Zack Doty, Jacob Luman, Tony Roa, and their wives and children have been helping them along the way. Cody Samford and his wife are doing a great work for God with the people of the Victory Baptist Church, Kerrville, Texas. Other graduates are preparing to go, and there are more soon-to-be missionaries in this May's graduating class.

I want to thank all the pastors and their churches for their continued monthly support. The October offering and Christmas offerings further make it possible for the school to continue and to thrive.

UPCOMING EVENTS

IBFI National Spring Meeting

Monday – Thursday, May 16-19, 2022
Raymond W. Barber Conference Center
Fort Worth, Texas

Full details will be at the IBFI website www.ibfi.us

Metroplex Area IBF

TBD

HALFWAY THROUGH OUR 38TH YEAR!

*Jonathan J. Stewart,
NBBS President*



The same good spirit, all semester, yet again characterized the student body and faculty of the NBBS. Our new students fit right in, and brought with them a great hunger for the Word of God, for Christlikeness, and learning more about church ministry.

CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP

We ended the fall semester with a Christmas fellowship, the first Saturday in December.



The event started with a catered BBQ meal, and included special music from Living Proof. They are a musical ministry out of the Emmanuel Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Texas, where alumnus Dale Harris is pastor. They are a singing group who use acoustic guitars, piano, fiddle, and vocals. Many of our churches have had them in for their church services. It was the second time at the fellowship and school that we have been blessed by their ministry.



There was also congregational singing of Christmas songs, and a drawing for the students for study Bibles and Bible study books.



*Several of the ministerial students who
preached, standing with Dr. Barber*

Above all though there was preaching! About half of our student body was able to attend the event, so there were plenty of students present to preach on any number of passages in the Bible that had to do with the first coming of Christ. They students only had five minutes each to preach, but they all made the most of it in a grand way.



Dr. Raymond Barber, our chancellor, and his wife Helen, were able to be present. Dr. Barber was the first preacher, and of course, he had more than five minutes allotted to him! He set the stage with his sermon, and then proceeded to sit back and be thrilled - in his own words - to hear the students' brief but substantive sermons.

The fellowship was well attended with nearly 100 present. Students, their family members and friends, faculty, and pastors were present.

START OF THE SPRING SEMESTER

Opening Day Rally for us started with a great time of fellowship, music, preaching and food! Alumnus David Grice, pastor of the Lighthouse Baptist Church, Grand Prairie, Texas, IBFI Vice President, and NBBS faculty member preached, as did Dr. Charles Wetherbee of the Victory Baptist Church, Weatherford, Texas. Two of the upcoming graduates for May 2022, also preached - John Foster and Phillip Dobbs, both of Worth Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas, where Tyler Gillit is the pastor.

The Rally was in conjunction with IBF Metro-Area Preachers Fellowship, and their involvement was a blessing. In January, we combine our first day of school with the fellowship. The fellowship covered the cost of the catered lunch for everyone, and over \$500.00 came in as an offering for the seminary.

We are further grateful to several churches and individuals who gave Christmas offerings to the seminary that totaled around \$2,000.00.

THE OLD BIBLE BAPTIST SEMINARY AND THE NORRIS BIBLE BAPTIST SEMINARY

The Searchlight's first issue of the year, makes use of the cover to promote the seminary. As it states, we continue to strongly follow the approach that the old Bible Baptist Seminary of Ft. Worth, Texas, that Dr. J. Frank Norris and Dr. Louis Entzminger began in 1939. It started out as the Fundamental Bible Baptist Institute. After World War II, it became the Bible Baptist Seminary. It was billed as "The Only Seminary in the World Teaching Whole English Bible." That is indeed what we do. We teach the 66 books of the Bible in the order in which they are found. Many other features of the teaching program of the BBS also characterize NBBS (e.g., preachers training preachers, the need for living a life of personal holiness, the historic Baptist faith, traditional church-based ministry training, the preeminence of preaching, worldwide church-planting missions, and at-home personal evangelism and discipleship). The formula worked very well then, and always will until the end of the Church Age. Proverbs 22:28, Jeremiah 6:16, Luke 1:4, Acts 2:42, Romans 6:17, I Timothy 2:2, 3:14-15, Jude 1:3.

