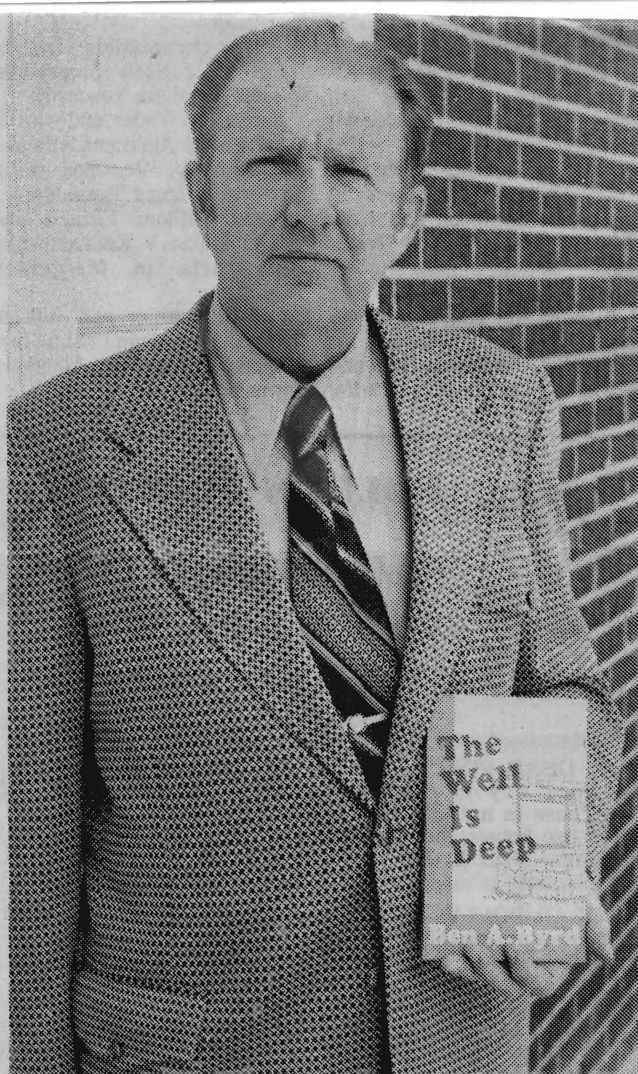


Hildebran 1st 1888 Burke



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Burke Minister Publishes Third Book

Dr. Ben A. Byrd Jr. pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hildebran, on the front steps of his church, holds a copy of his recently published book — "The Well Is Deep." This is the third publication by Dr. Byrd and he is currently working on the manuscript of another commentary. (Staff Photo by Ed Lankford)

It's Series Of Sermons

Book By Hildebran Pastor Off Press

Dr. Ben A. Byrd Jr., pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hildebran, is the author of a new book — "The Well Is Deep" — that is now off the press.

The book includes eight sermons on the subjects of Salvation, Security, Separation, Service, Self-Denial, Second Coming, Spiritual Refreshment, and Support of God's Work.

Pastor Paul Sullivan says in the foreword, "Each message in the book is doctrinally sound, Bible based and Christ centered."

For \$1.50 plus 15 cents postage, the new book can be ordered from the minister at Post Office Box 317, Hildebran. It's short in length and can be read in one sitting, Dr. Byrd said.

He is the author of the commentary "Triumphant Truths

From The Thessalonian Letters" and is looking forward to publishing another commentary on the Book of Galatians in three or four months.

Byrd's youngest son, Timothy, is a radio announcer and disk jockey for station WIRC in Hickory and is presently living with his parents in Hildebran.

The minister said his oldest son, Ben A. Byrd III of Orangeburg, South Carolina, plans to enter the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary at Fort Worth, Texas, in the fall and will soon be coming to the First Baptist Church of Hildebran to serve as supply preacher one Sunday.

1-1-72
Greenville Reflector
Henderson Dispatch
Hendersonville Times-News
Hickory Daily Record
High Point Enterprise
Jacksonville Daily News

Accepts Call



Dr. Ben A. Byrd Jr. (above) is the new pastor of the First Baptist Church in Hildebran. A native of Chattanooga, Tenn., he received his education at Furman University, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and the University of Tennessee. In 1964 he was honored by Florida Bible College with a doctor of divinity degree.

Dr. Byrd has authored several booklets and one commentary and has pastored churches in Georgia, Florida and South Carolina.

He is married to the former Beth Chastain, and they have three children: Ben III, pastor of Concord Baptist Church near Columbia, S. C.; Carole, student at Florida Bible College; and Timothy, radio announcer at WCRS-AM-FM in Greenwood, S. C.

The church welcomes visitors for Sunday services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. and Wednesday services at 7:30 p. m.



