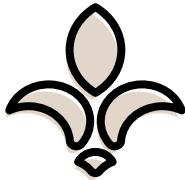
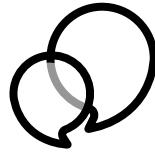


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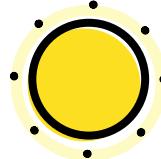
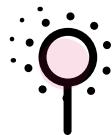
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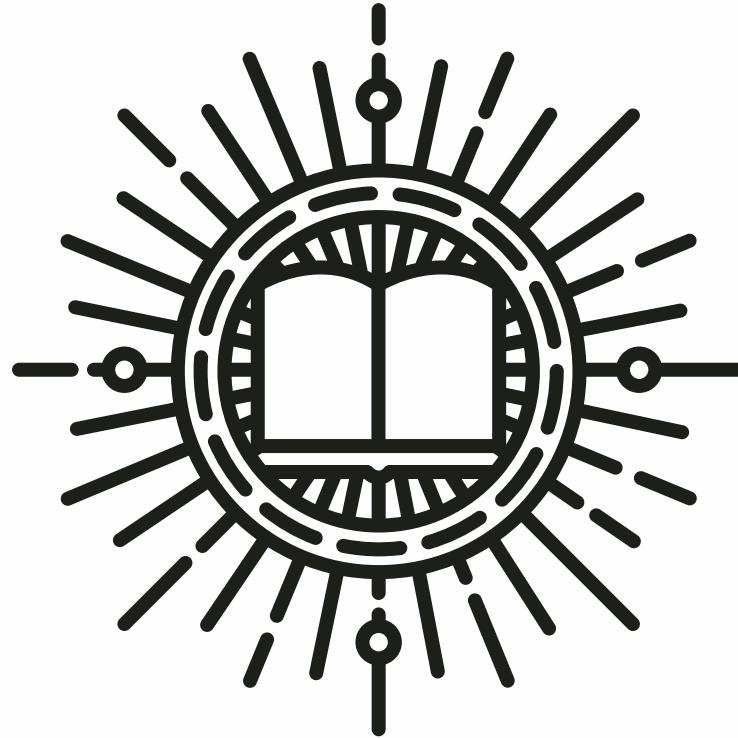
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PREVIEW



R. ALBERT MOHLER JR. | RUSSELL MOORE | GREGORY THORBURY | DAN DEWITT



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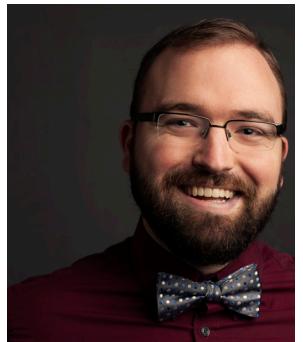
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13

A to Z Spring Review

From the 1937 Project to T4G, our spring preview will help you plan out your semester.



FROM THE EDITOR

“Hello, it’s me.”

Who knew a line as simple as that could become a cultural obsession? When I’m not enjoying Adele’s mega

hit, I have over the past year channeled her frustration, wondering if anyone can hear me in an age where so few intentionally read (the fact you may be the only person who reads this short column illustrates my point).

Over the Christmas break, I spent as little time possible crafting the best editor’s note ever and instead spent my vacation at the lake and the beach, enjoying the warm weather by burying myself in a few novels.

The rest from work and school reminded me of the

pleasure of reading stories, immersed so deeply in a world not your own that you’re unaware the person next to you spoiled the plot of *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*. As classes ramp up this month, I encourage you not only to take advantage of opportunities on or around campus but also to carve out free time to read a great novel or two. And if you need a recommendation, I’ll be happy to say hello.

04

Southern celebrates winter commencement

SBTS awarded degrees to 230 graduates in December and reminded them of the need for courage and faithfulness.

10

Sills discusses changes in worldwide missions

SBTS missions professor M. David Sills points out what has changed about global missions ... and what hasn’t.

20

Oxford-approved thinking

Jonathan Arnold studied at Oxford and wants to bring the same rigorous, disciplined spirit to Boyce.

23

Godly governance

Newly elected Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin is not the first governor with ties to Southern Seminary.

28

3 Questions with Michael F. Bird

The New Testament scholar weighs in on Ph.D. work, reading the Gospels, and Kylo Ren.

Our mission is to use our time, resources, and talents to tell the Southern story in an accurate, timely, and creative manner to the glory of God.

Newslog

God calls ministers to preach despite tribulation, Mohler says at winter commencement

By Andrew J.W. Smith

God sends ministers into a troubled world with the confidence of the gospel, said Southern Seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr. in his Dec. 11 winter commencement address to 230 master's and doctoral graduates.

"We send out this company of gospel ministers into a world filled with horrifying headlines and intractable problems," he said. "It is also a world that our Lord Christ describes as white unto harvest. He told us to pray for workers for the harvest, and here they are."

Using Luke 2:22-35 as his text, Mohler pointed to the temple dedication of the young Jesus, whom Simeon said was "appointed for the rising and falling of many in Israel." Despite threats like the Islamic State presenting obstacles against the gospel of Christ, the Lord himself sits on the throne and rules over empires from the Roman Empire to the Soviet Union, Mohler said.

The seminary carries the great responsibility of training ministers to preach the gospel faithfully and tirelessly, Mohler said, and the graduates and their ministries "will be indelibly marked" by their time spent at Southern.

Also at graduation, Mohler presented the Josephine S. and James L. Baggott Outstanding Graduate Award to Garrett J. Milner, a Master of Divinity graduate from Houston, Texas.

A manuscript of Mohler's address, "For the Fall and Rising of Many in Israel," is available at albertmohler.com.



Southern Seminary leaders participate in inauguration events for Kentucky Governor Bevin

By S. Craig Sanders

Southern Seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr. and preaching professor Hershael York were among the 11-member clergy for Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin's Dec. 8 inauguration.

Delivering the invocation, Mohler asked God for "daily guidance and protection upon our new Governor Matt Bevin, and upon our first lady Glenna Bevin, and upon their beautiful family."

"We come before you in a time in which we are reminded anew by the headlines of the necessity of our coming before you in prayer and we begin with a prayer for divine protection over this nation, the United States of America, and over the Commonwealth of Kentucky," Mohler said. "We pray that in this land there will be a cherishing of the liberties you have given us because you have made every single human being in your image."

In his first public address as governor, Bevin focused less on policy and instead challenged Kentuckians to embrace the Golden Rule and practice unity. Bevin, who in 2012 endowed the seminary's Bevin Center for Missions Mobilization, urged constituents to "treat our Commonwealth with respect" and to "go the extra mile" in serving other people.

Bevin's evangelical convictions were made even clearer earlier in the morning with the worship service at the Frankfort Convention Center. York, senior pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church in Frankfort, offered the welcoming remarks at the service, saying Bevin is "the governor of people of all faiths, or no faith, but he is unquestionably, openly, confessionally a man of deep faith, specifically a faith in Jesus Christ."

Star Wars book written by TPJ re-released in conjunction with film

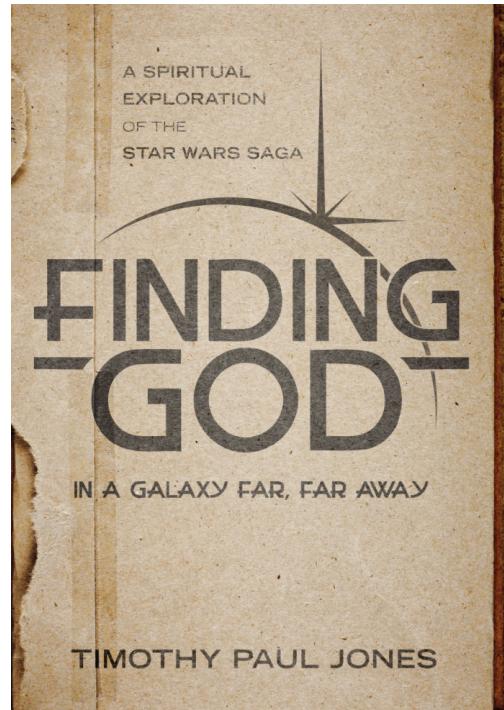
By Andrew J.W. Smith

When the record-shattering *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* opened in theaters Dec. 18, Waterbrook Multnomah re-released SBTS professor Timothy Paul Jones' book *Finding God in a Galaxy Far, Far Away*.

