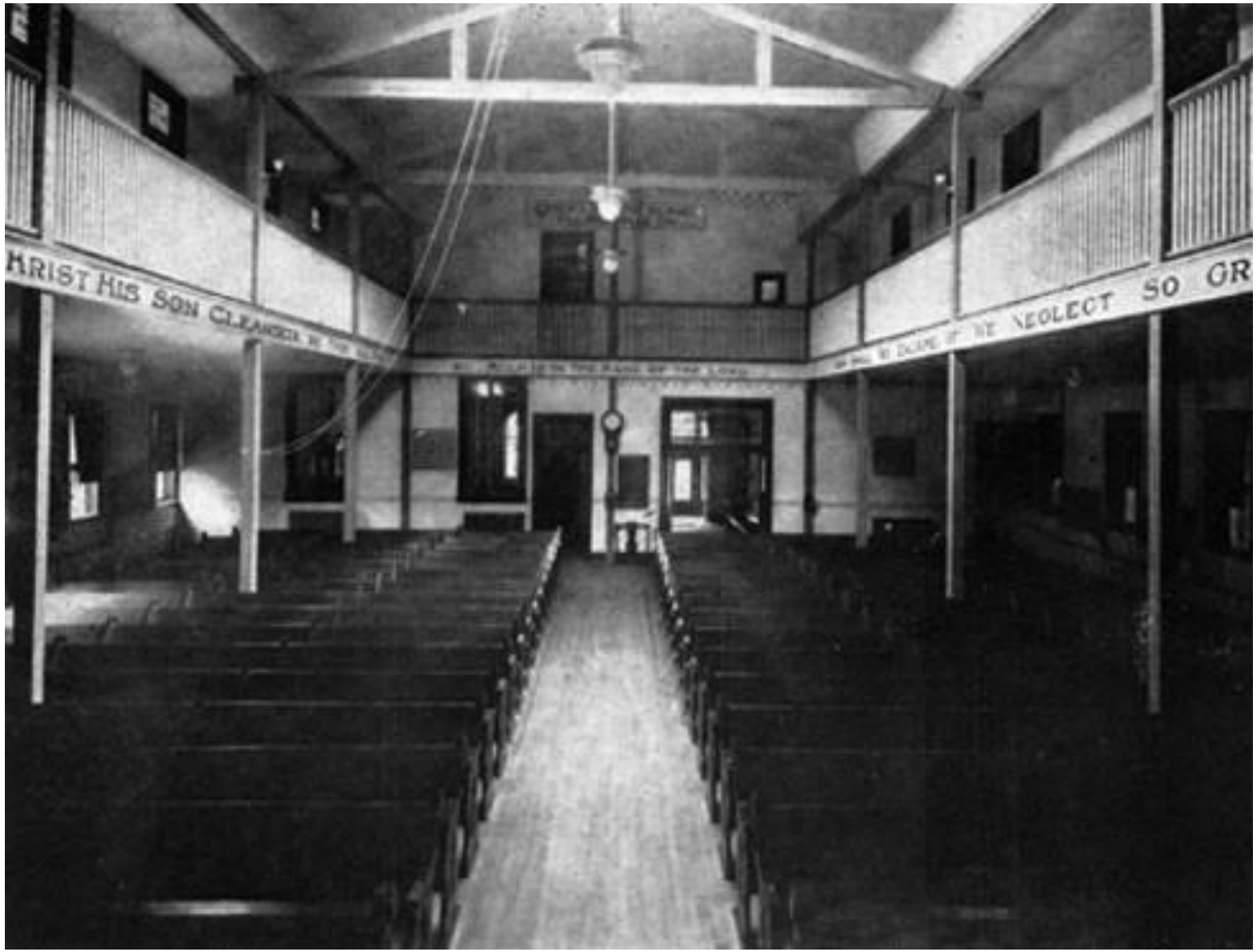

HRIST HIS SON CLEANSES
NEGLECT SO



Star of Hope Mission Saturday night audience





John and Betty Stam



Helen Priscilla Stam

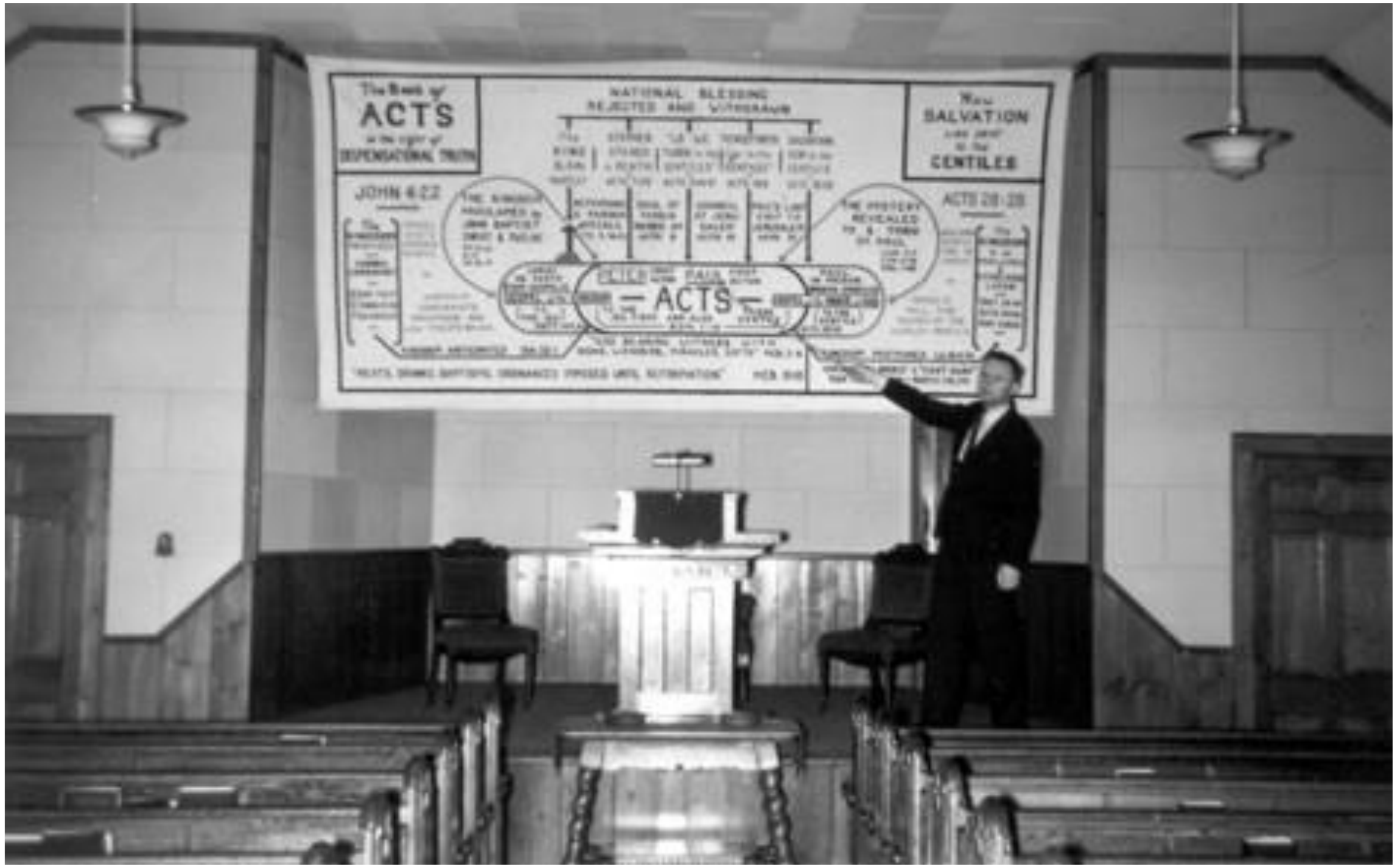


RESCUED ORPHAN AND CHINESE NURSE

BABY HELEN PRISCILLA STAM, THREE-MONTHS-OLD DAUGHTER OF REV. AND MRS. JOHN STAM, IS BEING HELD BY A CHINESE NURSE AT WUHU GENERAL HOSPITAL AFTER RESCUERS HAD BROUGHT HER OUT OF ANHWEI PROVINCE, DEC. 21, WHERE HER MOTHER AND FATHER WERE SLAIN BY CHINESE BANDITS SAID TO BE COMMUNISTS. THE BABY WAS CARRIED IN A RICE BASKET FOR 100 MILES BY A CHINESE COOLIE IN THE RESCUE.

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The Book of
ACTS
NATIONAL BLESSING
REJECTED AND WITHDRAWN
New
SALVATION
CENTILES
JOHN 6:22
ACTS 28:28
— ACTS —



Pastor Charles Baker and Pastor C. R. Stam



The BEREAN SEARCHLIGHT

Organ of
Preakness Community Church
Preakness, N. J.
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THE NOBLE BEREANS

"These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so." Acts. 17:11.

Why did God call the Bereans noble? Why did He place them among the spiritual aristocracy of Paul's day? Wherein lay their true greatness?

I have asked many people this and the answer has generally been the same,—"Because they searched the Scriptures."

This is true, but it is not the *whole* truth. The Scriptures give us *a twofold reason.*

1. "They received the word with all readiness of mind."

2. They "searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so."

Let us put first things first.

THEY WERE OPEN-MINDED

They were *broad* as well as narrow. They were *progressive* as well as conservative. If they listened to Paul's strange words with open eyes and open mouths, they at least listened with open minds too. This is the first lesson we must learn from the noble Bereans.

To really appreciate the spiritual greatness of these people, we must remember that they were Jews who met in a synagogue each Sabbath day. This was apparently the very first time that they had heard the gospel of grace proclaimed. It must all have seemed very strange and impossible to them, but they were big enough to listen attentively and respectfully. They did not immediately shake their heads in refusal of the message and deem it unworthy of investigation.

It was not so at Thessalonica. There Paul reasoned out of the Scriptures for three Sabbath days with men who were not willing to listen. The result was that "some" of them believed in comparison to "many" at Beres. And while only "some" of the Thessalonian *Jews* believed, we read that "a great multitude" of the *Gentiles* believed. The Gentiles had put God's chosen people to shame.

Thessalonian bigotry not only kept them in spiritual darkness, but moved them to bitter opposition to the truth itself. After persecuting the apostles in their own city they even followed them to Berea to stir up the people against them. This was the natural result


CHRIST
SINS
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