

# SCENES AT THE DEBATE



V. Kumar and his helper ——— Joseph Santhanaraj & Arockyadass



Our students from Coimbatore attending the debate



## THANKSGIVING TO GOD

The pictures on this page illustrate the great growth of the churches of Christ in Tamil Nadu, S. India. J. C. Bailey came to this state in 1963 and preached Christ. He was followed by two other Canadians, James Johnson and Carl Johnson. The latter

was sent here by the Shades MT. church of Birmingham, AL. That church also sent William Cashion, who came time and time again. These brothers laid the foundation for the work we are doing now. The picture to the left shows the three elders (at a separate lecture-ship) of the Chettipalayam church, who sponsored the debate. Thanksgivings to God and you who support this work of faith and labor of love.

*Jim E. Waldron*

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Waldron Newsletter  
Crossville Church of Christ  
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# WALDRON NEWSLETTER

Volume 51

MAY 2017

No. 5

THE SCRIPTURES TEACH: JESUS IS GOD  
EVEN AS THE FATHER IS GOD!



The above proposition was affirmed on 21st April 2017, by Joseph Santhanaraj in Jaichari Hall, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, South India. This city is the capital of Tamil Nadu; the state has a population of more than 77 million. The proposition was denied by Villa Kumar a preacher who lives in Chennai, but holds a doctrine like that of "Jehovah's Witnesses." Brother Joseph was sponsored by the elders of the church that meets in Chettipalayam, where the Tamil Nadu Bible Institute (TNBI) is located and the home for orphans, known as *Deva Anbu Illam* (House of God's love); the home for homeless children which was begun by Don and Cathy Iverson in 2001.

The above picture shows the crowd of about 500. It included students from TNBI, who were brought on buses over night to attend. This debate was most crucial for the work in Tamil Nadu, because for years there have been reports of some denying that Jesus was to be worshipped. Although Don and I had sought to combat such as gross error (Hebrews 1:6,8); we did not know the source, and learned recently of V. Kumar's strong defense of the doctrine. The debate was video taped and plans are for it to be put in print in Tamil; and God willing, to be translated and printed in English.

## 55 MEN AND WOMEN GRADUATE FROM THE TAMIL NADU BIBLE INSTITUTE



### FACTS ABOUT THE GRADUATES

The picture to the left shows the 26 young men, who graduated on April 29th from the Tamil Nadu Bible Institute (TNBI). The school is located on the Angie Greene property, in Chettipalayam, Tamil Nadu. The average age is about 18. Stan Perveen, who sits fifth from the left in the front row is principal. Six of the boys grew up in orphan homes begun by Don and Cathy Iverson.

The picture at the lower left shows the 29 young ladies, who also graduated on April 29th, from TNBI for women. This school sits immediately next door to the men's school. The girls' ages averages about a year older than the boys. The staff is shown in green saris. The principal of the school, Mercy Wilson, sits sixth from the left. Cathy Iverson sits next to her. In the competition for writing memory verses, Gracie, who is located second from the left in the top row, wrote 1,013 verses. She is 19 and came to the orphan home called, Deva Anbu Illam in 2001 at the age of four. Altogether the girls wrote a total of 15,536 for an average of 555 each. Priya, who is married, was in the hospital on the day of writing giving birth to a little boy, Alan Resin. In this picture she stands behind Cathy. After returning to the school she quoted 180 verses.



The 9 young men shown above, in the competition for written memory verses (28 February 2017-time: 11 hours), each wrote more than 1,000. They are: Back row: Timothy 1,101; Shibu 1,055; Gowtham 1,001; Edward 1,035; Prasad 1,050; Front row: Raju 1,092; Sathish 1,050; Vinodh 1,877 Thangarasu 1,120. In all the **26 graduates** for 2017 wrote 22,568. For an average of 868 each.