

12-1-1961

Harding Bulletin December 1961 (vol. 37, no. 9)

Harding College

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Recommended Citation

Harding College. (1961). Harding Bulletin December 1961 (vol. 37, no. 9). Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/hubulletins/189>

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Report on Fall Lectureship

Expanded Lectureship Sets New Records



Rex Johnston



Otis Gatewood



E. W. McMillan



Cleon Lyles

The 38th Annual Harding College Lectureship, with simultaneous evening lectures in the college auditorium and the College Church auditorium, broke all attendance records with an estimated excess of 5,000 persons attending one or more lectures and more than 3,000 going through the line at the free Thanksgiving barbecue.

Four Evening Lectures

In the college auditorium REX JOHNSTON of George Pepperdine College opened the lectures speaking on the basics of the theme, "Current Challenges And Dangers Facing The Church." He emphasized the fact that challenges and dangers have been before religious people through the many centuries. He used as

his text Deut. 11:26-28 to establish the choice of a blessing or a curse that was before the people—depending on their obedience to God.

He gave numerous positive and negative examples of people being either blessed or cursed on their attitudes toward the Scriptures and emphasized that the same choices exist today.

OTIS GATEWOOD, president of Michigan Christian College, gave the opening lecture in the College Church auditorium on "The Challenge Of Evangelizing The World." He emphasized the difference between challenges and problems and suggested that we should approach each problem as a challenge that is full of opportunities. He criticized the defeat-

ist attitude of so many people who have made things almost impossible because they thought they were impossible. He countered this type of defeatism with examples of things that were accomplished in spite of it. Gatewood also cited the growth of Christianity in Russia in the face of frightening odds against it and mentioned current opportunities in Switzerland.

On Tuesday night E. W. McMILLAN dwelt on the importance of "Christian Attitudes In Meeting The Challenges And Dangers Facing The Church Today." He ridiculed the practice of concentrating on symptoms instead of the real diseases and developed four points upon which he heaped severe criticism:

1. Inability on the part of Christian people to develop a balance between faith and reason.
2. Substitution of the material and mechanical for the spiritual.
3. Substitution of "churchianity" for Christianity.
4. Tendency to develop mental, physical and financial giants instead of striving for spiritual maturity.

One by one, with disarming accuracy, McMillan covered these points amid several interruptions of resounding "amen's."

He concluded with an observation that spiritual maturity is a must for church leadership. "Courses in Bible study," he said, "should deal with faith as a living dynamic and not as a theological element. Christianity is a life to be lived and not a set of rules."

Marshall Keeble, who was scheduled for lectures Thursday afternoon and evening, was not able to get permission from his doctor to come, so E. W. McMillan filled in on both occasions on his own chosen subject of "The Call To Gratitude."

He established the point that everything good that comes our way is a gift of God and that we should be eternally grateful to him. He stressed the importance of understanding our blessings so we can develop the proper degree of gratitude. Among the things which he expressed thanks for was the blessing of Christian education. Also, he did not fail to offer thanks for hardships as he said, "Great character is forged in the furnace of suffering—intense pain."

On Thursday night in the College church auditorium CLEON LYLES spoke on "The Challenge Of Meeting Religious Error In Spirit And Truth" and built on the idea that the challenge of correcting error is an important part of the work of God's children, for we have been charged to do so. This charge comes to us even through examples, for Jesus corrected error as much as he preached new beliefs. Many of the apostles' epistles were writ-



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Searcy, Ark., December, 1961

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Head of Math Department, Charles G. Pitner, Dies at 48

Charles G. Pitner, professor of mathematics and chairman of the department, died December 7 in a local hospital following a heart attack. He was born April 18, 1913, in Bells, Tenn.

A graduate of the class of 1937, which produced so many of Harding's present faculty, Mr. Pitner attended George Peabody College in Nashville, where he attained the Master's degree.

He returned to Harding College in 1950 as professor of mathematics and became chairman of the Department of Mathematics in 1952. Previously, he had taught in Ashland City, Tenn., 1939-43, and served as principal of Grove High School in Paris, Tenn., 1943-50.

Mr. Pitner was also an active minister of the gospel, having served several congregations in the state. He had been preaching for the Pangburn Church of Christ recently. Also active in the Searcy Lions Club, which he served as treasurer, he had received an eight-year perfect attendance award from the club two days before his death.

Mr. Pitner was honored last spring when the senior class dedicated the Petit Jean yearbook to him.

He is survived by his wife, the former Mary Neal, his daughter, Martha, his father, Otho, and his sister, Louise Pitner.

Charles G. Pitner



ten for that purpose, too. But in learning from their examples, we must see that they did not correct error with error. They corrected it with the example of their life, prompted by loving concern for others and words and deeds free from profane babblings and quarrelings. Also, they were gentle and they were meek, and we must develop these qualities also if we are to effectively correct error in spirit and truth.