Preacher Visits In

By ED LANKFORD
News Herald Staff Writer

"I became a preacher of the gospel because I acquired a firm conviction that God called me to preach, and I became a Baptist because I believe this denomination is closer to the scriptures than any other religious group," said Rev. Ben A. Byrd Jr., pastor of the First Baptist Church in Hildebran, who holds an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Florida Bible College.

Having earned an M.A. in Spanish at the University of Tennessee, Dr. Byrd has traveled to Mexico three times and has preached the teachings of the scriptures to the Mexican peoples of Cuernavaca, in their native tongue, on an evangelistic campaign.

Further travel over the years took Dr. Byrd to such countries as Israel, Greece, Italy, Switzerland, France, England and Spain. As a result of his extensive travels, the minister became convinced that "the free society as we know it in the U.S. is unknown in many of the areas that I have visited. Compared to our country, there is little evangelical work being done because their governments won't allow it.

"In other words, if you wanted to start a church of a particular denomination to preach the gospel, you would not be allowed to because the government wouldn't approve it due to its nonconformity to the religious doctrine of the state."

A firm believer in the Bible as the word of God and thus the truth, Dr. Byrd said "I believe one of the main problems with many of the people in the U.S. is that they don't seem to be able to tie together the freedom we have as individuals with the freedom we have in Christ. Christ said in John 8:32 'Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.' He also said 'I am the way, the truth and the life.' Therefore, when one knows Christ as his savior, he knows the truth and is free from the condemnation and wrathful judgement of God."

"Our free enterprise system is based on the freedom which Christ taught," he continued, "and I believe the greatness of this country in the sense of opportunities and individual freedom, in spite of its many shortcomings, is due to its fundamental union with the Bible."

Dr. Byrd is the author of several booklets and one commentary on the first and second books of Thessalonians entitled

He Sees Freedom In America In Harmony With Christianity

"I believe that the freedom and opportunities we have in our country are mainly due to the fact that our free enterprise system is based on the teachings of Christ and the Bible," said Dr.

Ben A. Byrd who stands in front of the First Baptist Church in Hildebran where he became pastor on Nov. 21, 1971. (Staff photos by Ed Lankford)

the family will receive friends tonight from 7:30 to 9 o'clock. Memorial gifts may be made to South Mountain Institute.

Active pallbearers will be John Hairfield, Walt Oxford, Jimmy Edwards, John Mc-

three years; Troyal Propst, one year.

Horseshow book — Phifer Pearson, three years; W. E. Dale, two years; Marvin Propst, one year.

Welfare — R. L. Pearson, chairman, Bill Digh, Truett Ross, John Walker, Harold Turner, Wayne Turner, Ralph Dale.

Summer recreation program — Jimmy Nantz, chairman, Joe

Education — L. A. Horton, W. Daves, Claude Hoyle, De Leonard.

Industry — Ralph D. chairman, W. E. Dale, Mar Propst.

Home — Raymond Cla chairman, Jack Foster, Tom Garrison, Steril Conley, Fr Burnett, Shirley Prewitt, Art Franklin, Horace Whiten, James Parker, John Denton,

FEAR

Bilingual Evangelist

-Author Mexico

"Triumphant Truths From The Thessalonians Letters."

"This commentary is a verse by verse study of the Thessalonian books in relation to other scriptures so that they can be better understood," he said.

"The major theme of Thessalonians deals with the second coming of Christ from a different aspect in every chapter. My conclusion, as a result of having done this study, is that if one believes in Christ, he need not fear death because of what the Son of God will do when He returns to this earth."

The minister has recently completed writing a book of sermons entitled "Book of Sermons: The Well is Deep," which contains a series of doctrines on salvation, the second coming, salvation and the results of salvation regarding Christian service and self-denial.

