The Electronic Newsletter of the Norris Bible Baptist Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas norrisseminary.org March., 2015 - Vol. 1 & No. 3 - JJS

# **What is Needed Today**

What is needed today for the training of preachers is what has always been needed – like J. Frank Norris said some 75 years ago in relation to why the Bible Baptist Seminary was started in 1939:

"What is needed is a school that teaches the whole English Bible. What is needed is a school that will take men from the engine cab, from between the plowshares and teach then the Bible. What is needed is a school that is free from modernism. What is needed is a school that will teach a man how to go out with a Bible under his arms, faith in his heart, and in the power of the Holy Spirit begin in a vacant lot and build a church to the glory of God."

A man may still be readily taken from the road or rail, as well the field (truck, train or tractor), by a school to prepare for the ministry, if it is the right kind of a school. Drivers, engineers, and farmers (i.e. professionals from many fields) are ready-made potential students for ministerial training. The idea is that they leave a profession already begun in order to follow the Lord (like Peter, James, John,

True cutting-edge training for the ministry!

"sharper than any twoedged sword"
Hebrews 4:12

Andrew, and Matthew of old), having learned much from their vocation which can be refined for use in the ministry by a thoroughgoing Biblical course of study.

Likewise, during the early post-war years of the late 1940s, men discharged from the military entered the BBS. They did so to fulfill a commitment to God that was cultivated by what they had seen and experienced while involved in the greatest conflict of modern times for the future of the civilization. Soldiers today can find the same kind of place in a school like the NBBS wherein not only men right out of high school who have sensed a call to the ministry, but also many in their late 20s, as well as their 30s, 40s, and 50s make up the student body.

Is a Bible, faith, and the power of the Spirit sufficient? Even in a world which is increasingly high-tech, nothing is as cutting-edge as the Bible. A book, that in the hands of the Spirit, pierces "to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit" – something no man can do! By its very nature, it will always be the most

advanced, yet settled presentation of truth there will ever be. What can be more modern than a book of timeless truths given by an eternal and all-knowing Creator? Because God is outside of time and sees the past, present, and future all at once, He can impart truth that is ageless. Therefore, nothing could be more state-of-the-art and up-to-date than His Word. It is proactive, prescient, and penetrating in its message in ways no other writing could ever be (Psalm 119; Gal. 3:8; Il Tim. 3:16-17 – "throughly furnished"). The "old-time religion" is actually the "all-time religion" (even an on-going relationship with God). Accordingly, the better that the Bible is taught in seminary, the more relevant will be the training – as in a school like the NBBS, in which 44 of the 48 courses of study are in Bible, Theology and Church Ministry. An institution in which the classes are not only still free from modernism, but also that which inevitably follows it – postmodernism, which now permeates our society (which in essence is the idea that truth is relative, that there is no one truth for everyone).

### **Important Dates**

Last Day of Classes – Friday, May 15 Graduation - Tuesday, May 19

## **Great News!**

- 1. The tuition of all full-time students (those taking at least four courses (12 total credit hours) will be paid in full both semesters in the coming school year! As he has done in the past, Ray Richey is continuing to invest in the training of preachers and missionaries. It has been a passion of his through the years, and the NBBS has been a regular beneficiary of it.
- 2. Consider having a NBBS representative come and present the school to your church, or make an appointment to meet with myself (Bro. Stewart), Dr. Riggsby, or Bro. Wiggins at the school. We are always ready to share what makes NBBS uniquely effective in the training of preachers.

## **Favorite Sayings**

"Riggsbyisms"

"Procrastination is the thief of time
and money." Cited by Dr. Terry Riggsby

(Founding Administrator of NBBS – 1984-1999)

Our Heritage Speaks
"World history should be judged by the Bible and the not the Bible by world history." JFN

#### **Alumni News!**

Bro. John Brown, a graduate of the NBBS and Pastor of the Ramseur Baptist Church of Paris, Texas, is well under way in the writing of a biography on Dr. Louis Entzminger. We are excited at the school about the project. Such a work is long overdue. If you have resources or information you deem relevant, (i.e., information on his younger years, early years in the ministry, or pictures of him) that he could make use of, please contact him:

Ramseur Baptist Church 3400 Lamar Ave., Paris, TX 75460 Telephone: 903.249.6614 Email: pastor@rbcparis.org

## **Businessmen for God!**

Some years ago I became aware of businessmen of the past who caught the vision of investing in the cause of Christ and were driven to not only live their faith, but to also financially undergird churches, mission endeavors, and Bible schools.

This discovery began when I saw a movie and then read a book about Stanley Tam (both entitled, God Owns My Business), who founded the U.S. Plastics Corporation of Lima, OH. Many years ago, he legally gave his business to God. A fairly recent report stated that more than \$140 million has been given to the Christian cause by Tam – especially in the area of evangelism (something he has personally practiced from behind his office desk and around the world – even door-to-door). For years, "Christ is the Answer" has been emblazoned upon the side of his building facing highway I-75!

If one walks down the aisles of a typical department or grocery store, with a knowledge of the men behind these companies or business chains, signage will bring to his mind, modern-day Jobs, Josephs, Nehemiahs, Aquilla and Priscillas! For example, the names of Colgate, Kraft, Heinz, J.C. Penney, R.G. LeTourneau, and products like Coca-Cola (Asa Candler), Mentholatum (Albert Hyde), Quaker Oats (Henry Parsons Crowell), Tropicana (Anthony Rossi), represent companies which were owned by Christian businessmen who invested much in the Christian cause. More recently, men who own or head up companies like Interstate Batteries, Chick-Fil-A, Hobby Lobby, and Pilgrim's Pride, among others, are doing the same for the cause.

J. Frank Norris had an open invitation from many of the owners of major businesses in Fort Worth, to preach the Gospel to their employees, and he often did so – at times including the BBS student body.

Today we still have businessmen and their wives who minister faithfully to God through their church and invest time and money in the cause of missions and the training of preachers for the ministry. We commend such church members and we are grateful for their support of the NBBS through the years. They are part of a grand tradition who have caught the vision and are investing in eternity! – JJS

Are you investing monthly in the NBBS?
norrisseminary.org