

ENJOY THE FRUITS

OF THE



LOVE

JOY

PEACE

LONG SUFFERING

GENTLENESS

GOODNESS

FAITH

MEEKNESS

TEMPERANCE



## The Apostolic Faith Report

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*Published as the Lord provides: sent to you upon request on the free will basis.*

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## Christian Growth

The Bible speaks of new converts as "babes in Christ." It also clearly teaches that it is not the will of God for Christians to stay in a state of spiritual infancy but to experience spiritual development.

*"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" [1 Peter 3:18].*

**GROW by talking to Him. That is prayer.**

*"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" [Jeremiah 33:9]*

*"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" [James 5:16].*

**GROW by allowing Him to talk to you.**

**That is Bible study.**

*"But He answered and said, It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God". [Matthew 4:4].*

*"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" [II Timothy 2:15].*

**GROW by talking about Him to others.**

**that is witnessing.**

*"Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy" [Psalm 107:2].*

*"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in Heaven" [Matthew 10:32].*

*"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

*"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen" [Matthew 28: 19-20].*

## Bylaws of the Apostolic Faith Bible College, Inc.

### ARTICLE VII

#### Doctrine

It is recognized that the true church of Jesus Christ consists of all believers in the saving grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who have accepted him as their personal Saviour. It is recognized and agreed that no organization or man has been granted authority by the Lord to exclude from or accept anyone into the Kingdom of Heaven, as this is done by Jesus Christ only. It is further recognized and agreed that we as Christians are to love all members of the Body of Christ (Christians), and this love and fellowship derives from the unity instilled by the Holy Spirit. Although differences in doctrinal beliefs and interpretations should not influence our love for one another, adherence to similar doctrinal beliefs and modes of worship have bonded together those of the Apostolic Faith Movement as founded by Charles F. Parham in the early 1900's. The scripture teaches us to adhere to the truth and proper doctrine. The common doctrinal beliefs are essentially as follows:

Triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
Creation and Formation  
Man is basically sinful and in need of Salvation

Salvation by Grace upon repentance toward God and acceptance of Jesus Christ as one's personal Saviour, which is the conception of Spiritual Life.

Sanctification of the Spirit, Soul and Body. A second definite work of Grace by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit; evidenced by speaking in other languages.

Water Baptism (of all believers) by immersion in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Washing of Feet.

Divine Healing through Jesus Christ for all believers.

Do not condone divorce and remarriage. Matthew 19:8-9.

Destruction of the Wicked.

Conditional Immortality.

Rapture of the Man Child Class.

Return of Jesus Christ to earth again; bodily and visibly.

A Ministry supported by tithes and offerings.

These basic doctrines shall be adhered to in the teaching of the Apostolic Faith Bible College, which in addition to other doctrinal teaching approved by the Board from time to time if they are not in consistent with the above listed basic doctrines.



# Apostolic Faith Bible College

## From The Superintendent

With the world situation like it is now, we wonder where we are in God's time table. We look at the prophecy, and we think: WHAT'S NEXT? What will happen? Is this shaping up for the Battle of Armageddon? What is going to happen to Israel? Will the bear come out of the North and try to swallow up Israel or--WHAT'S NEXT! Will grace dispensation come to an end, and the first fruits be raptured--the one hundred and forty-four thousand be caught away to the throne of God? What is next, man cries; Some with fear, some with wonder, others with anticipation, but the words are the same. WHAT'S NEXT!

But God calls out to His Church: WHAT'S NOW, my children! Look out at the harvest fields. See them--they are still white and need to be harvested. See the world, lost in sin, needing to be shown a true Redeemer; needing to see a Christian who really cares, and has the mind of Christ.

NOW is the day of grace, NOW is the accepted time to redeem the sinner. God is looking for workers NOW to win souls! People are dead in trespasses and sin all around us; and we are asking, "WHAT NEXT". Look Now--work while it is day. The night is coming when no man can work.

