

PAIGE PATTERSON PAPERS

AR 554



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Paige Patterson Papers

AR 554

Summary

Main Entry: Paige Patterson Papers

Date Span: 1998 – 2000

Abstract: Southern Baptist minister, educator, seminary administrator, and leader of the conservative resurgence in the Southern Baptist Convention, Dr. Paige Patterson served as president of the SBC from 1998 – 2000. His papers contain correspondence, written and received, during that period.

Size: 4 linear ft. (3 boxes)

Collection #: AR 554

Biographical Sketch

Leighton Paige Patterson was born in Fort Worth, Texas, October 19, 1942, the son of Dr. and Mrs. T. A. Patterson. He preached his first sermon at the age of fifteen, and, at the age of sixteen, while still in high school, he was ordained by the First Baptist Church of Beaumont, Texas. He attended Hardin-Simmons University and graduated in 1965 with a B.A. degree. He received the Th.M. degree in 1968 and the Th.D. degree in 1973 from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Patterson served with remarkable success as a pastor throughout his student days.

Dr. Patterson has served churches in Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas. He has preached throughout the United States in revivals and Bible and evangelistic conferences. In addition, he has traveled extensively around the world – Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Thailand, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Africa, and Brazil – participating in evangelistic efforts to share the gospel with people of other lands.

February 24, 1975, Dr. Patterson became the third president of the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, having been led by the Lord to leave his Bible-centered, student-oriented ministry as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Fayetteville, Arkansas. Here he presided over a period of unprecedented growth and expansion.

October 13, 1992, Dr. Patterson was inaugurated as the fifth president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. An innovative and capable administrator and a gifted leader of the faculty and student body, Dr. Patterson is equally talented as a teacher, sharing with students in his own inimitable way the deep truths of Scripture and the complexities of philosophical

theology. In addition, both by instruction and example, he imparts to his students a zeal for personal witnessing and evangelistic outreach.

Dr. Patterson is the author, coauthor, or editor of more than a score of books, the first of which was published in 1968 while he was still a seminary student. He has also written numerous articles for periodical and scholarly journals. Dr. Patterson serves Broadman-Holman Press as consulting editor for *The New American Commentary* and as writer for the *Commentary on Revelation*. He was managing editor of the *Criswell Study Bible* and *The Believer's Study Bible*, and he wrote the introduction and notes for a reprint of *Inspiration of the Bible*, by B. H. Carroll.

Dr. Patterson has served as trustee of the Foreign Mission Board (now International Mission Board) and on the Executive Council and International Council on Biblical Inerrancy. He is affiliated with the Evangelical Theological Society; Christian Ethics Study Commission, Baptist World Alliance; Board of Governors, Council for National Policy; Advisory Board, and International Ministries to Israel and Near East Archeological Society. From 1998 to 2000, Dr. Patterson served as president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Dr. Patterson is married to the former Dorothy Jean Kelley of Beaumont, Texas. They have a son, Armour Paige, and a daughter, Carmen Leigh.

Scope and Content Notes

The Paige Patterson Papers is a collection, primarily of correspondence, written when Dr. Patterson was president of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1998 – 2000, with some other documents such as articles, clippings, and sermons. Topics included relate to the current issues under discussion by the convention and its agencies and commissions at that time. Subjects mentioned include Calvinism, women in ministry, abortion, and homosexuality. Correspondence relates to an invitation from the Chinese government to Dr. Patterson to attend a meeting to discuss missionary activities in China by Southern Baptists. Also included is correspondence, between President William Jefferson Clinton and Dr. Patterson, and other notable political figures.

The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by folder title. The collection comprises 4 linear feet of material, with additions to the collection anticipated. The materials were given by Dr. Patterson as part of an ongoing project to collect and preserve the personal papers of all Southern Baptist Convention presidents.

References

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- Patterson, Paige. The Church in the 21st Century. Wake Forest, NC: Public Relations Department of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2001.
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- Patterson, Paige. A Pilgrim Priesthood: an Exposition of the Epistle of First Peter. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1982.
- Patterson, Paige. The Shopar Papers. Dallas, TN: Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, 1980.
- Patterson, Paige. So You Have Been Called to a Church. Wake Forest, NC: Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1996.
- Patterson, Paige. Song of Solomon. Chicago: Moody Press, 1986.
- Patterson, Paige. The Troubled Triumphant Church, an Exposition of First Corinthians. Dallas, TX: Criswell Publications, 1983/Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1983.
- Patterson, Paige (editor). We Believe: Sermons on Baptist Doctrine. Dallas, TX: Criswell Publications, 1977.

Arrangement

Arranged in alphabetical order by folder title.

Provenance

Donated by Dr. Paige Patterson to the SBHLA

Preferred Citation

Paige Patterson Papers, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

Access Restrictions

Access to material requires written approval of Paige Patterson, or his designated representative, until January 1, 2050. After that time the collection will be open to researchers without restrictions.

Subject Terms

Clinton, William Jefferson, 1946 –
Southern Baptist Convention – History – 20th Century
Southern Baptist Convention – Presidents
Abortion – Religious aspects
Church controversies – Baptists – History – 20th century
Women in church work
Homosexuality – Religious aspects
Baptist Faith and Message Statement

Related Materials

Patterson, Paige. *Anatomy of a reformation : the Southern Baptist Convention, 1978-2004*.
Southern Baptist Convention Controversy Collection. Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, AR 812.
Southern Baptist Convention controversy oral history collection. Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives. RecR553vt (transcript available).

