

**BAPTIST HOUR SERMON
COLLECTION
AR 695**



Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

January, 1991

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Baptist Hour Sermon Collection

AR 695

Summary

Main Entry: Baptist Hour Sermon Collection

Date Span: 1942 – 1978

Abstract: Printed radio sermons from "The Baptist Hour," a weekly production of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. The collection dates from 1942, but mainly includes the years 1968 – 1978. Included are sermons by notable pastors, teachers, and Southern Baptist denominational leaders.

Size: 2 linear ft. (5 document boxes)

Collection #: AR 695

Historical Sketch

"Baptist Hour" began in 1938 when Samuel Franklin Lowe urged the Southern Baptist Convention, meeting in Richmond, Virginia, to explore the possibilities of religious broadcasting. At that meeting, Lowe was appointed chairman of a seven-member committee charged with making the survey. In 1939, at Oklahoma City, the survey group recommended to the Convention that a committee be continued to make a study of the best methods of religious broadcasting and that the committee be empowered to raise money through private donations to promote Baptist broadcasts. With an operating fund of \$12,000 from the Sunday School Board, the committee set in motion plans for a "Baptist Hour" program. The plans were approved at the 1940 convention in Baltimore.

The first 13-week "Baptist Hour" series began in January, 1941. Monroe Elmon Dodd delivered the first message on the half-hour evangelistic program. The series was carried by 17 stations in 11 states. Lowe was made director of the Radio Committee at the 1942 SBC Convention in San Antonio. The "Baptist Hour" came of age at the 1946 convention in Miami, Florida. The name "Radio Committee" was replaced by the name "Radio Commission," and the commission was recognized as an agency of the Convention, receiving a direct and proportionate share of Cooperative Program receipts. October 2, 1949, the full-time "Baptist Hour" aired over 120 stations of the American Broadcasting Company. However, the network schedule was terminated in June, 1950 for lack of funds.

The programs were offered transcribed to independent radio stations, and 180 stations scheduled the broadcasts. Time was purchased on 50 other stations. Associate director Dupree Jordan was made acting director following the death of S. F. Lowe, October 4, 1952. The commission elected Paul M.

Stevens director in August, 1953, and he served until his retirement in 1979. In 1958, Herschel H. Hobbs, pastor of First Baptist Church Oklahoma City, became the regular preacher for the program. When he retired in 1976, he was succeeded by Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church in San Antonio, Texas. By 1980, "Baptist Hour" was broadcast from more than 400 radio stations. "Baptist Hour" celebrated its 50th anniversary in January, 1991. Although program formats other than preaching have been introduced to reach a more contemporary audience, "Baptist Hour" is a continuing ministry of the Radio and Television Commission.

For further information see [Encyclopedia of Southern Baptists](#).

Scope and Content

The collection contains printed radio and television sermons from the "Baptist Hour," a weekly production of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. Speakers include Herschel H. Hobbs, Frank Pollard, George W. Truett, R. G. Lee, W. A. Criswell, Wayne Dehoney, Charles G. Fuller, Ellis A. Fuller, Ed Young, Pat Neff, E. D. Head, Ralph Herring, Louie D Newton, Roy O. McClain, C. C. Warren, Duke McCall, William E. Hull, Ramsey Pollard, J. H. Rushbrooke, Theodore F. Adams, Charles Wellborn, J. D. Grey, Kenneth Chaffin, Joel D. Gregory, and others. The collection began with the first broadcast in January, 1941 and is almost complete for the dates January, 1968 to March, 1978. Also included in the collection are "Fan Mail Speaks" (1942), the 1945 SBC "Centennial Broadcast," a bound volume for 1958 – 1963, bound pamphlets of sermons by Herschel Hobbs, and "Classic Issues," reprints of popular sermons.