To the Church God is calling, WHAT'S NOW! Now's the time for the Church to prepare for the bridegroom. It is time to present our life to Christ, Eph. 5:27--"that he might present it to himself a glorious church not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." So now is the day of the purging of the Church. Now is the day we need to separate from the flesh, and walk in holiness before the Lord, asking God to mold us into a perfect vessel.

So, my Christian friend, let's look at "NOW". Live for God, work as hard as we can in His vineyard. Let us be people of the PRESENT in living for God; Not of the past or the future--but NOW!

M. D. Methvin  
Superintendent AFBC

## Girl's Dorm Report

Praise the Lord! I am glad that the Lord allowed me to be here at Bible College. The first devotion I had with the girls the Spirit of the Lord came into the dorm and we had a refreshing time. The girls attending this semester are: Donna Frazier, Regina Shannon, Stacey Probert, Crystal Gravener, Carol Gift, Teresa Hackney, Cindy Harris, Margaret Myers, Stephanie Crowhurst, Kelly Whitlock, Cassie Wheeler, Sharlynda Sutton, Jamie Ollenberger, Jill Watson.

God Bless You!  
Donna Haines  
Dean of Women

## From The Men's Dorm

A chorus adapted from Psalms 42:1, "As a deer panteth after the waterbrooks", describes how our souls should hunger and thirst after righteousness. Every night you'll hear the men singing this chorus in glorious harmony, in which you can almost feel their earnest souls cry out to God. This chorus has been referred to as our dorm's "theme song".

Here in the dorm we endeavor to maintain a spiritual attitude and atmosphere, that our study and prayer time would be more profitable. We are looking forward to a wonderful and blessing filled school year and count it a privilege to be here. We realize as Christians, there's a call being made to each of us to go and spread the gospel. We realize also that we have more responsibility placed on us to know the truth. our answer is to be, "Here am I, send me".

Day by day victories are being won, ground is being conquered, and satan is being bound. We are learning to better trust in the Lord, apply his word to our lives and we understand that our sufficiency is of God. Any time a problem arises you'll always find someone who will listen and pray with you. And other times you might hear someone speak your name in prayer without your need to ask.

it's nice to know that someone's praying for you.

Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ"

Erik Cameron

## New Addition To Campus

The newest addition to the campus this month is the blacktop. The Lord has graciously blessed us with the money from our faithful supporters to pave in front of the Dormitories, and the Education Building.

This pavement was finished on the 11th and 12th of September. It gives the College a better outlook, and has improved the parking areas. It also has helped to remove gravel which in turn keeps our carpets and vacuums in better condition, (Not mention our shoes!) Both the students and the faculty are very pleased with the pavement.

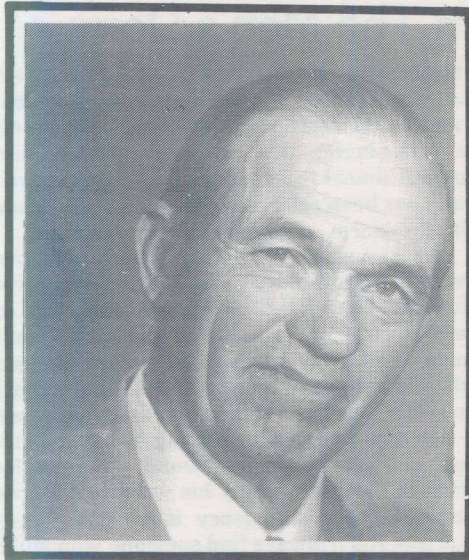
### Pearls of Promise

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness".

(Isaiah) 41:10).



## Wayne William Messner



Wayne William Messner, youngest son of Burgette J. and Pearl Messner, was born December 19, 1919 in Beaver County, Oklahoma, and departed this life August 23, 1990.

Wayne spent his early life on the family Homestead north of Darrouzett, Texas. With the influence and help of his Uncle Victor Messner he started training horses and entertaining at rodeos throughout the Midwest. His rendition of "The End of the Trail" became the trademark of his rodeo routine with his horse, White Cloud.

