



ERNEST STEWART

MICHIGAN'S STEWART READY FOR JERUSALEM

By OTIS GATEWOOD

ROCHESTER, Mich. — You have often heard it said: "Mature, well qualified preachers who have succeeded in preaching the gospel in America, should go to the mission field."

Ernest O. Stewart, who plans to go to Israel in July, is the answer to this dream. He preaches for one of the largest churches in the Detroit area, and the elders of the Chase Road congregation in Dearborn where he preaches, have tried in every way possible to get him to remain with them.

He had done one of the best works with that congregation. The church is growing rapidly. He is held in the highest esteem by all the preachers of the area. If he so desired he could ably fill the pulpits of the largest churches in our brotherhood.

Such a well qualified man, thanks to God, has chosen to go to the mission field. Elders, who have been seeking well qualified men to go to the mission field, need wait no longer. Brother Stewart is the answer. Hee needs and seeks the support of his brethren. One of the best churches in our brotherhood should support this man. I know that you would be highly satisfied with Stewart and the fine work he will do.

He is 34. He earned the B.A. degree from David Lipscomb College in 1950 and has most of his work

finished on his M.A. degree in speech in Wayne University in Detroit. He was born in Chattanooga. His father was an elder of the church in Dalton, Georgia. In 1948 he married Mary Frances Harris from Holtland, Tennessee. He met her at Lipscomb. They have three children: Ernest III, 10 years old; Karen, 8; and Kenneth, 6. He preached at Franklin, Indiana, 1950-51. Since coming to Detroit he has served the following congregations: Fairview, 1951-55; East Side Central, 1955-57; and he has served the Chase Road Congregation in Dearborn since 1957.

He goes to re-establish the church in the beloved city of Jerusalem — the city the Lord himself chose to first establish His church two thousand years ago. The Jews killed Christ there. We do not know what awaits Brother and Sister Stewart and the Ralph Henleys with whom they will work, I am sure they will meet stiff opposition, but with equally as great success.

Since the Babylonian captivity the Jews have been scattered and trodden down by the Gentiles. Now for the first time in over 2000 years they have formed a united nation. They are one of the youngest nations in the world. Israel is flourishing and surging forward with new industry and hitherto unthought-of progress. It is no longer a priest ridden country dreaming of by gone glories.

Young men are planning for a great future for their new nation. They are seeking new ideas and new ways of life. Such a setting makes an ideal place in which to preach the unadulterated gospel of Christ.

There are 175,000 people in the new section of Jerusalem where they plan to begin. So even though Jerusalem is an old city, it is in its present setting a new and challenging frontier. Even though many Arabs have been forced to leave, there are still 200,000 Arabs in Israel.

Stewart needs about \$1,300 per month for salary and working fund. Rent in Israel costs at least \$200 per month and a deposit of \$5,000 must be made in order to get a place. Gasoline is 75¢ per gallon and other living expenses are proportionally high. They will need \$5,000 with which to buy tickets and make deposits for guaranteed return passage.

Adequate support should be provided for this fine family. If such well qualified men are willing to "go", brethren at home should provide their financial needs so that they can concentrate all of their talents on the work they are going to do. They sail July 21, 1960, on S. S. Israel, so those who would like to help should write immediately Ernest O. Stewart, Church of Christ, 1750 Chase Road, Michigan.