The book, originally published in 2003, features a redesigned layout and a new cover. Jones said the book begins by exploring the awe *Star Wars* inspires and ends pointing to the gospel as the "consummate fulfillment" of that awe.

"At the heart of George Lucas' space opera is a world that is full of wonders," he said in an interview. "In a world that is glutted with glitz, gorged with superficial pleasures, and yet starving for authentic awe, sagas of this sort stimulate the imagination anew. These stories seize the space in every human soul that still longs to see exceptional beauty and power even in the most improbable places."

The seventh installment of the Disney-owned franchise surpassed *Avatar* as the highest-grossing film in U.S. history. Jones' book is available for purchase for \$13.99 in the LifeWay Campus Store.



Robert Jones to join SBTS faculty as biblical counseling professor

By Andrew J.W. Smith

Southern Seminary has appointed Robert D. Jones as associate professor of biblical counseling, effective June 1. Jones joins the SBTS faculty after serving as a biblical counseling professor for 11 years at Southeastern Seminary.

"Dr. Robert Jones is one of the leading figures in the biblical counseling movement," said SBTS President R. Albert Mohler Jr. "He combines scholarship and biblical fidelity with clear theological vision and a tremendous ability to translate biblical principles into the lives of others."

Jones earned a D.Theol. in Systematic Theology from the University of South Africa in 2015 and a D.Min. in Pastoral Counseling at Westminster

Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Jones has also served since 2006 as an elder and pastor of biblical counseling at Open Door Church in Raleigh, North Carolina, and for 19 years prior as lead pastor of Grace Fellowship Church in Hurricane, West Virginia. Jones and his wife, Lauren, have been married for 32 years and have two adult sons.

"All around us, people struggle with countless personal and relational problems for which Jesus and his Word provide answers," Jones said. "I look forward to equipping Southern's students to bring Christ's help and hope in wise, compassionate ways to those within and outside of the church."



Pastoral counseling demonstrated at Southern Seminary's Alumni Academy

By Andrew J.W. Smith

Two leading biblical counselors role-played a typical counseling session, teaching a full room of pastors by example during the Jan. 7-8 Winter Alumni Academy at Southern Seminary.

Jeremy Pierre, associate professor of biblical counseling and dean of students at Southern, and Deepak Reju, pastor of biblical counseling and family ministry at Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., led all 10 sessions of the Alumni Academy. The theme of the event was based upon their co-authored 2015 book, *The Pastor and Counseling: The Basics of Shepherding Members in Need*.

With Reju playing the counselor and Pierre the counselee, the live demonstration was the application of lessons the pair taught throughout the two-day event. Face-to-face counseling is the place where ministers of God's Word apply biblical wisdom and encouragement during church members' most pressing troubles, said Reju, who also wrote *On Guard: Preventing and Responding to Child Abuse at Church and Preparing for Fatherhood*.

"In the midst of the mess, we can't lose sight of the privilege of caring for God's flock," he said.

Pierre said pastors should first listen attentively to the presenting problem, then consider how the human heart responds to various involved factors. "As pastors, you need to be heart specialists," he said.

The academy also featured an open Q&A and a live panel with Pierre and Reju, along with Robert Cheong, pastor of global care at Sojourn Community Church in Louisville, and Brian Croft, senior pastor of Auburndale Baptist Church in Louisville and senior fellow of the Mathena Center for Church Revitalization.

Alumni Academy provides free ongoing instruction for alumni and prospective students of Southern Seminary. To learn more about the program, visit events.sbts.edu.



Ibrahim leads charge against ‘dangerous’ missions book

By S. Craig Sanders

Calling its views “theologically dangerous,” eight Southern Baptist missiologists published a lengthy rejoinder Jan. 5 to a recent book advocating the controversial “Insider Movements.” The book’s authors claim converts to Christianity can continue identifying with their previous religious community while following Jesus.

Ayman S. Ibrahim, Bill and Connie Jenkins Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies at Southern Seminary, coordinated the project with Southeastern Seminary professor Ant Greenham to reject the various views

presented in *Understanding Insider Movements: Disciples of Jesus within Diverse Religious Communities*, edited by (pen names) Harley Talman and John Jay Travis. Contributors to the response also included David A. Bosch, associate professor and program coordinator of the Business Administration program at Boyce College.

Ibrahim, who serves as senior fellow for the seminary’s Jenkins Center for the Christian Understanding of Islam, argues the Insider Movements are “theologically dangerous and missiologically incorrect,” particularly as they

relate to evangelization efforts of Muslims. Playing off the foundational doctrines of Islam, Ibrahim writes that the Insider Movements adhere to “five pillars”: recognizing Muhammad as a prophet of some sort in the biblical sense, preserving a Muslim identity for Christian converts, valuing the Quran as scripture for instructing converts, replacing biblical terms with a Muslim vocabulary, and preferring “only Jesus” over church and Christianity.

The eight-part post is available online at jenkins.sbts.edu.

SBC entities: Obamacare mandate violates religious liberty

By Tom Strobe

The Obama administration’s abortion/contraception mandate forces Christians to violate either their religious beliefs or the government’s rules, Southern Baptist entities have told the U.S. Supreme Court. The abortion/contraception mandate requires employers to provide contraceptives, drugs, and devices for their workers that can potentially cause abortions.

In a friend-of-the-court brief filed Jan. 11, the ERLC, the IMB, and Southern Seminary — including President R. Albert Mohler Jr. — urged the high court to rule the controversial, federal regulation infringes

religious freedom.

In their brief, the SBC entities and Mohler say Christian and Southern Baptist doctrine teach it is a sin to support directly or indirectly the killing of an unborn child through abortion.

“Our great hope is that the Supreme Court will honor religious liberty and uphold the right of Christians and Christian institutions to be consistently pro-life. The stakes in this case are very high indeed,” Mohler said.

The case, ERLC President Russell Moore said, will be “pivotal in maintaining soul freedom for all people.”

“The Obama administration has repeatedly, and without ceasing, overstepped the bounds of the state in binding consciences, forcing people to do what they believe to be sin,” Moore said in a written release. “If the government can do this, then the government can do anything.”

The abortion/contraception mandate violates the U.S. Constitution’s First Amendment and the 1993 Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), according to the brief. The Supreme Court has agreed to rule on whether the mandate violates RFRA, and is expected to issue its opinion before its term ends, which normally is in late June.

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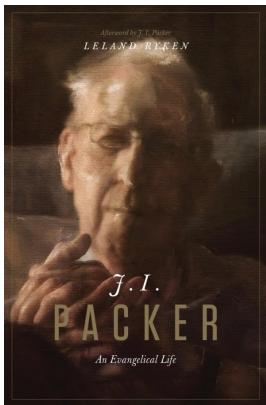
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Book Reviews



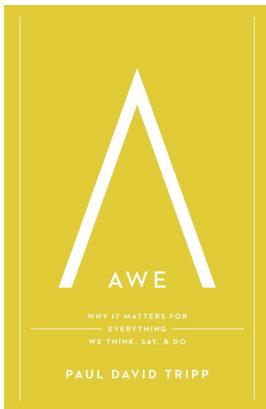
(Crossway 2015, \$30)

J.I. Packer: An Evangelical Life

Leland Ryken Review by Sean W. Corser

In the 415 pages that comprise *J.I. Packer: An Evangelical Life*, literature professor Leland Ryken sheds light on the life seen less often of the modern Puritan James Innell Packer, who is best known for his writings *Knowing God* and *Evangelism & The Sovereignty of God*. This biography, like the life and character of Packer, is not disconnected or cold but rather warm and pleasant.

In having the benefit of knowing Packer personally, Ryken gives flesh to the remarkable themes and experiences which were formative during Packer's life. A man marked by the sovereignty and providence of God, with deep connections to formal theological education, Packer is a man every budding seminarian should be familiar with, and in *J.I. Packer* Ryken provides the best access possible, even writing that he wants his readers "to feel that they know J.I. Packer."