On September 10, 1944 Wayne married Pauline Jacobs at Darrouzett, Texas. To this union was born four children, Texanna, Deanna, Edward Wayne and Coleen. Wayne purchased the "Family Farm" and reared his children doing farm work. In 1952 he was employed by Northern Natural Gas Company where for the next 29 years he enjoyed working with his fellow employees.

Wayne accepted Christ at the age of 12 in a revival held by Rev. Blair Grubb. In 1953 he surrendered his life wholly to the Lord at the Follett Chapel under the ministry of Rev. Marcus Adair. Through-out his close walk with God his life has touched many people.

Wayne loved the Doctrine of the Apostolic Faith Movement and held it precious in his heart. Camp Meeting was also a part of his life and had never missed being in one since 1958. His burden has been for the Bible College as he felt this is where our Movement will have growth and the bond that holds the people together.

A highlight in Wayne's life was a trip to Israel. The prophecy of the Bible and walking where Jesus walked was very exciting. His hope was to see Jesus return to Earth and set up his Kingdom.

At the time of his death, Wayne was an active member of the Midway Country Church, a member of the Board of Directors of the Apostolic Faith Bible College, Baxter Springs, Kansas, and was completing his sixteenth year of service as board member in the Beaver County Farm Bureau.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister Rachel Altmiller, and two brothers Wibur and Walter.

Today he leaves many wonderful memories to numerous friends, neighbors, and relatives. He is survived by his wife, Pauline, four married children and their families, Texanna and Max Ollenberger of Olathe, Kansas and their children Jamie and Keith of the home, Deanna and Howard Rogers of Ellinwood, Kansas and their children, Jerry, Jimmy, and Jennifer of the home, Edward Wayne and Susan Messmer of Logan, Oklahoma and their children, Darryl and Donnie of the home, and Coleen and Jay Bradley of Wildorado, Texas and their children, Rachael, Rebecca, Jason and Charles of the home. Two sisters, Ruth Robins and Ruby Fausett of Darrouzett, Texas. One brother, Wyette Messner and his wife, Ethlyn of Slapout, Oklahoma. Two sisters-in-law, Evelyn Messner of Vallejo, California and Hazel Messner of Slapout, Oklahoma and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

### "Our Daddy"

To us, our Daddy was tall and majestic like the Colorado Mountains he loved.

Dad, when we think of you we see;

Your Hands; "Daddy's Hands", large hands that overflowed with love, care, and helpfulness. Hands that were strong in work and tender in the touch of your grandchildren.

Your Heart: A heart "Near to the Heart of God", was full of compassion, tenderness and understanding.

Your Spirit: The spirit of a holy man, "Living By Faith", whose prayers touched the living throne of God and whose life was a beacon shining bright to guide us on our way.

Your Home: "The Home on the Range". was the place to raise cattle and train horses. It was the place always open to family and friends. It was your castle.

Daddy, you were a simple man who was thankful for your own success and delighted in the accomplishments of your family. You were "The Wind Beneath Our Wings". The heritage and legacy you've given us will soar with the eagles and enable us to receive our strength from the greatest of all sources, the Lord, our strength, our shield and our buckler.

#### THANK YOU

To our Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
Thank you for the many cards, memorials,  
phone calls and all acts of kindness shared with  
our family due to the loss of our loved one.

May God Bless You Dearly,  
Pauline Messner and Family



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# Peace Amidst The Storm

Vanessa  
Harris

The ringing of the telephone woke me Easter morning, April 15, 1990. It was my mother, calling from their home in Joplin, Missouri, to tell me that my 27 year-old sister, Lisa, had been involved in an accident. Lisa had been driving an eighteen-wheeler for over a year. We knew the possibility of an accident was there, but nevertheless it was still a surprise to hear that it had actually happened. They had no idea how serious her injuries were, only that she was being flown to St. Louis, to a hospital there. Living in south Texas, some 600 miles away, I didn't know what to do. During our church service that Easter Sunday morning thoughts of Lisa flooded my mind. Though I could not be with her, I knew God would.

As far back as I can remember I have been taught to trust in God. This teaching would never leave me, but would help me through some of the roughest times in my life.

