

secular man believes that even social convulsions of our time signs that both humanity and deity are coming of age. Just as he sees worldwide triumphs of reconciliation in which all distinctions of class, race, or standing will be eliminated on a global scale.

The Christian knows that the age of a brave new world projected by his secular counterpart is only a shadow of reality. The city itself will remain forever as long as man is alienated from God.

But where secular man is deluded by his own self-sufficiency, the church is "gripped by uncertainty, as new interpretations of the gospel compete with frankly new theologies for preeminence in the Christian church."

And too often, many people feel the institution called church has lost, if anything, constructive to the revolution of the age."

The National Association of Evangelicals feels the Church's failure to reach secular man may be twofold.

"Perhaps modern secular man is unable to recognize the gospel as good news that it really is

perhaps we who name the Name of Jesus Christ have not presented Him as Lord of the atom as well as Lord of the loaves and fishes."

What can be done? "Christians are a people with a commission and a message. These are given and they are eternal. But while the commission and the message remain changeless, the circumstances of the testimony and the conditions of witness may change. This is to say that the Church may often be called on to adjust.... While they are not of the world, Christians live out their lives in the world, and therefore it is in the world that they make their witness. For them to remain aloof from concrete decisions affecting social developments in our time would be to suggest that they do not believe God is sovereign in all the affairs of men. For them to withhold their love in any measure from those in need would be to suggest that they do not believe God is love."

"The Christian witness, then, is that of a whole gospel for the whole man to the whole world, by the whole people of God."

"The church's ministry in the

reconciling men first to God through the gospel by the work of the Holy Spirit, and to one another according to the precepts of the written Word."

"If she is faithful to her task, the people of God must sacrifice; many may suffer; some may die. But the victory most surely will be Christ's."

Resolution Calls for Social Action

Repeatedly the delegates said they believed the Christian church should have more to offer America in its present crisis than merely goods and services. But they also affirmed the need for accompanying social action "as we express our concern for the welfare of the soul."

"As evangelicals," said the resolution adopted by the delegates, "we labor to win men, not merely to move them. We are called to accomplish our objectives not by coercion but by conversion."

Entitled "The Crisis in the Nation," the resolution was only one of several adopted by the convention.

Taking notice that both secular and religious agencies have launched "crash programs" to give

from generally affluent society, the paper reminded that "whatever the immediate characteristics or dimensions of the latest... upheaval, the basic mission of the church of Jesus Christ remains unchanged by them."

This does not mean that evangelicals are interested in the soul only, insisted the delegates. "As followers of a compassionate Christ we would be compassionate also," they affirmed. But "it is not in clashes and confrontations that we manifest God to the world. It is rather in demonstrations of the power of the Holy Spirit to change lives."

A second resolution on "Law and Order" deplored the theory held by some "that the necessities of justice in some fashion stand above the requirements of law and order."

The resolution declared that "in numerous instances civil and religious leaders have shown themselves seemingly more concerned for the criminal than for the victims of his crimes." It placed NAE "squarely behind those courts and law enforcement agencies that labor to enforce the law firmly and fairly at every level."

W HAVEN, MO.—The Assembly of God here was lifted up spiritually in a recent meeting with evangelist Ruth E. Reece of Mt. Vernon, Mo.

One person was reclaimed, two were refilled with the Spirit, and three were baptized in water. Several others were healed.

—Martha Duvall, pastor

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W THORNE, CALIF.—Del Aire Assembly here enjoyed a fruitful four-week meeting entirely with Evangelist Philip Green of Tampa, Fla.

Attendance was good. The number present each night was equivalent to the church membership plus half the Sunday school.

The Holy Spirit continues to

move in the services. Conviction of sin is very strong. Some persons were saved during a song service.

Members of the congregation have committed themselves to a Bible-reading program.

—Donald E. Bibler, pastor

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B ROWNVILLE, TENN.—First Assembly here rejoices over the results of a recent meeting with Billy Elder, pastor of Conner Assembly in nearby Ripley, Tenn., as evangelist.

In all, 12 were either saved or reclaimed, 17 were baptized in the Holy Spirit, and several were refilled with the Spirit.

The services were well attended each night, especially by visitors

from other denominations who kept coming back nightly. A Christ's Ambassadors rally was held at the church during the meeting with 350 attending.

—Bob Willis, pastor

WITH CHRIST

WALLACE S. BRAGG, 67, of Spokane, Wash., a former assistant superintendent and general presbyter for the Eastern District, went to be forever with the Lord



on March 31, 1968, following an illness of several months.

Brother Bragg, a graduate of Central Bible College, was an Assemblies of God minister for 39 years. He served

as an evangelist as well as a pastor. In Oklahoma he was pastor at Muskogee, Wellston, and Asher. He served as Oklahoma district Christ's Ambassadors president and later as district secretary-treasurer. He was pastor of Highway Tabernacle in Philadelphia, Pa., for 11 years (1943-54) and of First Assembly in Spokane, Wash., four years (1955-59).

Survivors include his wife Edith, one son, W. Stanley Bragg Jr. who is minister of youth and music at First Assembly, Phoenix, Ariz., four daughters, and nine grandchildren. Two daughters are

married to ministers: Edith is the wife of Paul J. Johnson, Bakersfield, Calif., and Barbara is the wife of George Smith, a pastor in Rochester, N.Y.

ANNOUNCEMENT

HOMECOMING AND 35TH ANNIVERSARY—Aug. 9-11 at First Assembly, Huron, S. Dak. A. E. North, guest speaker. All former pastors, members, and friends invited.—by Howard Cummings, pastor.



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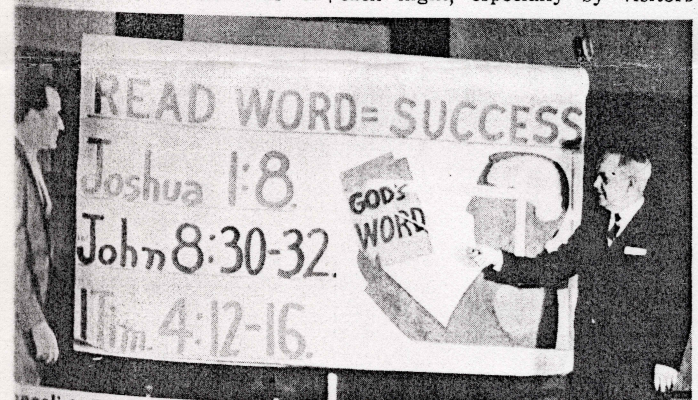
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Evangelist Philip Green (right) explains one of the charts he used during the meetings at the Del Aire Assembly in Hawthorne, Calif. Pastor Donald E. Bibler is at the left.