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Theologue 2007

ONWARD AND UPWARD
Davis College
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A special thanks to my team of Kim Phillips, Gloria Franklin, and Sarah Wilson. Without your help this project would have never been able to be finished. Thanks to all the students, staff, and faculty that gave pictures and ideas. Thanks once again to everyone that had a hand. To God be the glory great things He has done.

Corey Adams
Theologue director- Class 2007

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On the banks of Susquehanna
In God’s chosen place
Stands our dear old
Davis College,
Subject of His grace.

We must part now, for He
calls us
To a wider field;
And though we are loath to
leave you,
For His sake, we yield.

Davis College, how
we love you
And your teachers dear.
We will all pray daily for you
Though we’re far from here.

Davis College, don’t forget us
As we go our way;
And while we are
in His service,
For us, won’t you pray?
We the class of 2007 wish to dedicate this Theologue to Dr. Gerald Franz. You have been there for us over the years and have helped us through good times and bad. You have given us great memories of history class. Thank you for helping us to connect with the past. We wish you well as you move on the Journey that God has you on. Thank you for the eighteen wonderful years here at PBTS, Practical Bible, and Davis College. God speed as you head back to Florida this summer. May the Lord continue to bless you as you have blessed us. We will miss you Dr. Franz.
In the spring of 1900 Evangelist John Adelbert Davis was given a vision while conducting a revival meeting in Pennsylvania. The vision was that of creating a Bible Training School similar to Moody Bible in Chicago, where Mr. Davis had graduated from a few years before. A few weeks later in Elmira, NY a wash woman by the name of Mrs. L.A. Crosson handed Mr. Davis an envelope. Later that evening Mr. Davis opened that envelope to find a dollar bill and a note reading, “I am a poor washer-woman but God has laid it on my heart to give you this dollar to help you carry out the plan He has revealed to you.” That dollar started Practical Bible Training School. The first classes were held that summer in a room above a store in Lestershire, (now Johnson City) New York. The classes grew very fast that a new building was acquired on Harrison Street in 1901. From 1901-1911 the school grew and it outgrew the three story building on Harrison Street. In the summer of 1911 the school moved to its present location on Riverside Drive. The Old White City Amusement Park had gone bankrupt the year before and Mr. Davis bought it and the property that went with it. Over the next years the old Hotel was transformed in the Main Building with Women’s Dormitory. It was also to hold the daily chapel services and the majority of the classes. The Old Merry-Go-Round was transformed into the Men’s Dormitory and the Roller Skating rink into King Hall, the old gymnasium. PBTS grew in numbers through the Roaring Twenties. In 1922 John A. Davis became Dr. John A. Davis by receiving an honorary doctorate from Taylor University. That same year the Students League of Many Nations was created and it traveled the country even going to Washington DC on many occasions.

When the Stock Market crashed in 1929 the school also began to have many problems. In November of 1931 John A. Davis’ youngest son Charles died in his home. In the summer of 1932 the school split over many different reasons creating what is now Baptist Bible College/Seminary in Clark Summit, Pennsylvania. The school struggled behind closed doors to keep the school afloat during the Depression. Due to much stress and health issues, Dr. John A. Davis went home to be with His Lord on Saturday, March 17, 1934. He was only 62 years old when he passed away.

After his death his son Gordon took the control of PBTS until his
death in 1961, soon after the completion of Patterson Hall to replace the Old Merry-Go-Round. After Gordon’s death his friend Dr. M.C. Patterson took over PBTS until he retired in 1970. During Patterson’s Presidency all the present buildings were built; Mason Hall in 1964, the William J. Chatlos-Davis Memorial in 1965, Clements Hall in 1968 (in honor of the first president picked by John A. Davis in 1900), and the Alice E. Chatlos Library in 1969-1970. After Patterson retired Dr. Kenneth Robb became president until he retired in 1980. The present gymnasium was built in 1979-1980 and it was named after him.

In 1981 Dr. Woodrow Kroll became the president of Practical and became some sweeping changes throughout the school in helping it to become accredited. He served as president until 1990 after which he went to work for Back to the Bible. After that Dr. Dale Linebaugh became president until 1998. During his presidency Practical Bible Training School became Practical Bible College when it received New York State certification. At that time Dr. George Miller III became president and he continues through to this day.

In August of 2004, Practical Bible College became Davis College in honor of Dr. John Adelbert Davis our founder. The school continues to grow as it is in the process of raising support for a Ministry Center and explanation on the library. If the Lord tarries both tasks will be accomplished in His time.

The Campus from Space

The Future of Davis College
SENIOR
CLASS
OF
2007
Dear Class of 2007:

I am sure you realize that I am an avid sports person. I enjoy thinking about sports and what we can learn about life from playing in athletic contests and thinking about teamwork. In the 1980 Olympics, the excitement revolved around the United States hockey team and how they refused to give up and won the gold medal. The team that was predicted to win the gold medal was the overpowering, and what seemed like an invincible team, from Russia. The US coach was Herb Brooks and he is remembered not only as the coach that won the gold medal, but for his “pep talk” to his team when playing Russia. His talk was simple, but great. He said, “Gentlemen, you were born to play this game!” What a journey they had winning the gold medal!