As I look back into the past, I can recall so many situations in which I was taught the importance of putting my faith and confidence in God. There were times when the storms outside would rage- perhaps a fierce thunderstorm or threat of a tornado, and I would be uneasy. My mother would gather my four sisters and me and lead us to the cellar or to the basement where she would pray and ask God to shelter us- to protect us from the storm outside. A peace would settle over us and we would be calmed, knowing that God was watching over us.

I can remember the nights I would wake trembling with fear after a bad dream. My mother would hold me and teach me a Bible verse that would comfort me in the midnight hours. She would always assure me that God was there- that he loved me and would keep me safe.

Each morning before school our family would kneel together in prayer, asking God to keep each one of us safe as we went to school that day. Somehow we knew He would.

In the years that followed, one by one, we began our own lives. We knew that no matter where we went or what life brought our way, God would be there. I knew that this time was no different. God was still taking care of our family.

That afternoon my parents called me again. Lisa's condition was critical. She was unconscious with no sign of brain activity whatsoever. The doctors only gave her 1½ chance of survival. As I talked with my mother on the telephone I was reminded of her courage and faith in God. She told me that God was there with them and she knew nothing was impossible with Him. The minister that was at the hospital to encourage them was amazed at their faith in God at such a difficult time.

All through that afternoon and evening I clung to faith in God and fought those thoughts of fear and unbelief that tried to take hold in my mind. I knew that no matter how serious the situation was, the God I served was there. That night they called me with more information on Lisa's condition. At approximately 12:30 a. m. ( it was now Monday, the sixteenth), they would do one last check for brain activity. If there was none they would disconnect the machines that were helping her breathe. I talked to my parents and once again they were relying on God to work it all out. They were at peace with their decision to unhook the life support. They knew that God was not limited to a machine- that if Lisa lived it would be nothing other than a miracle. They knew that the breath of life could only be taken if God allowed it to be so.

My husband and I stayed in prayer through the time of the testing. We felt such a sweet peace as we prayed. We felt so confident after our prayer time that we expected to be called with the news of a miracle for Lisa.

A few minutes later, my family called with the news that Lisa had died. At first I didn't know what to think. It seemed as if I was in shock, like I was waking from a dream of sorts. As I lay in bed that night, the grief and fear tried to engulf me, but I still had to trust in God. I had to believe that whatever happened God was in complete control.

My husband, my daughter, and I made the trip from Texas to Missouri to be with my family. I wasn't sure what I would find when I reached my parents home. When we got there my parents met us outside, and even in their sorrow their faith was in God. Of course, they were heartbroken- they had just lost a child. We had lost a sister and friend.

There's something about death that astounds people. The uncertainty, not knowing when or how it might happen. The feeling of never touching or seeing that special person again in this life. It can really shake one's faith in God if allowed to. But once again our faith would be in God. My mind went back to those stormy nights, when, as children, we could rest assured that we would be alright. We could be so confident that God was right there with us, that somehow, some way, He would see us through. We held to that. He was our hope. I thought of Jesus' disciples in the boat during the storm, and how they became so fearful. ( Matthew ) They woke Jesus and asked him if He even cared that they might perish. But Jesus was there all the time and He cared so much more than they gave him credit for. When Jesus spoke those words, "Peace, be still", all the winds and waves had to obey and the sea was calmed. Amidst the fiercest storm our family had ever gone through, we were calm. We felt God's peace.

The day of the funeral I watched as friends and loved ones paid their respect to my sister and showed their concern for our family. One by one they would come and I would hear My mother sweetly saying, "Put your trust in Jesus. He will never fail you. Please, put your trust in Him." Tears filled my eyes as I listened and realized that what my mother had taught me was so real to her, that it would not fail, even in times such as these. It's not always easy to trust God. At times I do question Him. It's then that I'm reminded that I may not always understand things that happen, but that God in His infinite wisdom and grace sees the future, and is in control.

The days following Lisa's death have not been easy. We miss her terribly and sometimes the hurt is almost unbearable. We've gone through battles and tests that we never expected to go through. Yet God has been there and we are trusting Him. Faith is easy when life is, but it's when the storms come, when the "winds" blow, that faith is put to the test. We have felt the hurt and we have felt the pain, yet through it all we have trusted God and felt His peace in the midst of the storm.