The Baptist Hour collection was compiled from a wide variety of miscellaneous archival sources. The collection is arranged chronologically and contains two linear feet of materials. Additional transcripts of "Baptist Hour" broadcasts may be found in the Radio and Television publications, *The Beam* and *Beam International*. For further information on the "Baptist Hour" and/or the Radio and Television Commission, see Baptist Hour Speakers, 1941 – 1950; Photo Album (AR. 293); Herschel Hobbs papers (AR. 88); Radio and Television Commission miscellaneous materials (AR. 479; SBC executive Committee Program Planning Process Papers (AR. 154); and Radio and Television Collection (AR. 561). See also Sound Recordings in the card catalog under "Baptist Hour" for audio recordings of some sermons.

Arrangement

Chronologically

Provenance

Artificial collection compiled by Archives staff, 1988.

Preferred Citation

Baptist Hour Sermon Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

Access Restrictions

None

Subject Terms

Hobbs, Herschel H., 1907 – 1995
Warren, C. C. (Caspar Carl), 1896 – 1973
Dehoney, William Wayne, 1918 –
Fuller, Charles
Pollard, Frank, 1934 –
Neff, Pat Morris, 1871 – 1952
Newton, Louis Devotie, 1892 –
Hull, William E.
Clinard, Gordon, 1922 – 1973
Chafin, Kenneth
Young, Edwin H.
Weber, Jaroy
Southern Baptist Convention, Radio and Television Commission
Baptists – Sermons
Radio in religion
Radio and Television Commission. Southern Baptist Convention.

Related Materials

Beam (magazine)
Baptist Hour Scrapbook, AR 293
Baptist Hour Recordings, R208d and R1189t

Container List

Box 1

- 1.1 January – March, 1942 – Theodore Adams, Fred Brown, C. Oscar Johnson, Josh Lee, Pat Neff, and George W. Truett.
- 1.2 1942 – "Fan Mail Speaks."
- 1.3 January – March, 1943 – Olin T. Binkley, R. C. Campbell, Ellis A. Fuller, Francis P. Gaines, E. D. Head, R. G. Lee, Pat Neff, Clyde Turner, and George W. Truett.
- 1.4 January – June, 1944 – Douglas Freeman, Ralph Herring, Ryland Knight, W. F. Powell, Chester Swor, Harold Tribble, C. C. Warren, Perry Webb, W. R. White, and J. Howard Williams.
- 1.5 January – June, 1945 – C. Roy Angell, Wallace Bassett, Centennial, W. A. Criswell, M. E. Dodd, Garland Hendricks, James Kraft, Robert G. Lee, Duke K. McCall, Pat Neff, Louis E. Newton, M. Theron Rankin, Ralph W. Rogers, William C. Taggart, and K. Owen White.
- 1.6 January – June, 1945 – Bound.
- 1.7 March and May, 1946 – Clifton J. Allen and J. M. Dawson.
- 1.8 January – September, 1946 – Bound.
- 1.9 April – June, 1947 – Bound – W. S. Allen, A. D. Foremen, R. S. Kerr, Mrs. George R. Martin, C. E. Matthews, James W. Middleton, H. Guy More, Louie E. Newton, and Bruce H. Price.
- 1.10 January – December, 1948 – Theodore F. Adams, J. D. Grey, R. G. Lee, C. C. Warren, Charles Wellborn, and Kyle M. Yates.

1.11 January – October, 1948 – Bound.

Box 2.

