# The Circuit Writer - "he went from year to year in circuit" I Samuel 7:16

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## **Casting a Vision**

Every year, in a sense, we are casting a vision and then hoping for the students to catch that vision by way of the Scriptures. This school year, this theme, is being particularized in at least three ways:

Catching a SPIRIT-WROUGHT VISION of GOD like Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Job, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Peter, James, John and Paul of old did; developing a SPIRIT-CAUSED VISION, as never before, of <u>A LOST AND DYING WORLD</u> that needs to hear the Gospel, and to come and know the God of that Gospel; and maintaining a SPIRIT-DIRECTED VISION of <u>THE WORK THAT GOD IS</u> CALLING THEM TO DO (for example, where, and in what capacity).

Abraham saw the God of glory in the Ur of Chaldees and left for the promised land (Acts 7:2). He had many subsequent like encounters as recorded in Genesis 12-24. We have New Testament citations such as John 8:56 and Hebrews 11:17-19, which verify the significance of his encounters with God. Jacob wrestled with the pre-incarnate Christ all night and the designation Israel was dramatically born! Moses came down from Sinai glowing! Joshua saw face to face the One whom he previewed, and in the way he previewed Him (Joshua 5:13-15). Space fails us to refer to others! All these encounters fitted these men for service—and none more so than Isaiah when He saw the LORD high and lifted up, and heard the seraphim worship a thrice holy God (Isaiah 6).

Although, New Testament saints, are not to look for the spontaneous experience of the saints in previous dispensations, but rather at the collective greater vision given in the whole Word of God of the God of the Word (Matthew 28:18-20; I Corinthians 13:8-12; II Peter 1:19), the effect can be even more life changing, because we live in a greater dispensation of grace, the New Testament.

Being continually awestruck as a fellowship of preachers and as a faculty by this vision, we are compelled to train missionaries to carry the Word to the far reaches of the world, or pastors who will support missions while also reaching their community for Christ. Many of the founders of the NBBS were men who were influenced by the ministry of Entzminger and Norris and got a vision of God, the lost, and of establishing churches around the world. In days ahead, our students will be the recipients of the vision of their pastor, instructors, and of the preachers who come alongside to help in this great work.



#### **Important Dates**

Week of Concentrated Study – October 11-14, "Following in the Footsteps of Paul in the STARTING & STABILIZING of CHURCHES

#### **Great News!**

NBBS Representatives are ready to visit your church! Consider having Dr. Riggsby, or Bro. Stewart present NBBS to your people. We are always ready to share what makes the NBBS uniquely effective in the training of preachers, as well as a wise investment.

#### **Favorite Sayings**

## "Riggsbyisms"

"Blowing out the other fellow's candle won't make yours shine any brighter." Said by someone else originally, but often cited by Dr. Terry Riggsby (Administrator of NBBS – 1984-1999).

#### Our Heritage Speaks

"What is needed is a school teaching the whole English Bible...free from modernism." J. Frank Norris

#### **Alumni News!**

Alumni continue to undergird the seminary financially over and above the regular monthly support of their churches, or with their own personal commitments. This, in conjunction with students, faculty, founding pastors of the IBFI and NBBS, as well as pastors in general who are assisting in various ways (e.g., in the making of "hands on" repairs of the facilities and equipment, helping with computer formatting, making a donation of books for the library, aiding in the Opening Day Rally logistics and cleanup).



### We Are Off and Running!

We started the semester with 43 students! Several wives of students are attending. We have seven students in the dormitory.

Two more men (Dr. Willie Weaver and Pastor Charles Pugh) have joined the faculty. Both taught for the seminary in the past. We are glad they are back!

The Norris Night fellowship was very well attended, Saturday, Aug. 5. The oldest student, James Golden, was the first to preach behind the new pulpit. He preached on Jonah and not running from God's will. A returning student won the new study Bible.

A young girl present with her parents at the Norris Night fellowship had an offering in hand when she inquired if we were going to take an offering. Warmed by her countenance we did, and \$84.00 came in! This paid for the inspirational/decorative lettering installed upon the two columns in the chapel area.

A Sunday School class at Worth Baptist Church has pledged \$200.00 toward additional inspirational/decorative wall lettering for the school. It has been installed in three classrooms.

In early August a \$2,000.00 check was received at the school from the High Plains Baptist Church, pastored by alumnus and IBFI VP, Chris Boatman. This very timely offering made it possible to not only address several various expenses associated with the start of a new semester (such as the Opening Day Rally meal, as well as school supplies), but some last minute painting, repairs, and improvements on the school facilities were done (baseboards, walls, landscaping, wall lettering, and more) including the dormitory (siding repairs and the purchase two more needed chests of drawers)!

Opening Day Rally, Aug.16, was a great success! The chapel area was packed and over \$2,000.00 was raised through the appeal of Bro. Riggsby, for new flooring in the dormitory! It has jut been installed!

One supporting church is conducting a food pounding for the men in the dormitory, while yet another one just paid for a freezer for them.

I have run out of space to write more! We continue to be amazed at God's blessings. Please keep praying, above all this is a spiritual endeavor.

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