(Crossway 2015, \$19.99)

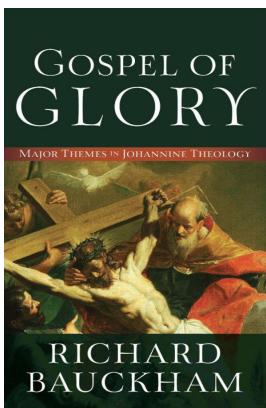
Awe: Why It Matters for Everything We Think, Say, & Do

Paul David Tripp Review by Annie Corser

Acclaimed biblical counselor and author Paul David Tripp says his main purpose for writing his new book *Awe: Why It Matters for Everything We Think, Say, & Do* is to remind himself of his personal need to live with a proper perspective and awe of God.

"Every awesome thing in creation is designed to point you to the One who alone is worthy of capturing and controlling the awe of your searching and hungry heart," Tripp writes.

Filled with multiple vignettes, each chapter takes a personal approach to describe ministry, complaint, materialism, church, parenting, and work in relation to the awe of God. Tripp's pastoral tone pulls the reader into the book by allowing them to identify with each story, revealing how Christians have traded amazement and awe of God for lesser things, and issues a call for change.



(Baker Academic 2015, \$24.99)

Gospel of Glory: Major Themes in Johannine Theology

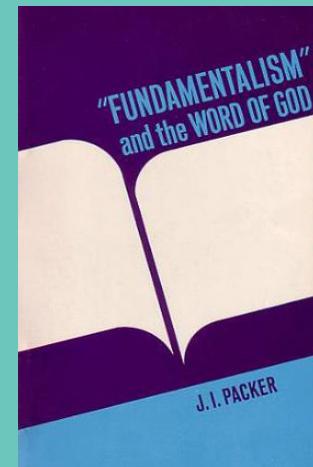
Richard Bauckham Review by Andrew J.W. Smith

When people convert to Christianity, it's common to suggest they read through the book of John first, as it's often considered the most accessible Gospel. At the same time, the Gospel of John is deeply theological, providing some of the strongest statements of Jesus' divinity and oneness with God the Father in the entire New Testament.

In his 2015 book *Gospel of Glory: Major Themes in Johannine Theology*, New Testament scholar Richard Bauckham offers a thematic and theological exploration of John. Each essay focuses on common refrains in the Gospel, from divine and human community to individual faith.

The book is well-suited for students interested in a thematic study of the crucial ideas of John's Gospel, or for those who wish to think carefully and directly about some of John's most complicated theology.

GUEST RECOMMENDATION



"Fundamentalism" and the Word of God

J.I. Packer

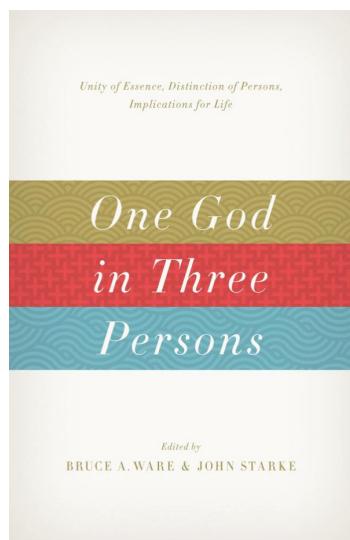
(Eerdmans 1958, \$17)

"Anybody who has a serious mind about Christian things would benefit enormously from this book because it is not simply a defense of the historic position on the infallibility and inerrancy of Scripture but he goes into wider questions of faith, reason, and authority. I've known him all my life and he's had tremendous success as a Christian author, but in my view he's not any better than he did in the early days when he wrote this book."



PAUL HELM

PHILOSOPHER AND THEOLOGIAN;
J.I. PACKER CHAIR OF THEOLOGY
AT REGENT COLLEGE, 2001-2005



(Crossway 2015, \$21.99)

One God in Three Persons: Unity of Essence, Distinction of Persons, Implications for Life

Bruce Ware and John Starke, editors
Review by Jeremiah Greever

The eternal relationships between the three persons of the Trinity have historically been a topic of discussion for both academics and theologians. In *One God in Three Persons*, edited by Southern Seminary theology professor Bruce Ware and NYC pastor John Starke, evangelical scholars attempt to handle more specifically the issue of submission and subordination between the Son and the Father.

Recruiting 10 other contributors, including SBTS professors James M. Hamilton

Jr., and Michael A.G. Haykin, Ware and Starke's book explains the submission of Christ as the prototype for gender distinctions through biblical exegetical proofs, the teachings of the early church fathers, various philosophical considerations, and sound theological arguments.

The book is in large part a response to feminist theologians who have denied the submission of Christ to the Father as a precedent for male and female distinction. The feminist arguments focus almost exclusively on rejecting Christ's obedience to the Father as eternal, but rather on Christ's submission found only in his incarnate form. Throughout each chapter, each contributor utilizes his own specific field of focus to argue for Christ's purpose and example of submission,

though each contributor sometimes varies in his definition of subordination and submission.

Through the study of the relationships between each person of the Trinity, the authors argue the case for complementarianism. The contributors in different ways subscribe to the notion that as each member of the Trinity holds different functions, so also do men and women. Thus, the accusations of Trinitarian hierarchy made by the egalitarian feminists are scrutinized and proven ungrounded.

While continually appealing to historical and biblical orthodoxy, Ware and Starke's efforts are helpful in further understanding the scholarly debate concerning the submission of Christ to the Father.

Changing World, Unchanging Mission: Responding to Global Challenges

M. David Sills

Review by S. Craig Sanders

Not a month goes by where there isn't at least one book published which explores innovative ways to minister in changing American contexts — whether the hot button topic is urban outreach, multicultural churches, or millennial engagement. But imagine how more quickly the world is changing, yet scarce resources assess how international missionaries must adapt while maintaining the integrity of their mission.

Few practitioners are as qualified to write such a book as M. David Sills, A.P. and Faye Stone Professor of Christian Missions and Cultural Anthropology at Southern Seminary. Besides his experience on the mission field serving in Ecuador, Sills continues to travel the globe as the founder of Reaching & Teaching International Ministries. Drawing from personal experience and anticipating new trends from careful observation, Sills provides *Changing World, Unchanging Mission* as a resource

for missionaries to think carefully about adapting without compromising.

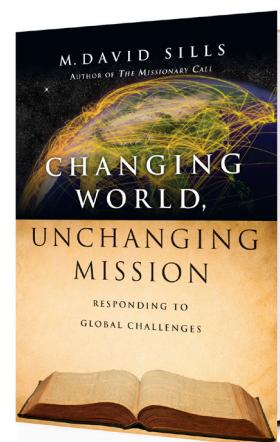
"The world is changing in complexity, and missionaries must wisely prepare to meet the world that will greet them tomorrow," Sills writes. "This will be possible only by approaching their ministries with an open Bible, an open newspaper, and an open mind."

Many missions strategies are stuck in the past, clinging to practices considered groundbreaking 50 years ago. But when 95 percent of the world's population recognizes Coca-Cola and yet "untold millions" still have never heard the gospel, Sills says missionaries must adjust to new technologies and trends while continuing "to reach the unreached and then teach them to obey all that Christ has commanded."

"In a world where everything is changing and change seems to be the only constant, God never changes," Sills writes.

Sills addresses a variety of topics in this book — which was named the top international outreach book in 2015 by TGC — including globalization, communication technologies, business as mission, and changing government attitudes.

With the majority of the world's population now living in urban areas and people groups moving all over the world,



(IVP 2015, \$17.99)

"The world is changing in complexity, and missionaries must wisely prepare to meet the world that will greet them tomorrow. This will be possible only by approaching their ministries with an open Bible, an open newspaper, and an open mind."

Sills says missionaries must consider the complexities of their mission field. Urbanization does not always lead to assimilation, so missionaries can

sometimes focus on particular "urban tribes" who distinguish themselves by cultural customs. Yet globalization has also merged the diverse elements of worldview, language, and family life, requiring ministers to expect different cultural manifestations with each conversation.

Changes bring challenges, and this is nowhere more apparent than in Sills' chapter on travel and communication. It's tempting to see only the legitimate benefits in technological advancements but Sills warns the relative ease of international travel today and the instantaneous communication to friends and families poses dangers to a missionary's effectiveness and longevity.

"When missionaries refuse to lose any of who they are or do not fully embrace the new country, they cannot identify with the people they seek to serve," Sills writes. "Those who never leave their home country — even in mind, desires, hopes, or preferences — will never settle in and will always be marking time until the next visit back 'home.'"

Whether or not you feel called to serve in international missions, Sills' seasoned expertise and insight makes this book essential for any evangelical who seeks to be obedient to the Great Commission.



