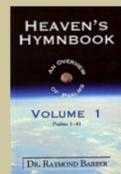
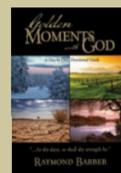


Books Available By  
Dr. Raymond Barber



**Heaven's Hymnbook**

A 3 volume discourse on all 150 Psalms  
Order from swordofthelord.com



**Golden Moments With God**

A devotion for each of the 365 days of the year

Order from Crown Publications  
bookshop@faithforthefamily.net

**More**

- Once Upon A Time
- Dear Lord, Tell Me What To Do
- Family Success
- Family Portraits
- What The Bible Teaches
- Don't Look Now, But Your ATTITUDE Is Showing
- A Cup Of New Wine
- Profile Of A Preacher
- Diamonds From Daniel
- Don't Look Now, But Your RELIGION Is Showing
- Walking In Wisdom
- Look Up, Christian, Christ Is Coming!
- Untying NOTS In Proverbs
- The Bible Is Right
- For Times Like These

To order call  
817-295-2829



Visit Us @  
[www.ibfi.us](http://www.ibfi.us)

**J. FRANK NORRIS, JOHN R. RICE, W. A. CRISWELL**  
**What do these three have in common?**

By Dr. Raymond Barber

Recently, while browsing through books in my library, I pulled off the shelf a book entitled *Standing on the Promises*, an autobiography of Dr. W. A. Criswell. In the 1990's, he had presented it to me with this inscription in his own handwriting:

*To: Dr. Raymond W. Barber  
From: W. A. Criswell With deepest prayer and appreciation (Jer.33:3)*

Read with interest Dr. Criswell's autobiography about his first encounters with J. Frank Norris and John R. Rice.

**Twelve-Year Old Criswell Meets John R. Rice**

"Good morning," said the charismatic young song leader as he bounded up on the platform. "My name is John R. Rice, and we've come to Texline for a good old-fashioned meeting."

I was twelve years old. I sat in the front row of a large tent that had been erected in an open lot near our house in Texline (Texas). I was fascinated by the song leader. I can't describe the excitement I felt that day when Brother Whaley, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Memphis, Texas, began his two week revival in Texline, assisted by his energetic music man, the young John R. Rice. "Let's stand and sing *Onward Christian Soldiers*," Rice exclaimed. The pianist played a short, enthusiastic introduction and John R. Rice lifted his arms to lead us in a rousing song.

At the close of the service, I rushed to the platform. "Hey, kid, what's your name?," John R. Rice shouted, shaking my hand and leading me to the group of leaders standing around Brother Whaley. "My name is W. A. Criswell, Jr.," I answered, "and I want to be a preacher too, one day." Rice walked right through the crowd of older men in animated conversation with Brother Whaley.

"This is W. A. Criswell, Jr.," Rice said, introducing me to our guest preacher, "and one day he's going to be a preacher, too."

"Sit down," Rice said, straddling a rough wooden bench and gesturing for me to join him. "You really want to be a preacher?" "Yes, sir," I answered, "more than anything in the world." "Are you sure?," he asked, leaning down toward me to effect a moment of confidentiality between us. "Yes, sir, I am sure."

"Well, let's just turn this over to the Lord.," John R. Rice said at the close of our conversation. Then he surprised me by kneeling beside that rough wooden bench and closing his eyes to pray, "Father," Rice began, "this is W. A. Criswell, Jr., and he feels called to preach. Bless him, Lord. Guide his steps. Go before him a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Make sure his call is true and use him in building Your kingdom. Amen."

(Continued on inside page)



**INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL**

724 N. Jim Wright Freeway  
Fort Worth, Texas 76108

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

The **Searchlight**  
July/August 2011 Volume 27 Issue 4

BY GOD'S GRACE ...FOR GOD'S GLORY

...that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God. II Corinthians 4:15



Rev. Barry Bedwell  
Senior Pastor

Greetings IBFI Guests,

I trust you had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to our IBFI semi-annual meeting coming up on October 11-13, 2011. As host pastor I want to welcome all pastors, missionaries, laymen, and their wives to beautiful Michigan. Our theme for this year is "By God's Grace ...for God's Glory." Each morning we will enjoy a continental breakfast, and on Tuesday and Wednesday a delicious luncheon will be provided for all attendees. There will be a ladies' meeting during the men's business meeting, and we are also planning a trip to the Cider Mill on Tuesday afternoon. Michigan is particularly beautiful in October as the leaves begin to change colors and there is a crispness in the air. Come and enjoy a time of fellowship and refreshment at our semi-annual meeting. I look forward to meeting each of you.

**Twenty-Eighth Annual Fall Fellowship Meeting**

October 11 -13, 2011

TIME	TUESDAY Oct 11	WEDNESDAY Oct 12	THURSDAY Oct 13	<b>Faith Baptist Church</b> Dearborn Heights, MI  <b>Offering Goal</b> \$35,000  <b>Phone</b> 313-274-3777
9:00-9:40 AM	Brad Gilbert Westland, MI	David Grice Grand Prairie, TX	TBD	
9:40-10:25 AM	Lonnie Bocook Fairborn, OH	Robert Barrow Century, FL	Billy Kyle Marion, OH	
10:25-11:10 AM	Charles Pugh Paradise, TX	<b>The President's Hour</b> Jerry Siler, Dayton, OH	Dennis Riddick Hamilton, OH	
11:10-NOON	Mark Brown Columbus, GA	<b>General Assembly</b> Special Offering/ Business Meeting	R. B. Ouellette Bridgeport, MI	
LUNCH	<b>Ladies' Meeting/ Board of Dir. Meeting</b>	Free Time		
1:30 PM	Dale Adkins Mansfield, OH			
7:00 PM		Danny Jones, Missionary to Mexico Raymond Barber, Fort Worth, TX		

[www.ibfi.us](http://www.ibfi.us)

**The Searchlight**

A Publication and Ministry of the Independent Baptist Fellowship International  
724 N. Jim Wright Freeway, Fort Worth, Texas 76108 / Phone: 817.367.3422 / Fax: 817.246.4884 / Email: info@ibfi.us Website: www.ibfi.us  
IBFI Board of Directors: Dr. Jerry Siler, Pastor Robin Webb, Dr. Willie Weaver, Dr. Raymond Barber, Dr. Terry Riggsby, Mission Director John Peebles, Bro. Ray Richey, Pastor Barry Bedwell, Pastor Jim Pointer, Pastor Bill Hardin, Pastor Charles Pugh, Pastor Glen Anderson, Dr. Don Shipman, Dr. J. D. Weido, Dr. Charles Weatherbee

**A Word from the President**

**News & Events**

**Missionary Spotlight**