*And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

*Ph. 4:7*



# News Notes

## AMARILLO, TEXAS

Greetings in the name of the Lord, from the Apostolic Faith Church in Amarillo, Texas. We would like to praise the Lord for His goodness and faithfulness. We believe the Lord is working in hearts and lives. We would like to share a few things the Lord has done in our midst.

The last of March we experienced a wonderful revival with Randy Dalton as our Evangelist and special music by Evergreen. Two of our ladies were Baptized in the Holy Spirit and many of us were stirred and revived to a new commitment to our Savior. Ron and I received an even greater burden for the church here in Amarillo. We are believing God to do great and wonderful things for us this next year.

Also, June 18-21 we had Kids Crusade conducted by Evergreen. We had sixteen kids enrolled for the week. The "Bee-Attitudes" was the theme throughout the week. We enjoyed being a part as Evergreen taught the children. The helpers and children alike learned what kind of Attitudes we as Children of God should have. We had kids from the neighborhood come that had never been to the church before. This was an encouragement and an outreach. Ron and I have been able to visit with a few of the parents and tell them about Christ and the church.

During Kids Crusade we were to decide on a "work of the Lord" to send our offering to. We chose the Apostolic Faith Report. Our Childrens Mission Class has sent money to the Report in the past, so they were familiar with this work. At the end of the week the children had collected \$39.15 for the Report. We were very proud of the children for their hard work. We want to say a big "THANK YOU" to Evergreen and we appreciate your Ministry.

We here in Amarillo, Texas desire the prayers of our fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ. It is mine and Rons desire to serve Christ to the very best of our ability.

In His Service,  
Ron, Evelyn, and Bryant Noble

## Births

### GRIMMER

Savoy and Karen Grimmer announce the birth of their son Joshua Savoy on July 18, 1990. He weighed 8 lbs. 3 oz. and was 20 1/2 in. long. Kristen 6 and Miranda 2, are his sisters. Proud grandparents are Rev. and Mrs. Leland Grimmer, Spearman, Texas, Rev. and Mrs. Marvin Boyd, Camp Wood, Texas, and great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Goodhue, Enid, Oklahoma.

### MULLINS

Another special blessing - Another special baby! Aaron Michael was born on August 29, 1990. He weighed 8 pounds 2 ounces. Parents are Don and Shelly Mullins of Baxter Springs, Kansas. Aaron also has a 3 year old big brother, Dustin Matthew.

### IT'S TWINS!



Hank and Debbie Packer of Ashland, Alabama are proud and blessed to announce the arrival of twin sons, Jonathan Reed Packer and Jordan Darling Packer. Born on June 18, 1990, Jonathan weighed 4 lbs. 13 ozs. and Jordan weighed 6 lbs. 5 ozs.



Pictured above are five generations of a family who is actively involved in the Apostolic Faith Movement.

From the left is Mary Jo Dewees Elkins of Hempstead, Texas. Next to her is Elizabeth Elkins Dollins who lives in Katy, Texas. Sitting on her lap is three-month-old Tara Barker of Katy, Texas. Standing is Polly Dollins Barker, also of Katy. On the right is Rev. Joe B. Dewees of Hempstead, Texas, who is 91 years of age.

Another member of Tara's immediate family is her father, Rev. Tim Barker of Katy, Texas. Additional grandparents are Raymond Dollins of Katy and Rev. and Mrs. Ted Barker of Guymon, Oklahoma. Great-grandparents include Kenneth Elkins of Hempstead, Texas, Mrs. Deet Bond, Mrs. Jack Barker of Laverne, Oklahoma, and Mrs. Edna Dollins of Katy, Texas.

Baby Tara is following the tradition of her family as she has already attended church services, a Bible camp and a camp meeting.

Proverbs 22:6 says: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it".

There is no generation gap in the service of the Lord. Proverbs 6:20-22 tells us: "My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with the".