Preparing missionaries for global challenges:

SILLS DISCUSSES THE CHURCH'S UNCHANGING MISSION

By S. Craig Sanders

EDITOR'S NOTE: In what follows, M. David Sills, A. P. and Faye Stone Professor of Christian Missions and Cultural Anthropology at Southern Seminary, discusses his new book, *Changing World, Unchanging Mission*, with *Towers* editor S. Craig Sanders.

CS: How you find time to write a book when you're constantly traveling around the world?

DS: Well, that's a good question. My writing tends to grow out of my traveling, things that I recognize, patterns I see, experiences I have, as I do conferences and teach classes.

This most recent one, kind of similar thing: I noticed traveling around the world, both what I was seeing on the field but also in a lot of the airports' trade journals and business magazines from multinational corporations that would address how all the governments and big companies would have a research and development office. So they're able to spot trends and they know, "Hey

this is going to be happening in a few years here, and we anticipate this will be changing in the industry." They're able to be very proactive and try to beat the competition to the punch and seeing that more and more and that being a theme. I thought, Why don't we do that as missionaries? We're always behind in missions, it seems like, and we're always running around putting out fires. We don't have time to be proactive because we're having to be so reactive.

The more I began to think about it, recent changes, say in the past decade or two, changes that are going on right now, every day we wake up in a new development of it and the trends we see coming. I basically divided those up

into the chapters of this most recent book, that's kind of how it came about, and that also speaks to the title of the book. But primarily I do my thinking when I'm traveling, sometimes I'll do outlining, rarely do I write on the plane — that's not my favorite thing, with people sitting there watching you write over your shoulder — but I do a lot of my processing the argument while I travel.

CS: Can you elaborate on the dynamic of globalization and its challenges?

DS: The problem is a couple of years ago the UN told us — the world — that we were more urban than rural

for the first time in the history of the planet. And the challenge for missions is that we have always been bad in the cities in comparison to what we've done in rural areas. For instance, I go into some community I've got one language to learn, one kind of food to get used to, one set of gatekeepers to meet and build relationships with. I know life here. And now I've found a way to share the gospel here. When you go to a place that's a big city — just say New York — in Manhattan they speak 800 languages every day, and I'm in this big city block and I've got people here from Italy, China, Brazil, Ecuador, Austria, and Thailand all in this block and many, many more in this block, people as well. So I'm just saying it's a multilevel maze, filled with trap doors. You think you've got it figured out, and so you're a church planter there in that city, and you're trying to reach the people in this neighborhood; how in the world do you do that?

Missions needs to keep that in mind, the globalization of the world, because we're not just coming to the U.S. as an immigrant—I'm coming to the U.S. and I bring my worldview with me. So if I'm an oral culture person from North Africa, and I come here from Sudan, I not only bring my Sudanese passport, I bring my whole culture, my language, I bring my religious worldview, which is going to be a folk Islam kind of thing, I bring my harsh views against women perhaps in some Middle Eastern countries.

Globalization just means you have people from all over those different ends of the continuum all in one city block, and you as a missionary have to know how you can reach and teach and plant churches in the major urban centers of the world. And it's a challenge, and I think that we have not reckoned with the fact that we can't do missions like we've always done out in the countryside when we go to the big cities. Things are going to have to start changing for that.

CS: Do the benefits of technology on the mission field outweigh the potential hindrances for the missionaries themselves?

DS: I think the benefits far outweigh the danger and the hindrances as long as we're aware of what the challenges might be. On the one hand, we're not plugging in because we're connected by this 3,000-mile umbilical cord of technology to the old place. And now when you go in for a visa, and the visa office in that country searches your name, everything about you pops up. We're in a world where technology helps but it also takes away any anonymity.

But when you factor in how you're able to have an immediate need you couldn't anticipate, you can write your prayer supporters right now and say, "I've got a

meeting at 3, please be in prayer for me," and prayer warriors around the world can go to their knees for you. Or if you have a financial need you didn't anticipate. When we were on the field, making a phone call

“Globalization just means you have people from all over those different ends of the continuum all in one city block, and you as a missionary have to know how you can reach and teach and plant churches in the major urban centers of the world. And it's a challenge, and I think that we have not reckoned with the fact that we can't do missions like we've always done out in the countryside when we go to the big cities.”

was so cost-prohibitive we couldn't do it, and you'd be screaming over the static, and you'd get cut off half-way through the conversation. And if I wrote a letter to a family member or to our missions office at the IMB, the letter took two weeks to get there, and if they sat down and answered me right that minute, it took two weeks for the letter to get back to me. Anything could happen by the time they even got your letter. Now you're a Vonage phone call away, or a text away, Facebook post away. So there's great blessing, but we just have to be forewarned. That's the main purpose of this book, helping people to think, helping missions agencies to think, "What kind of parameters are we going to put on our new missionaries?"

CS: What's different about business as missions?

DS: Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, on average three countries a year close their doors to traditional

missionaries. So we have to find creative ways to get into these countries. But creative access business as missions isn't new, it's trendy, but it's as old as Paul, right, if Paul was a tentmaker and he earned his living in a certain season of his ministry doing that.

But there are different levels of tentmakers. In business as missions, you can go in and be a jobmaker, like somebody who is doing community development, or if I go over there I'm doing agricultural and crop science, teaching people how to grow better crops and more crops for their families and communities, that's to get me in, that's my platform, but I'm a job maker — I'm hiring people to give jobs and build relationships. Then there are job-takers, like with my degree I could go to Latin America and get a job as an anthropology teacher in a university. Well I would be a job-taker from some Ecuadorian or Argentinian guy. Then there are job-fakers who say, "This is what I am" but don't actually do it. So there are various levels. I simply stress that in business as missions it is wise, it is necessary, we've got to do an access platform that is real, where you're not just going and pretending to do that. Because there's so much good that we can do around the world.

CS: I think there's a lot of fear and anxiety when we think about all the things that are changing, but how does the unchanging mission counteract that and give us the courage we need?

DS: That does cause a bit of anxiety but another thing it's caused — this is one of the frustrations I've had along the way — is that some missions philosophies just capitulated. Some people with their philosophy of missions just said, "Well, fine, let's just embrace everything new and changing and we'll just fit in really well." But some things we should not change. And one thing I tried to close out every chapter saying is that there's an aspect of who we are and what we do that should never change. Jesus gave us the Great Commission and we are to present the gospel and to call people to repent and no matter how much good we do, if we're not tying the gospel to it, it's just good we do; it's not Christian missions. So as we go out, let's remember, no matter what changes there are, let's be aware of them, how can we use them, how can we avoid the dangers, but at the end of the day let's remember the thing that should never change. Our unchanging mission should never get lost in the mix. We don't want to just live our lives in an ivory tower, but neither do we just want to embrace the world completely and forget the Bible. We've got to keep that balance of knowing the people to whom we minister, knowing their context so we can apply the Bible to it.



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| • Brian Combs | • Alex Himaya | • Frank Page |
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\$20 Late Registration
(after February 1)



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The spring semester at Southern Seminary and Boyce College may be one of the toughest challenges in theological education. Before you can rouse yourself from holiday hibernation, classes have started and you're already reading late into the night. But before you lose sight of what's around you, the *Towers* team has prepared 26 opportunities, ranging the alphabet, for experiencing life at Southern and in Louisville. And since this isn't a comprehensive list, make sure to read *Towers Weekly* each Monday morning to stay updated with events and opportunities on campus.



CHAPEL

The seminary community gathers for worship each Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. in Alumni Memorial Chapel. Friends and family can watch online at sbts.edu/live.