Fourteen Daily Classes

Continually growing in popularity among Harding Lecture-ship features are the daily classes for training in Christian service. This year's classes dealt with Bible studies, responsibilities and opportunities of the local church and preparation and methods.

Jack Lewis presented Bible evidences through archeology and James Zink, Jimmy Allen and Leslie Burke gave textual analyses of Job, Romans and Hebrews.

Numa Crowder taught on **The Local Church In The Mission Field**. Dale Hulett on **Adults At Work In The Local Church**, and Richard Salmon on **The Use And Development Of A Visitation Program**.

In the field of preparation and methods Kenneth Davis, Jr., dealt with **Improvement In Congregational Singing**, Harvie Pruett covered **Planning An Educational Program**. Don Sime presented lessons on **Planning And Conducting A Vacation Bible School**. Mrs. Don Sime, Mrs. T. B. Underwood and E. G. Sewell developed the **Proper Use Of Visual materials**.

Mrs. Theo Kail taught a large, packed classroom on **The Christian Woman In The Home**.

Daytime Lectures

BURTON COFFMAN: "Challenges Which The Church Of The First Century Faced"

The church of the first century faced seven basic challenges: 1) the challenge of sin in the hearts of its members; 2) the challenge of a new concept of a universal perpetual religion; 3) the challenge of the established order of human government; 4) the intellectual challenges; 5) the challenge of a corrupt and depraved society; 6) the challenge of ecclesiasticism; and 7) the challenge of commercialism in some of its most unsavory aspects.

LEON C. BURNS: "Dangers Which Confronted The First Century Church"

By their very nature, these dangers face the church in every century, and can be divided into two classifications—those from within and those from without. Those from without included the condition of the Jewish world during the first century and the effect of the Greek and Roman philosophy. Those arising within the church are many but can be centered around only one—a lack of respect for apostolic authority and teaching.

JAMES D. BALES: "Christianity and Communism"

Communism presents a real challenge to Christianity that can easily be seen in its denial of God and its attack on religion. We recognize this through their teachings that 1) communism is antagonistic to faith in any supreme being; 2) it is a totalitarian system which demands the undivided loyalty of its subjects; 3) it is a scientific world view; 4) it is the tool of the ruling class and an opiate of the masses; 5) religion is a symbol of man's alienation from himself; 6) there is no moral law, therefore anything is right if it serves the interest of the class; and 7) one must be ruthless, must hate and must destroy all class enemies.

JAMES M. TOLLE: "Christianity And Western Materialism"

There are many environmental factors which present dangers to Christians and to the church which Christians must recognize with a realistic attitude and face with a positive determination to overcome. These include increased secularism, the threat of annihilation with the atomic age, a degeneration from moral values and a scientific materialism taught through our public education. But Christians must accept these factors not as detriments to the work but as challenges to greater faithfulness and service in the kingdom.

DALE LARSEN: "Christianity And The Scientific Age"

Advances in the past 50 years in the fields of science have provided Christians with two obstacles—secularism and statism, but these may be overcome. We must teach people in order to bring them to the knowledge of the truth. Christian education—in the home, in the congregation and in the school—is the formula. Once educated in the truth, Christians must plan to keep up with this jet-age world for we have within our grasp the means to more, mightier and quicker growth than ever before in the history of the church.

JIM BILL McINTEER: "Dangers And Challenges To Elders And Deacons"

Elders and deacons have responsibilities in three major areas: the preacher, organization and tradition. These can send the local congregation to "pot" or to the top. We can demand too much of the preacher, fail to have our work organized and we can adhere to tradition to the point of being ridiculous. But if we are guided by God's power and word in each of these matters our utilization of each of these spheres will ultimately mean success.

EMMETT SMITH: "The Challenge Of Christian Stewardship"

Christian stewardship must first come with the realization that God owns us and everything that we have. Once this is accomplished we must believe that God, as owner of all things, will give the increase if we will but sow bountifully of all the



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means available to us. Once we acquire the art of using all that we have to fulfill our one great responsibility to God we will have acquired the art of good Christian stewardship.

CAMPBELL PULLIAS: "The Challenge Of Preaching The Gospel"

Mr. Pullias stressed the importance of the preacher, standing for his convictions and having the proper attitude in all things.

IRA NORTH: "The Challenge Of Our Youth To Christian Service"

Mr. Enthusiasm, himself, emphasized the need for thinking big and acting bold; in short, he issued a dramatic plea for more confidence—the kind that is contagious through both words and deeds.