We thank God for the natural longevity of life. But, most important, we thank Him for the promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.



# Earl Love



Earl Love, son of Henry Alfred and Leona Pearle Love, was born October 27, 1915 at Charleston, Oklahoma, northeast of Buffalo, Oklahoma. He departed this life at Enid Oklahoma on February 19, 1990 at the age of 74 years, 3 months, and 23 days.

The family lived at Charleston until Earl was 12 years old when they moved to Laverne. Earl attended school at Charleston and Laverne and graduated from Laverne High School in 1934.

Earl's long career as a grocer began when he moved to Laverne and spanned nearly 60 years.

Earl and Eva Shorb were married at Laverne on October 8, 1940. To this union were born 4 children, Stanley Earl, Glen Dean, Alfred Lynn and Rita Yvonne.

They lived at Laverne and Rosston until moving to Perryton, Texas, in 1945. From there they moved to Follett in 1955 where they purchased the Trout Grocery Store. Owing a grocery store had been a lifelong dream of Earl's and he was determined to succeed. Earl and Eva adopted the motto, "Love - Your Neighbor" for the store and with the Lords help and the help of Eva and a community overflowing with good people, this dream became a reality.

Earl was a longtime member of the Texas Grocers Association, Follett Chapel Church Board, Follett School Board, Chamber of Commerce, and the Community Fund.

Earl has been a very active and dedicated supporter of his church. He has served a Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School Teacher, Board Member, and has helped with various committees and projects. When he was not directly involved, he was always encouraging those who were.

Earl was always happiest when he was around his friends and family. He liked to visit and tease and share his treasury of good memories with others. A kind word spoken, a drive along the less traveled roads, an afternoon tinkering in the workshop or reading his Bible, and a short visit with the neighborhood kids were among his favorite things.

Earl is survived by his wife Eva; three sons and their wives Stanley and Darlene of Follett; Glen and Reta of Waynoka, Oklahoma; and Alfred and Gail of Early, Texas. One daughter and her husband Rita and Ron Pinckard of Booker. Nine grandchildren, Shani and Emmett Miller of Liberty, Missouri; Selinda and Randy Dalegowski and Doug Love of Follett; Shane Pinckard of Carrollton, Texas and Kristel and Kiley of Booker; and Troy, Traci, and Travis Love of Early. Four sisters Pearle Ray of Wichita, Kansas; Goldie Kinser of Laverne; Jewelle and her husband Everett Lake of Elmore City, Oklahoma; and Ruby and her husband Bob Wilson of Ft. Supply and a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends,

Aug. - Oct. 1990



## AFBC Student Body

David Ashworth .....	Aledander City, Al.
Tracy Ashworth.....	Alexander City, Al.
Erik Cameron.....	Rock Island, Tx.
David Carter .....	Stella, Mo.
Stephanie Crowhurst.....	Roswell, N.M.
Amador Elias.....	Sunray, Tx.
Donna Frazier .....	Pine Hill, Al.
Carol Gift.....	Balko, Ok.
Crystal Gravener .....	Seneca, Mo.
Tereas Hackney .....	Perryton, Tx.
Cynthia Harris .....	Columbus, Tx.
Cindy Karki .....	Baxter Springs, Ks.
Kimberly Keeling .....	Kingman, Ks.
Louis Kelling .....	Kingman, Ks.
John Kinion .....	Baxter Springs, Ks.
Paul Morrison .....	Hudson, Ky.
Margaret Myers .....	Baxter Springs, Ks.
John Mudd .....	Livingston, Tx.
Jamie Ollenberger .....	Olathe, Ks.
Larry Palmer.....	Evansdale, Ia.
Stacey Probert .....	Joplin, Mo.
Beverly Radford .....	Baxter Springs, Ks.
Justin Rose .....	Carthage, Mo.
Darlene Shannon.....	Baxter Springs, Ks.
Lonnie Shannon.....	Baxter Springs, Ks.
Regina Shannon .....	Leakey, Tx.
Sharlynda Sutton.....	Pampa, Tx.
Jacob Urick .....	Alvin, Tx.
Jill Watson .....	Booker, Tx.
Cassie Wheeler .....	Pine Hill, Al.
Kelly Whitlock.....	Bailey, Co.