Feb. 2 | R. Albert Mohler Jr., Convocation
 Feb. 4 | Randy Stinson
 Feb. 9 | Bill Henard
 Feb. 11 | Paul Chitwood
 Feb. 16 | D.A. Horton
 Feb. 18 | Jarvis Williams
 Feb. 23 | Mullins Lecture: Mark Dever
 Feb. 25 | Mullins Lecture: Mark Dever
 March 1 | Eric Bancroft
 March 3 | O.S. Hawkins
 March 8 | Charlie Dates
 March 10 | Nathan Lino
 March 15 | Jason Meyer
 March 17 | Hance Dilbeck
 March 22 | David Dykes
 March 24 | Jonathan Pennington
 March 29 | Jimmy Scroggins
 April 1 | David Platt
 April 19 | R. Albert Mohler Jr.
 April 21 | Mike Fabarez
 April 26 | Heath Lambert
 April 28 | Jim Hamilton
 May 3 | R. Albert Mohler Jr.
 May 5 | Francisco Preaching Award Day



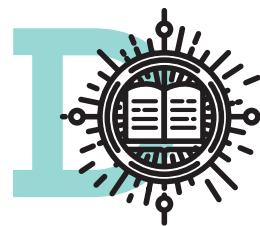
ALI CENTER

The Muhammad Ali Center in downtown Louisville does more than celebrate the legacy of "The Greatest." While it certainly pays due to the life and career of the legendary boxer, the focus on the civil rights movement and Ali's evolving Muslim faith makes the award-winning museum one of the city's top attractions both for entertainment and cultural engagement. Through the month of February, the Ali Center is hosting a civil rights exhibit, "Selma to Montgomery: Marching Along the Voting Rights Trail." The museum is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, and student pricing is always \$5.



BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

If you haven't noticed, the state of Kentucky is all about college basketball. Get an early taste of March Madness when Boyce College hosts the MidEast Region Tournament Feb. 25-27 in the Honeycutt main gym. The Bulldogs will compete against teams from Pennsylvania, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Kentucky to determine who will represent the MidEast Region in the NCCAA National Tournament.



DRIVEN BY TRUTH

A new conference March 18-19 will equip attendees to examine their worldview and be driven by the truth of God's Word. The event features leading Christian thinkers R. Albert Mohler Jr., Russell Moore, Gregory Thornbury, and Dan DeWitt.

Spring conference scholarships are available in the Event Productions office. Students must present their Shield cards. Others spring conferences include 9Marks at Southern, Feb. 26-27; Renown Youth Conference, March 4-5; and Counsel the Word, April 26-27. Visit events.sbts.edu for more information.



ENGAGING ISLAM

The Great Commission Summit 2016 March 31-April 1 will challenge believers toward faithful, worldwide gospel proclamation with the theme "Engaging Islam." Given the prolific spread of Islam, this event will primarily look at the Islamic worldview from a theological and missiological perspective and will examine ways to engage that worldview with the gospel. Speakers include IMB President David Platt, Jenkins Professor Ayman Ibrahim, and Boyce global studies professor John Klaassen.

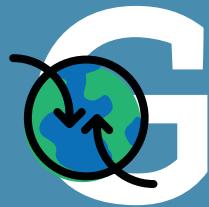


FIFTH & BROADWAY

Named after the first location of Southern Seminary in downtown Louisville, Fifth & Broadway is Southern's campus life store. This semester, the store is offering a free cup of coffee when you join the loyalty program and you can always refuel with Study Cup, which offers unlimited refills for \$2.83 per day.

In February, 5th&B is throwing a Welcome Back Sale with all logo items 30 percent off, allowing you to show your school pride.

On April 12-14, 5th&B is hosting a used bookstore in the gym. Donation bins will be in LifeWay Campus Store prior to the sale.



GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

On Feb. 12, March 11, and April 22, Global Connections lunch meetings will help connect the dots between the classroom and the international mission field. You will hear from and interact with seasoned missionary practitioners. RSVP at missions.sbts.edu for a free lunch and practical information, resources, and preparation for international mission service.



JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST

Located 20 miles south of the seminary campus, Jefferson Memorial Forest gives you the opportunity to experience nature without leaving the city. Designated as a wildlife sanctuary, the forest has approximately 6,500 acres of steep slopes, spanning nearly 10 miles from east to west, and ribboned with scenic trails and small streams. It also has a fishing lake, outdoor recreational facilities, and a Welcome Center with trail maps, hiking supplies, and nature-related books and souvenirs.



HEALTH AND REC CENTER

The Health and Rec Center offers SBTS and Boyce students free access to a weight room, running track, swimming pool, racquetball courts, and a sauna. In addition to a Crossfit program and other fitness classes, the HRC hosts the following events this semester:

Date Night Out — Feb. 5, May 6

Enjoy an evening out on the town with your spouse while the HRC watches your kids. Cost is \$7 per child. Register at the HRC front desk.

Spring camping trip — March 25-26

Join fellow SBTS students and enjoy a weekend of fellowship in the outdoors. Contact hrc@sbts.edu for more information.

Spring Intramurals

Visit the HRC to sign up for intramurals including basketball, flag football, volleyball, and a one-day soccer tournament.



IMPROVE YOUR RESEARCH AND WRITING

Whether you're assigned a book review or a 20-page research paper, find ways to grow this semester in your theological writing abilities so you will be better prepared to communicate the gospel with clarity and conviction. The Boyce Centennial Library offers research workshops throughout the semester, and experts at the Research Hub will offer in-person guidance. For informational videos and research paper templates, visit sbts.edu/writing. And don't procrastinate — plan ahead so you can email the Writing Center (writing@sbts.edu) and receive helpful feedback before submitting the final draft.



KENTUCKY DERBY FESTIVAL

The 142nd running of the Kentucky Derby will have the whole world waiting to see the next Triple Crown challenger after American Pharoah broke a decades-long drought. But before “The Greatest Two Minutes in Sports,” Louisville enjoys “The Greatest Two Weeks of Celebration.” Here are a few big events before the May 7 Kentucky Derby:

Thunder Over Louisville, April 23 — The nation’s largest annual fireworks

show kicks off the Derby festivities with a top-five air show featuring the Blue Angels. Plan ahead and arrive early to Waterfront Park for a fireworks display that will take your breath away.

U.S. Bank Great BalloonFest, April 28-30 — Wake up early on April 29 and 30 to see the Great Balloon Race, as hot air balloons fill the morning sky. Catch the hot air balloons on the ground at Waterfront Park, April 28 at 8:30 p.m., and the

Kentucky Exposition Center, April 29 at 9 p.m., for a creative light show.

GospelFest, May 1 — will feature performers from 2 until 7 p.m. at the Chow Wagon on Waterfront Park. Admission is free with a Pegasus Pin.

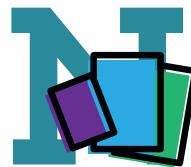
Republic Bank Pegasus Parade, May 5 — The festival’s oldest event, the Pegasus Parade marches down 17 blocks on Broadway in downtown Louisville.



MISSION TRIPS

Share the gospel at Crossover St. Louis
Southern and Boyce will join the other SBC seminaries June 6-10 for a week of evangelism training and outreach in St. Louis, the host city for the SBC Annual Meeting. Students can earn course credit for Personal Evangelism and only need to pay \$25 for lodging and food. The main Crossover citywide evangelism event is June 11, and any students can participate. More information is available at missions.sbts.edu.

Pray for our missions teams:
Dominican Republic, April 2-10
Russia, April 2-10
Refugee Team, May 21-June 4
Dubai, early June
Southeast Asia, June 17-28
Scotland, July 9-16
Ireland, July 9-18
Spain, July 15-25



NEW BOOKS

LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention operates the campus bookstore located in the Honeycutt Center. The bookstore carries all required textbooks, the newest academic books, and one of the largest selections of best-selling academic books. Price match your books or receive 20 percent off all your required textbooks. Follow the store on Twitter @LifeWaySBTS for updates.



ONLY AT SOUTHERN

On-campus students receive the added benefit of living in an exciting city like Louisville, but they are also able to experience seminary life to the fullest. Only at Southern can you interact with world-class scholars in and out of the classroom. Consider scheduling a lunch with your professor — they eat in the Dining Hall, too. Where else can find a mummy and other ancient artifacts tucked away in the world’s best theological library? You can also can’t find anywhere else specialty items in Founders’ Cafe like the Baise coffee, named after Boyce worldview professor Bryan Baise.

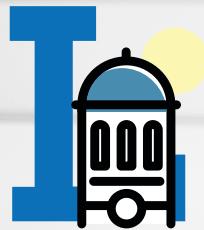


PULPIT SUPPLY TRAINING

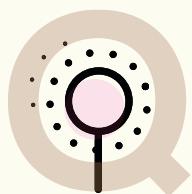
Interested in serving needy churches and gaining preaching experience while in seminary? Attend the free pulpit supply training Friday, Feb. 12, 10 a.m.–noon in Legacy 300. This training will be provided by Hershael York in partnership with the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Bevin Center for Missions and Mobilization. For more information on this event and other ministry opportunities, contact the Ministry Connections Office at ministryconnections@sbts.edu.