Your prayers and financial support are much appreciated and are one the best missions endeavors in which you can have a part. In so doing, you are getting in on the ground floor of the training of future missionaries and pastors, and their wives, as well as other ladies who are being trained for ministry.

A SHOUT OUT TO BRO. KYLE!

Longtime pastor and alumnus of the old Bible Baptist Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas, Billy Kyle of Marion, Ohio, celebrated his 90th birthday in November of 2021. In his days of retirement, he, along with his wife Florence, are still prayerful and financial supporters of NBBS. Thank you for all these years of making a difference in the seminary!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT – “THE PROOF IS IN THE PUDDING”



*Kenneth Ralph,
Alumni President*

This idiom is a shortened form of its original, "The proof of the pudding is in the eating." Simply put, if one wants to know if the pudding is good, one has to taste it.

I believe the education that NBBS provides the necessities needed in preparing for the ministry, with which one is able to develop a great ministry. The men and women who are being trained at the Norris Bible Baptist Seminary are taught to labor in local churches for God, with compassion, conviction, and courage – with a zeal to keep Christ in center-focus.

You do not have to take my word for it. For this issue of the Searchlight, I have asked NBBS alumnus and IBFI missionary, Bro. Tony Roa to be our guest contributor. He is no stranger to those who are associated with NBBS. His passion for God, his infectious personality, willingness to sacrifice, and his sweet family are reasons I number him among those I know as the choicest of God's servants.

From Bro. Roa:

No place has been more influential in my life, outside of church, than NBBS. I submitted to the Lord's call to preach when I was 20 years old, but it was not until my time at Norris, that I really began to focus on that calling. The emphasis on Christianity being Christ, has helped me to make it, "All about Him, and "All for Him," It was at Norris I truly learned to study the Bible, and realized the

importance of Christ being the center of each message I preach.

Not only did I graduate from NBBS, but my wife did as well. It is a place that has influenced our whole family. We have made lifelong friends from our time there. Among those friends are the Lumans and the Dotys, who we joined together over a year ago, and formed our ministry Antioch Baptist Church Planters. We are a team of fifteen, seeking to start churches, partner with pastors who desire to either plant churches, or revitalize an established church.

Having helped a pastor revitalize a church during much of 2021, ABCP is currently working with NBBS graduate and IBFI home missionary, Bro. Heath Van Zandt, in the planting of a Baptist church in Rhome, Texas. It is a special blessing to work with like-minded men who were trained at the same school in which I was – my ABCP team members and the Van Zandts. Bro. Van Zandt's wife is graduating from NBBS this May.

I also have the privilege of teaching the course of Personal Evangelism, and the course on Romans & Galatians, at Norris Bible Baptist Seminary. It is a great joy to be able to stay involved

in the school in whatever ways I can. It is my prayer that I will be able to do so on a larger scale in days ahead. God is truly at work at NBBS.

*In Christ,
Bro. Tony Roa*



DR. CHARLES WETHERBEE RETIRES FROM THE PASTORATE

Dr. Charles Wetherbee, retired from the pastorate, January 23, 2022, after 29 years of pastoring the Victory Baptist Church, Weatherford, Texas. He is now in the role of pastor emeritus.

Bro. Wetherbee has been a strong supporting pastor of the NBBS since its inception in 1984. He has served as president of the IBFI, and has been on the faculty of the school for many years, teaching courses on the family, prayer, pastoral ministry, and the pastoral epistles. He will continue to be an active faculty member of the seminary.

The Wetherbee's plan to visits churches pastored by NBBS alumni, in order to be an encouragement. He and his wife Shelley have blessed many in song throughout his nearly 50 years of pastoring. He pastored two churches prior to Victory, one of which he was the founding pastor.



Bro. Rob Catuto, who has been on staff at Victory Baptist Church for 28 years, first as the youth director and then for many years as the assistant pastor, has accepted the call to the pastorate of VBC. His desires for the church are to continue its very strong missions program and the support of NBBS.

Bro. Wetherbee is available to fill pulpits, preach Sundays, extended meetings such as revival services, stewardship and mission conferences, or Bible conferences.

As one of the preachers through the years who has been a major participant in the IBFI from its start, a brief overview of the ministry of Charles Wetherbee will be in the next issue of the Searchlight, and will include highlights of his ministry as they relate to the IBFI.