JOHN C. STEVENS: "Conserving Our Youth For Christian Service"

There are several suggestions we can make to help us do a better job in this area: 1) don't forget the characteristics of youth as you grow older; 2) strengthen the influence of your home primarily with good intellectual material and high cultural standards; 3) develop more effectively the habit of work; 4) saturate yourselves with history; 5) recognize that true spirituality can never be developed without honesty, integrity and dependability; and 6) take another look at what you are doing for Christian education. We are already doing a fairly good job in these areas, but we would do well to emulate the slogan of Thomas A. Edison: "There's a way to do it better—find it!"

JAY SMITH: "The Challenge Of Bible Chairs"

There is a great struggle going on in this age—the struggle for men's minds. And the Bible chair is one of the most effective ways of meeting it. The Bible chair does to a great extent for students in state schools what Christian education does in Christian schools. It overcomes the spiritual sterility of the college campus and balances the curriculum. It also affords specific opportunity to work with our own young people—to save them from indifference and drifting. The Bible chair is one of the greatest challenges facing the brotherhood today and it is one that has barely been recognized thus far and must be met.

PERRY S. MASON: "The Challenge Of Christian Elementary Schools"

Because the early years are the impressionable years, it is a great advantage to both parents and children for young people to begin their schooling in a Christian elementary school. This is so because in such an institution children reap benefits from Christian teachers who stress the spiritual along with the secular and from Christian associates who do not corrupt good morals and from Christian discipline that is both positive and negative. Because in public schools the philosophy of secularism creates an environment which encourages worldliness, glamorizes

sin, and makes one unpopular who does not participate, and because the exalting of human knowledge by the world rejects the Bible as a revelation from God, Christian elementary education places the Bible as the hub of the curriculum.

W. B. WEST, JR.: "The Challenge Of Bible Schools In Foreign Lands"

Pointed to the progress of the past, the challenges of the present and the vast opportunities of the future in spreading Christian education in other parts of the world.

CHARLES COIL: "Seeking The Lost At Home"

We must begin at the cross by preaching the cross. Once we realize the challenge—and with it comes the greatest opportunities ever in America—we must prepare a program to meet it. This program may well be three-fold: 1) making the contact; 2) following up on the contact; and 3) reaping the harvest. We need workers—more workers—to carry out the program. They must know God's word; they must be filled with enthusiasm and they must possess staying power. Then with the cross as our banner and Christ as our king, our eyes can turn to the home fields and we can reap with a will.

BRAD BRUMLEY: "Seeking The Lost By Mass Communications"

Never in the history of mankind has the church had a greater challenge to carry out with the great commission, and this is due to the many possibilities that are available to us through mass communications. With these means, we can teach every creature on the globe—if we just will—and there are four primary ways of doing that: 1) newspapers and magazines; 2) radio; 3) television; and 4) highway billboards. The majority of us think we realize the great possibilities in these realms of communications. But the possibilities are greater than we suppose. And we must take advantage of them in spreading the gospel throughout the world.

GEORGE S. BENSON: "Christ, The Hope Of The World"

Without hope, life is meaningless and paralyzed of action, for hope motivates us and sustains us. God realizes this. Two thousand years ago he gave to us Jesus Christ, the hope that the world had been looking toward since its very foundation. With Jesus as the foundation, our hope is focused on life everlasting. But more than being the hope of the world, Christ is the light that enables us to see that hope. Once we have seen it and once we possess it, we must take it to others who have no hope as a result of never having heard of Jesus Christ. Even those who have no hope do have an eternal spirit—as do we—and we must take them this hope that will save their spirit from hell.

CLIFTON L. GANUS, JR.: "Christian Stewardship In Christian Education"

By the power of His will God brought this world into existence and filled it with all the necessities and luxuries in the life of man. He made man His steward and charged him to subdue the earth. What a wonderful privilege it is to share with God the blessings and responsibilities that He has given man. As Christians we must be faithful in His generosity and trust. We must utilize the resources God has placed in our hands for the salvation of mankind.

One of the most fruitful efforts among God's people is Christian education—the training for growth in body, mind and soul. From it has come thousands of preachers, missionaries and many thousands more of faithful teachers, businessmen and housewives. With their prayers, their moral support and God's treasure, Christians must support Christian education.

CONARD HAYS: "The Challenge Of The Chaplaincy"

One of the greatest challenges confronting Christian men today—and one that we are meeting very slowly—is that of putting men in the armed services as chaplains. Due to the fact that a chaplain has no restrictions on his teaching, since he is, in fact, expected to carry out his particular creeds and customs in his services, Christian chaplains could sow the seed to a field white with harvest. There are very few Christian chaplains because very few Christian men have the BA and 90 hours of advanced graduate work in religion or related fields that are required to qualify. We don't come near filling the quota the government has set for us. Are we less willing to sacrifice, study and work to qualify to represent the truth as chaplains than Jewish rabbis, Catholic priests and Protestant preachers are to

preach error? This is a tremendous challenge!