LEARN PREACHING



Seminary chapel offers you a one-of-a-kind opportunity to hear from some of the greatest living preachers, but this semester Southern is hosting Mark Dever for the Mullins Lectures on Preaching, Feb. 23-25. One of the seminary's most esteemed lectureships, the Mullins series has recently featured preachers like John MacArthur, Bryan Chapell, and Alistair Begg delivering expository sermons from a specific book or genre of Scripture. Dever is an alumnus of Southern Seminary and the pastor of Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. He has authored numerous books, most notably *9 Marks of a Healthy Church*. Check *Towers Weekly* later this month for a detailed schedule and giveaways.



QUIET PLACES

Finding a spot for reflection and prayer can be difficult at a large school like Southern, but there are small pockets of quiet around campus. Head to the prayer rooms on the upper level of Honeycutt, the quiet room on the main floor of the library, or just find an empty classroom in Norton Hall.



RESIDENCE LIFE MARCH MADNESS

If you're staying in Louisville for the next few years and really want to fit in, then embrace March Madness with Residence Life's pizza and ice cream party March 17. Watch all the college basketball you can handle at SBTS Madness with three large screen TVs, giveaways, and a halfcourt challenge for one month's free rent. For more information on this and other activities, contact Housing at housing@sbts.edu.

SERVE THE CITY 1937 PROJECT

The 1937 Project is an outreach effort that brings Southern Seminary together to serve the city of Louisville in conjunction with Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer's Give A Day week of service. Its name was chosen to remember and honor the seminary's critical role in the aftermath of the Great Flood of 1937. On April 23, volunteers will flood the streets of Louisville to serve local ministries and areas throughout Louisville. Contact studentlife@sbts.edu for more information.



TOGETHER FOR THE GOSPEL

Together For the Gospel is celebrating its 10th anniversary and sixth biennial conference for pastors with "We Are Protestant: The Reformation at 500," April 12-16. Co-founded by SBTS President R. Albert Mohler Jr., the conference will take place 4.5 miles from the seminary campus at the KFC Yum! Center. The conference examining what it means to be Protestant in a changing culture will feature 11 speakers, including Mohler, John Piper, Matt Chandler, R.C. Sproul, and Thabiti Anyabwile. Visit sbts.edu/t4g for more.

Earn Course Credit at T4G

In keeping with the theme of the conference, SBTS will be offering 25800 The Reformation with Shawn Wright on the master's level. On the bachelor's level, this course will count for HS315 Studies in Church History: The Reformation. Visit sbts.edu/t4g for more information on how to register.

Monday Night Kickoff

Southern Seminary invites you to kick off T4G at Towery Plaza for a casual reception on Monday, April 11, 8 p.m. Join Southern faculty members and other conference attendees for light refreshments and to participate in games and giveaways.



URBAN MINISTRY

Southern Seminary's campus is located a few miles away from downtown Louisville and its urban neighborhoods. Learn how you can minister to these underserved areas Feb. 16 with a "City Center Ministry" lunch event followed by an urban excursion. The event, sponsored by the Dehoney Center, features West Louisville pastor T.C. Taylor and offers practical tips for ministry.



WOMEN OF SBTS

Southern has a place for each woman on campus. Whether you are a student, a student wife, or on staff, the women's ministry has several events to minister to you. Visit sbts.edu/women for more information about each event.

Koinonia – Feb. 16, March 29

SWI Seminar Saturday – March 12

Equip – April 2



VICTORIAN DISTRICT IN OLD LOUISVILLE

If you enjoy sightseeing, add Old Louisville to your list. Considered the city's urban jewel, the neighborhood boasts the largest contiguous collection of Victorian mansions in the United States and is home to Central Park, one of Louisville's 19 Olmsted Parks. It's also widely considered "the most haunted neighborhood in America" according to author David Dominé and NPR's Snap Judgment. But don't let that stop you from exploring the neighborhood's architectural gems and small business, and don't miss out on its annual Springfest, May 20-21.



XENOPHILE

Louisville is the perfect place to be “lover of foreign cultures” with a wide variety of international cuisine. Sure, there are plenty of stellar restaurants for the tried and true American eaters, but make 2016 the year you be more adventurous with your taste palette. And most importantly, engaging with other cultures will allow you to be a missionary without ever leaving the city.

Little Jerusalem, 5312 S 3rd St
Queen of Sheba, 2804 Taylorsville Rd
Saffron's Persian Cuisine, 131 W Market St
Shalimar Indian Restaurant, 1850 S Hurstbourne Pkwy
Vietnam Kitchen, 5339 Mitscher Ave



YOUNG EARTH OR OLD EARTH?

As you think through your view on creation in seminary classes, consider visiting the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky. Students can receive discounted tickets at the seminary's Concierge Desk for \$17.95 and children for \$11.95. Operated by Answers in Genesis, the museum offers an interactive, family-friendly young earth interpretation of Genesis. From an immersive recreation of the Garden of Eden to a scaled facade of the building of Noah's ark, the museum offers no shortage of exhibits emphasizing the authority of the Bible for answering questions of our origin. Return this summer to witness the Ark Encounter, a full-size replica of the ark located 30 miles from the museum, opening July 7.



LOUISVILLE ZOO

Founded in 1969, the Louisville Zoo is actually one of the largest in the United States, spanning 134 acres and featuring more than 1,500 animals. SBTS and Boyce students can purchase discounted zoo tickets at the Concierge Desk for \$12.95 (children for \$9.50). Filled with themed exhibits like Glacier Run and Gorilla Forest, the Louisville Zoo will have you coming back for more, and features special “Earth Month” events this spring during April.

B O N U S



THE HISPANIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Latin American church is one of the fastest growing worldwide. The Hispanic Student Association at Southern exists to unite, connect, and serve the Hispanic community that currently prepares to minister in Spanish-speaking regions.

Other student organizations include:

Canada Club
Chinese Student Fellowship
Intercultural Student Fellowship
Korean Student Fellowship
Nigerian Student Fellowship
Student Missions Fellowship

For more information on student organizations, contact the Student Life Office at studentlife@sbts.edu.

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FACULTY PROFILE

Strengthening the evangelical mind

ARNOLD AIMS FOR CULTURALLY THOUGHTFUL AND ASTUTE STUDENTS

Mackenzie Miller

As the only evangelical in his college's Introduction to the Bible course, Jonathan Arnold found his beliefs challenged frequently in a class teaching the gospel from an extremely liberal point of view. While the hostile environment opened the door for him to share the gospel and participate in debates over major cultural issues, Arnold learned that grappling with these challenges inspired him to pursue academic scholarship with his evangelical convictions intact.

"I enjoyed having the opportunity to put the gospel in the spotlight and being able to defend the faith," Arnold said about his experience at a Tennessee liberal arts college owned by the Southern Episcopal Diocese of the United States, but with no stringent religious affiliation. Of the some 1,300 students in attendance, approximately 45 were evangelical alongside two professors.

"This led me to a place where I realized, in this situation as well as several others, that the biblical scholarship these people were getting their hands on was usually not good evangelicalism and was definitely not good scholarship," Arnold said. "This drove me to a place where I wanted to go on and do more academic work. Evangelicals don't have to check their minds out at the door. We can do good scholarship and still be evangelical."

That's the message Arnold, assistant professor of Christian theology and church history at Boyce College, instills in his students: Checking your mind at the door is not an option. Whether students desire to pursue vocational ministry or just be a faithful witness of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the ability to think both soundly and biblically is a necessity.

"My heart is with students and trying to push them on to do even more excellent work academically, for themselves, but also for the world, whether that is professional academic work or just being able to think and engage

the culture," Arnold said. "Regardless of what level they want to do that at, being able to encourage students to think well and biblically and soundly is undoubtedly a highlight for me."



Arnold was raised in a Christian home in Alexandria, Louisiana, and immersed in Baptist life from a young age. His father was a minister of education with training from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He professed faith in Christ and was baptized when he was 6 years old at Parkview Baptist Church and from that point forward had a vested interest in theology.

It was during his second semester of his freshman year in college that Arnold felt the Lord calling him to ministry. He became the leader of the Baptist Student Union at the university, which was the only evangelical student group on the campus. Seen often as the black sheep of the student body and faculty, the believers on campus were often belittled for their faith and Arnold says several of the believing faculty were forced out of the university.