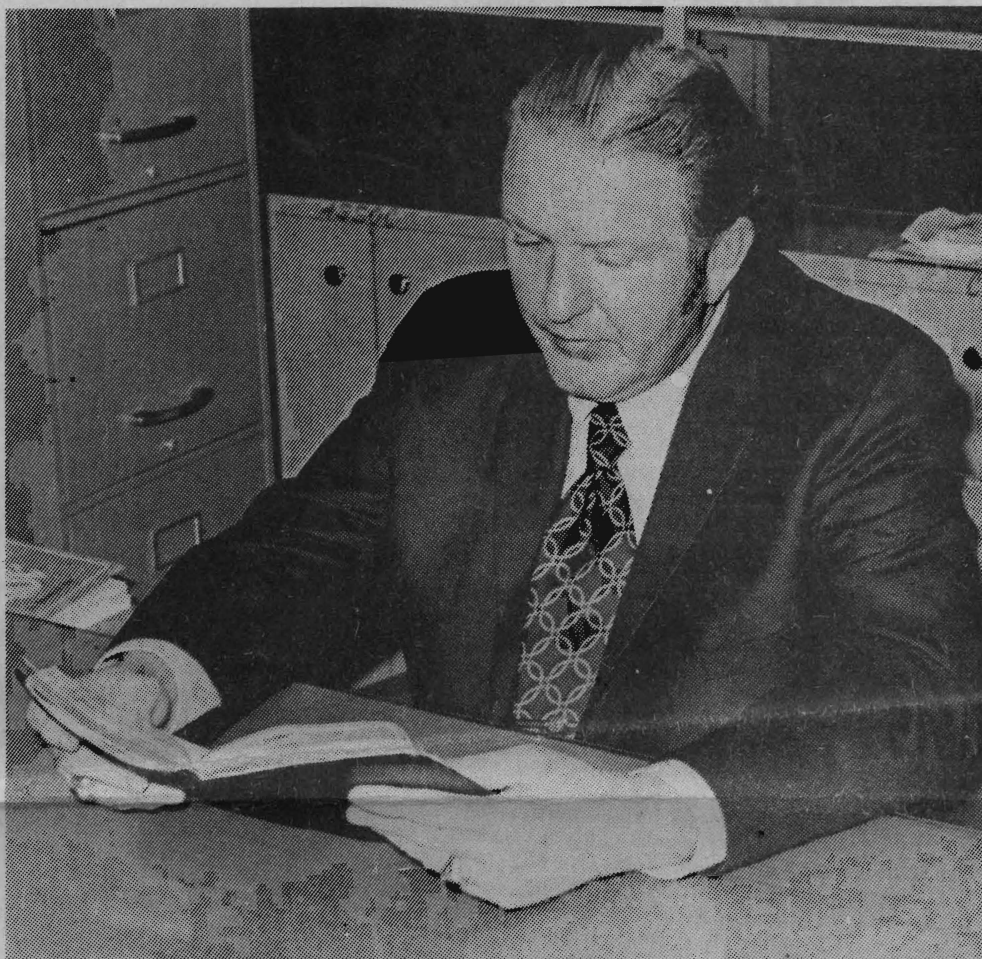
"My purpose in this book, which I hope to get published sometime this year," he explained, "is to put into written form sermons I have used in the church services so that readers might receive a spiritual blessing as many people in church congregations have. My emphasis is that you are not saved by what you do for God, but what He does for you."

One of Dr. Byrd's major interests outside the ministry is woodworking, "which I seldom find time to pursue," he said with a chuckle. "I learned a lot about building the hard way when I assisted in the construction of a small mission church in Chattanooga, Tenn. as a general contractor."

"I've found time to build various pieces of furniture and have done some experimental cabinet making; but I wouldn't recommend my services as a cabinet craftsman yet," he said with a wry smile.

"I've always had an interest in automobiles and would probably have gone into the automobile business as a dealer if I hadn't been called to the ministry."

Asked to comment on one of his most memorable secular experiences, Dr. Byrd replied, "One of the greatest sights I've ever seen on this earth was the beauty of the changing colors on the walls of the Grand Canyon. As the sun makes its apparent,



This Is Starting Point For His Distant Travels . . . And Life

Dr. Byrd reads the Bible in his study at the Hildebran First Baptist Church, and the Word he considers the starting point for his travels to countries throughout the world.

diurnal progression through the day, it's changing angles of light cause the canyon walls to reflect various hues that are so fine and subtle that no camera has been able to capture them. But the human eye can detect the varied blends of light if you stand and look for an extended period of time."

A man who will listen with genuine respect and appreciation to opinions and beliefs of others that are different from his, Dr. Byrd received his formal education at Furman University, the Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Ky. and the University of Tennessee.

A minister for almost 27 years, he has been pastor of several Baptist churches: East Side Baptist in Thomasville, Ga.; Red Bank Baptist in Saluda, S.C.; Ghents and Govan Baptist churches at Denmark, in the lower part of South Carolina; and Foust Baptist Church in his native city of Chattanooga, Tenn.

While in Bamberg, S.C., he taught the books of Thessalonians on a radio

program. He began serving as pastor of the First Baptist church in Hildebran last Nov. 21.

Making future use of his knowledge of Spanish he has taught the language in private academies in South Carolina with the Jefferson Davis Academy being one in particular.

His interest in Spanish also prompted an effort in which Spanish New Testaments were distributed in various Latin American countries with the help of the Bible Society.

Mrs. Byrd is the former Beth

Chastain. They have three children: Ben III, who is pastor of Concord Baptist Church near Columbia, S.C.; Carol, a student at Florida Bible College; and Timothy, a radio announcer at WCRS-AM-FM at Greenwood, S.C.

The open-minded attitude of Dr. Byrd is expressed in the fact that when his son Ben informed him that he wanted to become a minister, he replied, "If there is anything else at all you think you would like to do — do it," in such a manner that his son would feel free to make up his own mind.