Container List

Box 1

- 1.1 Annuity Board
- 1.2 Articles
- 1.3 Baptist Faith and Message Committee
- 1.4 Baptist Foundation of America
- 1.5 Calvinism
- 1.6 Charismatics
- 1.7 Chicago Declaration of Religious Liberty
- 1.8 Clinton, William Jefferson – Articles
- 1.9 Clinton, William Jefferson – Correspondence
- 1.10 Corpus Christi – Correspondence
- 1.11 Correspondence – A, 1998
- 1.12 Correspondence – A, 1999
- 1.13 Correspondence – A, 2000
- 1.14 Correspondence – B, 1998
- 1.15 Correspondence – B, 1999
- 1.16 Correspondence – B, 2000
- 1.17 Correspondence – C, 1998
- 1.18 Correspondence – C, 1999
- 1.19 Correspondence – C, 2000
- 1.20 Correspondence – D, 1998
- 1.21 Correspondence – D, 1999
- 1.22 Correspondence – D, 2000

- 1.23 Correspondence – E, 1998
- 1.24 Correspondence – E, 1999
- 1.25 Correspondence – E, 2000
- 1.26 Correspondence – F, 1997
- 1.27 Correspondence – F, 1998
- 1.28 Correspondence – F, 1999
- 1.29 Correspondence – F, 2000
- 1.30 Correspondence – G, 1998
- 1.31 Correspondence – G, 1999
- 1.32 Correspondence – G, 2000
- 1.33 Correspondence – H, 1998
- 1.34 Correspondence – H, 1999, January – June

Box 2

- 2.1 Correspondence – H, 1999, July – December
- 2.2 Correspondence – H, 2000
- 2.3 Correspondence – I, 1999
- 2.4 Correspondence – I, 2000
- 2.5 Correspondence – J, 1998
- 2.6 Correspondence – J, 1999
- 2.7 Correspondence – J, 2000
- 2.8 Correspondence – K, 1998
- 2.9 Correspondence – K, 1999
- 2.10 Correspondence – K, 2000
- 2.11 Correspondence – L, 1998
- 2.12 Correspondence – L, 1999
- 2.13 Correspondence – L, 2000
- 2.14 Correspondence – M, 1998
- 2.15 Correspondence – M, 1999, January – June
- 2.16 Correspondence – M, 1999, July – December
- 2.17 Correspondence – M, 2000
- 2.18 Correspondence – N, 1998
- 2.19 Correspondence – N, 1999
- 2.20 Correspondence – N, 2000
- 2.21 Correspondence – O, 1998
- 2.22 Correspondence – O, 1999
- 2.23 Correspondence – O, 2000
- 2.24 Correspondence – P, 1998
- 2.25 Correspondence – P, 1999
- 2.26 Correspondence – P, 2000
- 2.27 Correspondence – Q, 1999
- 2.28 Correspondence – Q, 2000
- 2.29 Correspondence – R, 1998
- 2.30 Correspondence – R, 1999
- 2.31 Correspondence – R, 2000
- 2.32 Correspondence – S, 1998

- 2.33 Correspondence – S, 1999, January – June
- 2.34 Correspondence – S, 1999, July – December

Box 3

- 3.1 Correspondence – S, 2000, January – March
- 3.2 Correspondence – S, 2000, April – June
- 3.3 Correspondence – T, 1998
- 3.4 Correspondence – T, 1999
- 3.5 Correspondence – T, 2000
- 3.6 Correspondence – U, 1998
- 3.7 Correspondence – U, 1999
- 3.8 Correspondence – U, 2000
- 3.9 Correspondence – V, 1998
- 3.10 Correspondence – V, 1999
- 3.11 Correspondence – V, 2000
- 3.12 Correspondence – W, 1998
- 3.13 Correspondence – W, 1999, January – June
- 3.14 Correspondence – W, 1999, July – December
- 3.15 Correspondence – W, 2000
- 3.16 Correspondence – X, Y, Z, 1998
- 3.17 Correspondence – X, Y, Z, 1999
- 3.18 Correspondence – X, Y, Z, 2000
- 3.19 Disney
- 3.20 Eckstein, Yechiel
- 3.21 Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission
- 3.22 Executive Committee
- 3.23 Foxman, Abraham
- 3.24 Homosexual Agenda – Articles
- 3.25 Horowitz, Gedale B.
- 3.26 International Mission Board – Members, 1998 – 1999
- 3.27 Jewish Issue – Articles
- 3.28 Jewish Issue – Correspondence
- 3.29 King James Only – Correspondence
- 3.30 Lifeway Christian Resources
- 3.31 Masonic Order
- 3.32 Mobilization Assistance Program
- 3.33 Mormons – Articles
- 3.34 Mormons – Correspondence
- 3.35 (The) Nehemiah Project
- 3.36 Parliamentarian
- 3.37 Peta – Correspondence
- 3.38 Peta – News Article
- 3.39 Psychology – Correspondence
- 3.40 Religious Liberty
- 3.41 Rutgers, Paul
- 3.42 Sermon – Southern Baptist Convention, 1999 – 2000

- 3.43 Sumners, Bill
- 3.44 Women And Submission – Articles
- 3.45 Women And Submission – Correspondence