- 2.1 April – June, 1949 – J. D. Grey.
- 2.2 January – September, 1950 – Forrest C. Freezor, Duke K. McCall, and Charles Wellborn.
- 2.3 January – December, 1951 – Charles Wellborn.
- 2.4 January, March, June, October, and December, 1952 – Charles Wellborn.
- 2.5 January – December, 1954 – Ramsey Pollard and Paul M. Stevens.
- 2.6 January – November, 1955 – Roy O. McClain, Ramsey Pollard, and Paul M. Stevens.
- 2.7 1955 – "Stoop and Drink" – Bound – Roy O. McClain, Ramsey Pollard, and Paul M. Stevens.
- 2.8 April – September, 1956 – Roy O. McClain.
- 2.9 1958 – 1963 – Bound – Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 2.10 July, 1960 – Grady C. Cothen.
- 2.11 July and December, 1962 – Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 2.12 June and September, 1963 – Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 2.13 March, August, December, 1964 – Herschel H. Hobbs and R. G. Lee.
- 2.14 May – December, 1965 – J. W. Macgorman and Harold Reeves.
- 2.15 May – December, 1966 – Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 2.16 January – December, 1967 – Wayne Dehoney, Herschel H. Hobbs, and William E. Hull.

Box 3

- 3.1 January – June, 1968 – J. P. Allen and Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.2 July – December, 1968 – J. P. Allen, Herschel H. Hobbs, and William E. Hull.
- 3.2a 1968 Classic Issue – Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.3 January – June, 1969 – Gordon Clinard and Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.4 July – December, 1969 – Kenneth Chaffin, Gordon Clinard, and Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.5 January – June, 1970 – Kenneth Chaffin and Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.6 July – December, 1970 – Kenneth Chaffin and Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.6a 1970 – Classic Issues – Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.7 January – June, 1971 – Herschel H. Hobbs and Warren Hultgren.
- 3.8 July – December, 1971 – Herschel H. Hobbs, Warren Hultgren, and Fred Laughon.
- 3.9 January – June, 1972 – Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.10 July – December, 1972 – Charles G. Fuller and Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.11 January – June, 1973 – Carl Bates, John Claypool, Charles G. Fuller, and Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.12 July – December, 1973 – Carl Bates, Charles G. Fuller, and Herschel H. Hobbs.
- 3.13 January – June, 1974 – Herschel H. Hobbs and Herbert Howard.
- 3.14 July – December, 1974 – Herschel H. Hobbs, Herbert Howard, and Dotson M. Nelson.

Box 4

- 4.1 January – June, 1975 – Herschel H. Hobbs and Ed Young.
- 4.2 July – December, 1975 – Herschel H. Hobbs, Frank Pollard, and Ed Young.
- 4.3 January – June, 1976 – Herschel H. Hobbs and James L. Plietz.
- 4.4 July – December, 1976 – Herschel H. Hobbs and Frank Pollard.

- 4.5 January – June, 1977 – Jaroy Webber.
- 4.6 July – December, 1977 – Frank Pollard and Jaroy Webber.
- 4.7 January – March, 1978 – Frank Pollard.
- 4.8 (N. D.) Bound – "Gospel Truth, Blessed Hope, Eternal Anchors, and Good Fight of Faith."
Herschel H. Hobbs.

Box 5

- 5.1 1986 – Classic Issues – Frank Pollard and Richard Jackson.
- 5.2 January – June, 1989 – Joel C. Gregory.
- 5.3 July – December, 1989 – Joel C. Gregory.
- 5.4 January – June, 1990 – Joel C. Gregory.
- 5.5 July – December, 1990 – Joel C. Gregory.
- 5.6 1991 – 50th Anniversary Year – Truett Dodd, McClain Grey, Hobbs, Jackson Pollard, (Jack B.) Young and Gregory Flaming.
- 5.7 1992 – Radio – Joel C. Gregory, Jack B. Johnson, Charles Fuller, and Michael D. Dean.
- 5.8 1992 – Television – Frank Pollard.
- 5.9 1993 – Radio – Michael D. Dean and Joel C. Gregory.
- 5.10 1993 – Television – Frank Pollard.
- 5.11 1994 – Radio – Frank Pollard.
- 5.12 1994 – Television – Frank Pollard.
- 5.13 1995 – Radio – Frank Pollard.
- 5.14 1995 – Television – Frank Pollard and Hess Hester.
- 5.15 January – June, 1996 – Radio – Frank Pollard.
- 5.16 January – June, 1996 – Television – Frank Pollard.