"It was a place where we were really just able to do life

together," Arnold said. "We were outcasts to a certain degree. The campus was not an environment supportive of evangelicals, so we had to learn to support each other."

Arnold continued his education at Dallas Theological

Seminary with the plan of training for the pastorate, completing his Th.M. in Systematic Theology and Pastoral Leadership. Because of his passion for preaching, he saw pastoral training as the most natural and logical conclusion. However, one of his seminar classes rekindled the fire for further education. He then went on to the University of Oxford in England where he completed both his M.St. and D.Phil. in Ecclesiastical History.

Upon the completion of his education, Arnold accepted an opportunity to serve as a pastor in lower Michigan where he remained for several years before joining the faculty of Northland International University in Dunbar, Wisconsin, as vice president of student services and professor of theological studies. Upon the closing of Northland, Arnold accepted a position on faculty at Boyce College in August 2015.

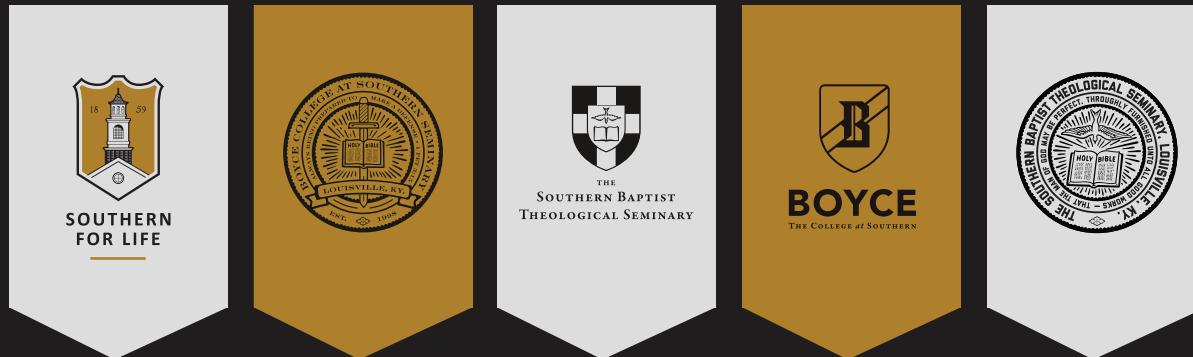
"Part of what makes this faculty incredible is the fact that we are all interested in students," Arnold said. "The faculty here is not just here to inculcate knowledge. You can get that at any college, but they are here to help you grow spiritually as well."

Having moved nine times in their 14 years of marriage, Arnold and his wife, Lindsay, have grown to appreciate the necessity of flexibility in ministry. The couple and their four children, Nathaniel, Benjamin, Lukas, and Sadie, have not limited their ministry geographically and thus have had the opportunity for kingdom work on both sides of the Atlantic.

"I enjoy having the opportunity to help those who are preparing for ministry, whether that is vocational ministry or just living life as minister of the gospel or a follower of Christ in the secular world," Arnold said.

LOGO SALE

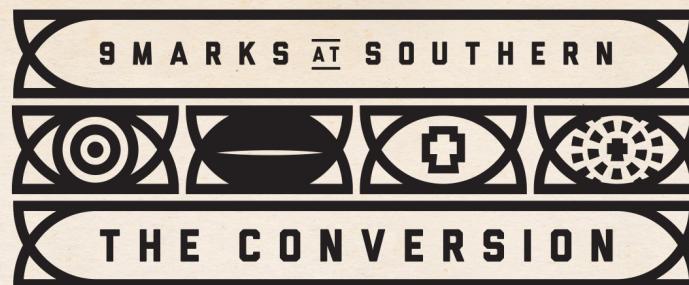
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HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

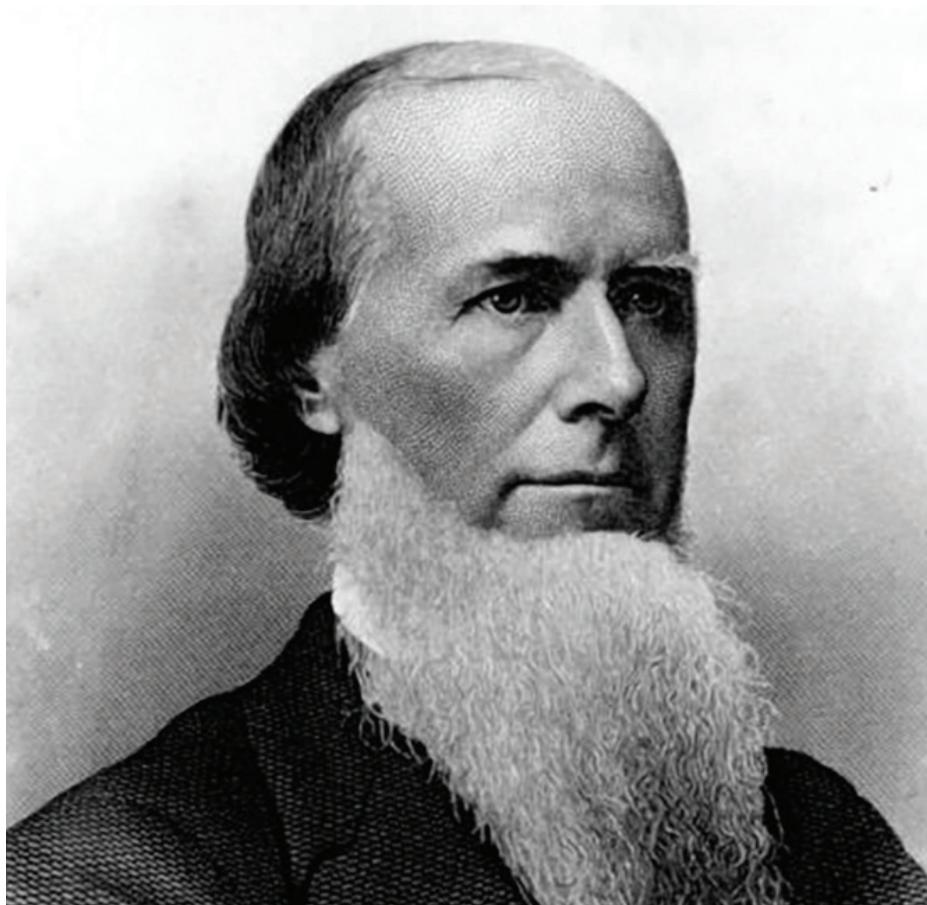
Southern Seminary and benevolent governors

By Adam Winters

Last November, when Matt Bevin won Kentucky's gubernatorial election he joined elite company in Southern Seminary history. The Bevin Center for Missions Mobilization, which the businessman turned governor endowed in 2012, is named in honor of his late daughter Brittiney and sends student missionaries to international and domestic fields of service in addition to local ministry efforts. Bevin's gift bears to mind the historic endowment bestowed upon the seminary by Joseph Emerson Brown (1821–1894), also a successful businessman who held the office as a state governor.

An ominous cloud lingered over the seminary's financial future in December 1879. Throughout the decade, James P. Boyce had made repeated appeals in hopes of raising the school's endowment, but even after relocating the campus to Louisville in 1877, his outlook turned bleak, as reflected in his plea published in an issue of Tennessee's *The Baptist* newspaper: "I think it my duty to warn the brethren of the danger to our seminary ... our means of annual support are so utterly insufficient that unless the brethren aid in this direction, this must be our last session for some years to come."

Though some supporters feared Boyce's public honesty would discourage the denomination, his decision proved a wise strategy. *The Baptist* enjoyed a wide circulation across the South, and Boyce's appeal resonated with many churches that scrambled to make special offerings to save the school; by mid-January 1880, 79 churches had raised \$2,672. Yet, the small gifts alone were insufficient for the mountain of debt the school faced, and Boyce hoped that God would raise up a benevolent donor to give \$50,000. That donor proved to be businessman and former Georgia Gov. Joseph Emerson Brown.