### A WORD FOR A DISMAYED HEART

"Fear thou not; for I (God, Himself) am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness" (Isaiah 41:10). So says God to a dismayed heart.



## CHRISTIAN DUTIES

A Christian is a person professing belief in Jesus as the Christ or in the religion based on the teachings of Jesus. They are supposed to exemplify the life of Jesus; showing forth, by their daily living, the characteristics of Jesus.

Christianity is not a lip service or putting on a show; it is showing the character and practices of Jesus Christ: not just on the first day of the week but every day of the week.

When judgement comes, it will not be a judgement of our better days but will include our worst days: not just Sunday but every day of the week.

Included in this judgement will be deeds, intents, and thoughts. Our heavenly Father wants our deeds to satisfy Him. That is no more than what is expected. Our heavenly Father expects our intent to come to His standard. Our heavenly Father will help us to a better pinnacle of thinking.

I am dealing with Christian duties and will not be able to cover them all in this writing. Therefore I have chosen a chapter of 21 verses that identifies numerous duties: Christian duties. Romans 12: 1-21. The verse 21 will be my text and ultimate goal of every Christian professor.

Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. It is a great accomplishment to die for Jesus. It is very important that we live for Jesus. This is a reasonable service. He does not expect us to be a Qhitfield, Luther, Wesley, or Graham. He does expect a living reasonable service. He is the potter-- we are the clay. We havn't done a very good job. Jesus can help us live a better life and He will if we are willing.

Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind. It does make a difference how we think. Jesus can help us in this process so that we can find and prove what is that good, and acceptable and perfect will of God. This is a personal challenge. God's will is going to be had throughout the world in His time. I am concerned about knowing what His good, and acceptable, and perfect will is for me as the days unfold in my years of living. Not only do I want to know, I want Him to help me to be in His will.

Here again is the thinking process. It is very important. To every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly that he ought to think: but soberly according as God has given to every man the measure of faith. If humans could be bought for what they are worth and sold for what they thought they were worth, it would be a most profitable business.

The body of Christ is compared to the human body. It consists of many members working in harmony. Each member must work in harmony with other members or the body becomes disoriented: not able to functiion or perform simple tasks. So we, being many, are one body, and all members one of another. Having gifts differing according to grace that is given us; let us find our place under the direction of the Holy Ghost. There are too many misfits so the professed body of Christ is disoriented. I use this in a general manner.

Prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith.

Ministry, let us wait on our ministry.

Teaching, let us learn to teach.

Exhortation, let us work on exhorting.

Ruling, let us rule diligently.

Showing mercy, let us do it cheerfully.

Let love be without dissimulation. That means, let it be real: not put on or watered down.

Abhor that which is evil. It is very difficult to love Jesus unless you hate evil. There are some things a Christian can hate.

Cleave to that which is good.

Be kindly affectioned one to another in brotherly love. In honour preferring one another.

Not slothful in business. A Christian is a good business man and attends to business. His word is his bond. He is just as good as his word. This applies to all.

Fervent in spirit: serving the Lord.

Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing in prayer.

Distributing to the necessity of saints: given to hospitality.

Bless them which persecute you.

Rejoice with them who rejoice.

Weep with them that weep.

Condesend to men of low estate.

Be not wise in your own conceits.

Recompense no man evil for evil.

Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

As much as possible, live peaceably with all men.

Avenge not yourself. Vengeance is mine, I will repay saith the Lord.

If thy enemy hunger, feed him. If he thirst, give him drink.

These duties properly performed, by God's help, will bring us to the closing verse.

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

The overcomer shall inherit all things.

Some Christians Duties.

By Donald D. Dibbens

Non Profit Organization U.S. POSTAGE	PAID	PERMIT No. 4 Baxter Springs, KS 66713
THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT	Post Office Box 653 Baxter Springs, Kansas 66713	MRS. R. C. JONES HARDESTY, OK 73944