JIMMY ALLEN: "The Challenge Of Cooperative Evangelism"

Used texts of Acts 11:22-26 and Acts 15:22-35 to show practice and spiritual authorization of cooperative evangelism, covering the question from both positive and negative angles.

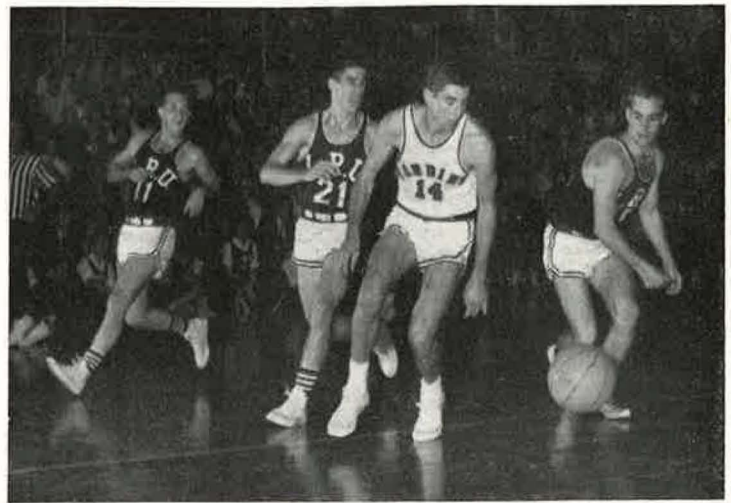
**1962 Fall Theme
'Authority of the Holy Scriptures'**

Basic plans are already completed for the 39th Annual Harding College Lectureship next year. The central theme for the lectures, panels, discussions and classes is "The Authority of the Holy Scriptures."

The Lectureship is again set for Thanksgiving week with simultaneous evening programs in both the College auditorium and the College Church of Christ auditorium. Each evening lecture will be presented on alternate nights in both locations in order to accommodate more listeners.

On Monday and Tuesday evenings at these locations lectures will alternate on two basics of the theme, "The Authority of the Holy Scriptures: A Statement and Definition" and "The Holy Scriptures are Inspired of God." On Wednesday and Thursday evenings the companion two-location lectures will be "The Infallibility of the Holy Scriptures" and "The Living Word for Living Men."

Daytime lectures will include "Contemporary Views on Authority," "General and Special Revelation," "Verbal and Plenary Inspiration," "The Canon of the New Testament," "The Canon of the Old Testament" and "Pre-



A Bit of Fast Action in the Bison Opener.

Visitors Watch Bisons Win

Harding's Bisons treated over 2000 persons to a 56-46 victory over Little Rock University to open the 1961-62 basketball season in Rhodes Memorial Field House Thanksgiving Day.

Lectureship guests saw the Bisons take the lead to stay with about five minutes gone in the

game. Freshman Fred Atchison hit two free shots with seven minutes left in the game to give the Bisons their top lead of the night, 51-32. Larry Brakefield led the Bisons with 16 points, and Vernon Rogers made 15.

David Simpson almost couldn't miss against Bethel College of McKenzie, Tenn., Nov. 25 in the field house, hitting 33 points, 21 in the second half. The 6'2" junior brought the Bisons from behind for a 72-63 win.

Unpleasant moments were ahead for Harding, though, on the three-game road trip. The Bisons ran into suprisingly aggressive basketball, which is not seen in the AIC, and suffered three straight losses.

The Bisons also fell to Ouachita Baptist College, 68-66, in the conference opener for both teams, but rebounded over Hendrix College at Conway, 51-40. Harding has 17 games to play.

presenting the Bible to a Non-Believing World."

A special series on evidences will include "Archeological Evidence for Authority of the Holy Scriptures," "Evidences from Science for Authority of the Holy Scriptures," and "Rational Evidences for Authority of the Holy Scriptures."

Other popular Lectureship features such as afternoon classes, music by Harding talent, free Thanksgiving noon barbecue and special group dinners are also included in the plans.



Possible May Queens—19 of them—are caught in a formal pose on the day they paraded before the student body prior to the vote to determine which three of them will compete in the final election at a later date. The one final winner will rule as Queen of May on May 1.

BULLETIN ---- Harding College

Vol. 37

Searcy, Ark., December, 1961

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SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SEARCY, ARKANSAS. PUBLISHED TWICE MONTHLY BY HARDING COLLEGE IN JULY, SEPTEMBER, NOVEMBER, JANUARY, MARCH, MAY; MONTHLY IN REMAINING MONTHS.

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52895 Brenton Drive
Rochester, Michigan