Brown, educated at Yale Law School between 1845 and 1846, had established himself as a prosperous lawyer and businessman, but gradually focused his efforts upon politics. Elected to the Georgia State Senate in 1849, Brown achieved great influence within the Democratic Party. In 1857, he won the election for the governor of Georgia, and enjoyed a succession of re-elections, remaining in office until the end of the Civil War in 1865. After being paroled by Andrew Johnson, he briefly became a Republican and supported the president's Reconstruction policy, serving as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. He soon returned to his

Democratic roots, however, and resumed his career pursuits in law and business. In 1879, Brown found himself on the threshold of a 10-year run in the United States Senate, which he would serve from 1880 to 1890.

Brown, after reading to the appeal in *The Baptist*, wrote to Boyce and promised that "if he could be satisfied as to the financial condition and prospects of the seminary," he would bestow the \$50,000 gift free of conditions. Boyce journeyed to Atlanta to meet with Brown, and returned to Louisville with the gift, resulting in the endowment of the Joseph Emerson Brown Professorship of Systematic Theology. The serendipitous nature of Brown's gift

gave Boyce renewed vigor to launch a campaign to raise \$200,000 for the seminary's invested endowment. The seminary soon reached its goal through additional contributions from Louisville benefactors and more than \$40,000 raised in New York City. By the summer of 1881, Boyce was finally able to say, "The seminary is now safe — humanly speaking."

Boyce became the first occupant of the Brown Chair of Theology, and a total of nine Southern Seminary professors have held the title, the incumbent now being President R. Albert Mohler Jr.

Those interested in learning more about the early history of Southern Seminary can research the voluminous collections of rare books and manuscripts available in the Archives and Special Collections, on the second floor of the James P. Boyce Centennial Library.

ENDNOTES

¹ S. Craig Sanders, "Southern Seminary donor Matt Bevin elected Kentucky governor," *Southern News*, 4 November 2015 [online], accessed 5 November 2015, <http://news.sbts.edu/2015/11/04/southern-seminary-donor-matt-bevin-elected-kentucky-governor/>; Internet.²

Southern Seminary News, August 1935.

² James Petigru Boyce, "The Danger to the Seminary," *The Baptist*, 6 December 1879⁴ John Sampey, "Fund-raising," part 2, 1936, Archives PH 18, <http://digital.library.sbts.edu/handle/10392/4925>

³ F. N. Boney, "Joseph E. Brown (1821-1894)," *New Georgia Encyclopedia* [on-line], accessed 5 November 2015, <http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/government-politics/joseph-e-brown-1821-1894>; Internet

⁴ Gregory A. Wills, *Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1859-2009* (Oxford University Press, 2009), 160.

PHOTO ESSAY

Seen at Southern

DURING COLD, WINTER DAYS students huddle by the fireplace in Founders' Cafe, but when it snows, the campus comes to life — even when it closes. From snow angels to snowball fights, snow lightens the atmosphere around campus and makes the chilly weather more bearable.

Southern's historic campus looks majestic clothed in the white blanket of snow — the Jan. 20 snowstorm dumped four inches on the James P. Boyce Centennial Library. And thanks to facility workers who come in early to plow the parking lots, salt and shovel the sidewalks, the seminary campus is safe for family fun.



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HEALTH AND REC

More information on hours and fitness classes are available at sbts.edu/hrc, the front desk or call **897-4720**.

Sign-up for Spring intramurals including basketball, football, soccer, volleyball, and ping-pong.

SEMINARY CLINIC HOURS

Staff, students, and their immediate family members are provided a health maintenance program through the clinic, located on the second floor of the campus center, Honeycutt 213.

Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

More information and price listings are found on the clinic website, sbts.edu/clinic.

VOLUNTEER AT THE ATTIC

Open from 2 – 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, there is always an opportunity for the SBTS community to volunteer in The Attic which provides selections of clothing, home goods, and furniture to our students and their families at no cost. Contact Aaron Rothermel at volunteer@sbts.edu or 897-4728 for more information.

FREE SEWING CLASS

The free sewing class led by Barbara Gentry meets Mondays, 6 – 7:30 p.m., in Fuller Room 34. Sewing machines are provided at no cost. No experience is required, but women with experience may also participate. Knitting and crocheting lessons will also be offered. Gentry leads the class assisted by Donna Chancellor. For more information, call Mrs. Gentry locally at 423-8255.

FEBRUARY

01

MONDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

02

TUESDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Opening Convocation:
R. Albert Mohler, Jr. 10 a.m.
Worship Student Lecture Lunch
Instrumental Rehearsal Hall
(Cooke Hall)

03

WEDNESDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
BGS Mentoring Groups
and SOT Shepherding Groups

04

THURSDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Chapel, Randy Stinson 10 a.m.

05

FRIDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date Night Out

08

MONDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

09

TUESDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Chapel, Bill Henard 10 a.m.
Boyce basketball 7 p.m.

10

WEDNESDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

11

THURSDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Chapel, Paul Chitwood 10 a.m.

12

FRIDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Global Connections
Library Basement Room 17, 12 p.m.
Pulpit Supply Training
Legacy 300, 10 a.m. – noon

15

MONDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

16

TUESDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Chapel, D.A. Horton 10 a.m.
Koinonia
Heritage Hall, 7 p.m.

17

WEDNESDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

18

THURSDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Chapel, Jarvis Williams 10 a.m.

19

FRIDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Church Planting 101
Basement Library room 17

22

MONDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

23

TUESDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Mullins Lectures: Mark Dever
10 a.m.

24

WEDNESDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

25

THURSDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Mullins Lectures: Mark Dever
10 a.m.

26

FRIDAY

Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
9Marks at Southern: The Conversion

27

SATURDAY

9Marks at Southern: The Conversion

29

MONDAY

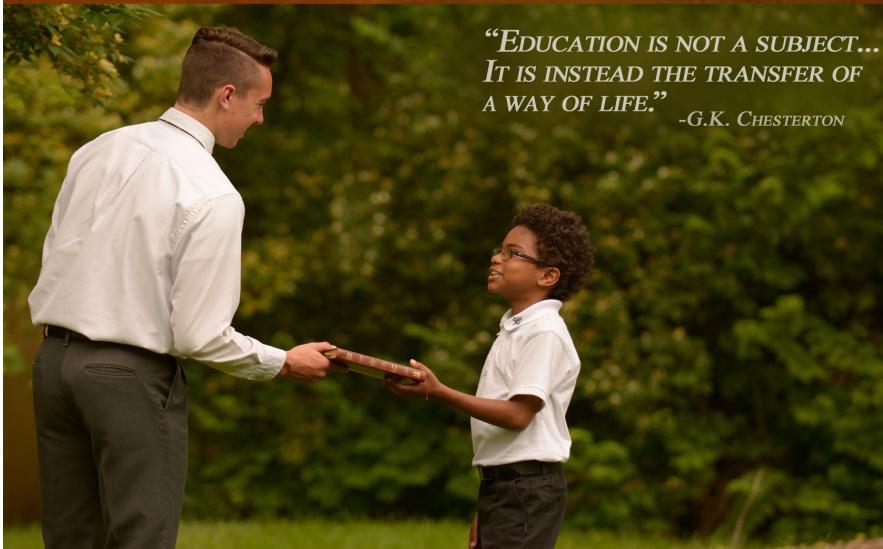
Morning Childcare
HRC, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

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3

Questions

– with –



MICHAEL BIRD

New Testament scholar; lecturer
in theology at Ridley Melbourne
College of Mission and Ministry

1

What's the most fruitful way to read the Gospels? Reading them straight through repeatedly, reading one Gospel over and over, or some other method?

THERE ARE MULTIPLE WAYS.

Reading them in canonical order has some advantages. Matthew, which follows on the end of the OT, is a natural segue into the new covenant period. And John is a great way to round off the tetrum evangelium. Otherwise, I can see advantages in beginning with John (because it situates Jesus in a cosmic and redemptive history), then Mark (probably the first Gospel), then Matthew (first interpreter of Mark), then Luke followed up with Acts.

2

What's one piece of advice you'd offer a seminarian considering Ph.D. studies?

"DO NOT FORGET YOUR FIRST LOVE."

Academic study can distract you from your family, faith, and your church. Don't love books about Jesus more than Jesus.

3

As a big Star Wars fan, how would you rate The Force Awakens?

I REALLY, REALLY LIKED IT.

Good story, good action scenes, good character development, the magic is back! I had a few minor quibbles ... Kyo Ren does look a bit like a Gothic Josh Groban throwing the mother of all hissy fits at his parents.