

President's Annual Address Before the 1947 Session  
of the East Carroll Baptist Association

Mr. President, officers members and friends  
of the 39th Annual session of the East  
Carroll Baptist Association.

It is with joy and sincerity that  
I come before you to deliver my first  
message.

In keeping with the theme of the  
program, shall be the bases of my  
message.

May we pause to give honor to those  
leaders of the East Carroll Baptist who  
has laid the foundation for us to build  
upon. We pay special honor to Dr. Owens  
and Rev. Frank Wallace the only two that  
remain alive. They have made history,  
but history is of little value unless it  
inspires one to greater endeavors, or  
serve to guide against the mistakes of  
the past. East Carroll Baptist have a great  
history in mission and education. We  
can but admire the great achievements of  
the old Baptist school, but these things are  
not so much improvement to us now, as  
it is to salvage all the good from the wreck-  
age of the past, and build there on a monu-  
ment able to resist descending rains and  
surging storms of competition.

The little cloud that rose from the sea the size of a man's hand developed into a mighty cloud from which descending rains refreshed a parched earth causing a desert to blossom into a flower garden, and dry soil to clothe itself in a garment of green. Who can tell that some day this 60 acres of land owned by the Baptist maybe a source from which there shall not only an efficient training school of religion but an institution of college level offering a full fledge training in Christian education.

An education that is destined to satisfy human needs is not found alone in the accumulation of facts, nor in the mere acquisition of skill to do things but rather a type of education enriched with the teaching of Jesus and reinforced by the lofty principles for which he lived and died. I believe our ~~or~~ program of Christian education have passed through a period of spiritual indifference, but now we shall enjoy a new birth predicated upon a universal demand of a war torn world. May we now in the twilight

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of a new world's order of Christian revival make our contribution to the great cause of mission and education, in prayer, in service and money.

The voice of duty is calling us not only to support our local work but our state and national as well.

One of the greatest challenges is the fields are white the harvest-time is here; but the labourers are few and not many of us praying the Lord of the vine yard to send more workers into the vineyard. We are not enough concerned about the progress and success of our Lord's work; there the work is lagging because of idleness of the members of the present church. Only occasionally do one meet a churchman and not have to ask him if he is a Christian. Parents are too lax in the bringing up of children. The oldland's marks of morality and religion are far removed. I can count on my fingers the families that carry their children to Sunday school and church, and who can ~~fall~~ truthfully say follow me Christ and Church. In most case the parents are on their way to heaven and the children on their way to hell.

While the world is working together on

one solid united front, in a great united effort in carrying out the program of Satan, the Church is divided against itself into various factions, and in many cases the worst kind of division is found right in the local church. All of this in the face of ~~the~~ sayings of Jesus who said a house divided against itself cannot stand. Many of the men whom God has raised up to be of great service to him and the Church have used their influence to divide God's people into various factions, but if we hope to meet the challenge of the world we must be united in love.

Modern inventions of pleasure offers us a very keen challenge with the use of the automobile the country man and his family have become patronizers of town pleasure, but on the other hand he has not done any thing to improve the condition of his church down on the Bayou. He will pay his transportation to town and for drinks and when prices goes up he will not kick, but when the church ask for more he is ready to quit.

As I close tonight may I say to God's Army; "Soldiers of the Cross, let us as true comrades

join today heart and hand and win the battle for the Lord. As I peeped into the throne room of the revelation I got a glimpse of these startling words: And there was a war in heaven Michael and his ~~angel~~ angels fought against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought and prevailed not, neither was their place found any more in heaven. The great dragon was cast out. That old serpent, called the devil and satan, which deceiveth the <sup>whole</sup> world, was cast out into the earth and his angels with him. And I heard a loud voice saying, now is come salvation and strength, the kingdom of God and the power of Christ. When that revelation is fulfilled in us we shall have victory, real victory and all can join in saying: I Love Thy Kingdom Lord.