To each of you I say, “Ladies and gentlemen, you were born to play this game!” God has raised you up to be Christian leaders that will make a difference in this world for Him. He has uniquely gifted you and has led you through your education here at Davis College and through experiences that make you what you are today. I can hardly wait to hear reports coming back to this campus about how God is using you to do great and mighty things for Him. As servants of God, we are involved in an enterprise bigger than we could ever imagine -- how exciting is that!

The Student Development theme this year has been, Join the Journey. Life is a journey. We have spiritual journeys, health journeys, relationship journeys, ministry journeys and so on. You are just finishing a journey here at Davis College. God wants you to connect with every journey He calls you to go on. He wants you to join the journey with confidence. The confidence you must have is not in your self, but in Him. God has created you ideally for what He wants you to do and has gifted you to be effective in what He has called you to do. Remember the words of our Lord in Matthew 28, in what we often refer to as, “The Great
Commission"; after He tells them to “Go” and to make disciples, He gives them the confidence that "I am with you always." Let the reports come back to the Davis College campus that the graduates of 2007 are like Caleb and Joshua (Numbers 13 & 14), in that they were men of faith -- their confidence was in God.

If you are to be effective in the Journey, you must have a passion for God’s Word. Our founder, John A. Davis, once wrote that a good education is one that a student learns the Bible, and not just to be able to quote it from memory, but it must "get into their hearts through Christian experiences, as God’s eternal truth builds into the mind, soul and character." Remember that God’s Word is truth and His Word never changes -- it is settled in heaven forever. Hold firmly to the Christian worldview that you have been taught here at Davis, because it will assist you in understanding your lives and the world around you so that you can live productive lives for God. Knowing God’s Word and being able to apply it to your life should be a distinguishing quality that people view in your life and ministry.

In order for you to have an effective Journey touching the lives of people around you, it is necessary for you to be relevant. As Davis College students, you have been challenged to think creatively about new ways, new approaches, and new methods to penetrate society with the Bible message. Remember that innovation is a good thing. The message will never change but the methods are always tied to culture and time. New ways of reaching people with the Truth are great. You have been taught that to be effective, you must attempt to understand the culture and community that you have been called to impact. Take the time to read the culture, values and needs of the people around you in order to minister biblically and in a culturally appropriate manner. Maybe one of you will come up with the next method to sweep the world for Christ. I trust that the Journey you are embarking on will be one that love is experienced and demonstrated. All of us need to find safe people and safe places to experience love. The Lord quoted from the Old Testament when He said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” He then went on to say, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” People need the love and hope of God today, and I trust that they will see it in you. I pray that your life and ministry would be marked by sensitivity and compassion as you minister to needy people from every class, color and culture. And remember we are all needy people.

Lastly, I pray that your Journey will be one of purity. As I have so often said in chapel that God wants us to have “clean hands and pure hearts.” (Psalm 24:4) We all need to thank God that He can forgive and restore our lives but lets work hard at not putting ourselves in the place where we hurt ourselves and others due to sinful actions. The Apostle Paul tells young Timothy, “keep yourself pure.” The Psalmist tells all of us that we are to, “Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.” (Psalm 29:2) We want you to go Beyond Belief to make the best choices for your daily life and for your future. Be men and women of integrity and strong Christian character as you live life and minister to people.

Now, please don’t forget us here at Davis College -- we definitely will not forget you. Be a part of the Davis College team because we need each of you to pray for us, to send us great students like you, and of course, as president I must say this, support us with your finances. We need you, to help us move forward and to continue our commitment to excellence in faith-based education with hands on experiences that prepares students to take their faith Beyond Belief.
Dear Graduates,

It is usually with mixed emotions that students approach graduation. Friends and the confines of our campus are being left behind to venture into unknown or unfamiliar regions where learned skills and abilities will be tested and applied. Take that equipping and “…walk worthy of the calling with which you were called.” (Eph. 4:1)

Go forth with the courage of Moses, Joshua, David, Ruth, Daniel, Esther, and Paul for you share in their spiritual heritage. Listen to the counsel given to Joshua: “…Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)

Go forth with full assurance of God’s sovereignty. You have been placed here for such a time as this. Keep yourself as a “…vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use,” (1 Tim. 2:21) for “…greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.” (1 John 4:4) And “Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it.” (1 Thess. 5:24)

Go forth in the strength and power of the Lord accepting the same challenge that was declared to Timothy: “…but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” (1 Tim. 4:12) Cultivate a servant’s heart.

Hold fast to that which you have received. “This book of the law shall not depart
out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shall have good success.” (Joshua 1:8) In other words, “Do the Book,” to quote Dr. Snyder. Minister with the passion and zeal of Mr. Seavey. Be an overcomer. Yet, because of our humanness, be quick to confess transgressions and receive the forgiveness of God. Be a generation that seeks wholeheartedly after God with clean hands and pure hearts.

Go forth expectantly “Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.” Do not grow weary and faint. As Winston Churchill spoke to the audience at Harrow School in October, 1941, “…never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never—in nothing, great or small, large or petty – never give in except to convictions of honour and good sense. Never yield to force; never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy.” God’s Word declares that “…we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.”

My prayer for you is taken from Ephesians 3:16–20. I pray, “That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.” Go forth, men and women, and impact this world for Jesus Christ.

“Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.” (Ephesians 3:20–21)

For His Glory,

Roseann Melious
Senior Class Advisor