

Jan. - Feb. 1984
Vol. 31 No. 1 & 2

The Apostolic Faith
Report

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

Karen Oakes Editor

Post Office Box 653 Ph. 316-856-5281
Baxter Springs, Kansas 66713

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Published as the Lord provides; sent to you upon request on the free-will offering basis.

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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 inconsistent with the above listed basic doctrines.

Thank You Lord

Dear Lord,

Six years ago you laid a burden on my heart to work for you at the Apostolic Faith Report office. Since that time you have been so wonderful. When you first asked me I thought I couldn't. You knew that I'd never had any training for working on a publication. Why you knew I couldn't even type. There were so many others that were so much better qualified than I. These were some of the excuses I gave you as to why I shouldn't and yet you still asked me to. You reminded me of all the other times that you'd been with me to do jobs that I thought I couldn't. I knew that in the past you'd always been there with me and so I told you I would try. The months have become years and you have been so good. Thank you for sending all those that have instructed me in so many different ways. I especially thank you for my wonderful brother and sisters in Christ that have prayed, encouraged, written articles, poems, letters and held up this ministry with their financial help as well. Sometimes we forget that it takes all of these to see your Word to go forth. Thank you for all the times you've provided all these things when I wondered how and when. Most of all I thank you for such a wonderful place to work. The office is so comfortable that your people have provided but more than that I have appreciated so much that each time I have walked through these doors I have felt your sacred presence. Your presence has made me to know that this ministry is your work and that you will move on hearts as your Word goes forth. Your presence has promised that souls would be won, lives enriched and drawn closer, discouraged hearts lifted up, sick bodies healed and strength given to all who trust you.

We've entered a New Year and we don't know what 1984 holds for us but I know one thing - that if we have our complete confidence in you, you will bless and lead in the right directions.

Thank you Lord for being with us in the past and thank you for your promises of days to come. Thank you Lord for the ministry of the Apostolic Faith Report. May everything be done for your glory, honor and praise.

Love,
Karen

AFBC NEWS

From the Superintendent's Desk



On January 9th at 3:00 p.m. enrollment for the Spring semester of Bible college was conducted. On that day 22 students enrolled and by the weekend 4 more came bringing our enrollment to 26. We are thankful for each of these who come with a hunger and desire to learn more about God's Word.

The Lord answers prayer, praise His name! We took a step of faith and purchased a much needed commercial dishwasher for the Bible College kitchen. It is already paid for! Thanks to all who helped with this need. We are happy to say as of this writing we have been able to pay all expenses of the first semester of school. Praise the Lord for faithful people of God who carry a burden for this great work and continue month after month to help supply the need.

On Saturday, February 11th we enjoyed a Valentine Banquet at the Bible College. This year the Royal Heirs Quartet from Tulsa, Oklahoma came and provided the program. The banquet was attended by youth, youth sponsors, and ministers and wives.

We ask all of you to remember daily to pray for the Bible College, faculty and students. The Lord is blessing and you have a part in this coming to pass. Also we again invite you to come by and pay us a visit. You are always welcome!

As we go into the hard winter months please remember the expense here will be greater. Also remember the faculty with your tithes and offerings. They work hard and spend long hours. The Lord says, "The workman is worthy of his hire." Thanks for your support to these people.

Supt. Jack Cornell

Boy's Dorm

Greetings from the boys dorm. We have started a new year and a new semester. We look forward to the fellowship we get here and we enjoy receiving the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

We have already been through a few weeks of school and everything is great except the cold weather. We are growing spiritually each day and we learn to depend on the Lord more and more each day.

We desire your prayers so we can grow more and that we may know the Lord's will and fellow His will always.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

James Swanner, Jr.
Pine Hill, Al.

Student Body - Spring 1984

Jerrilyn Allen-Katy, Texas
Kristi Baldwin-Laverne, Oklahoma
Russell Ball-Buffalo, Oklahoma
Delvan Blythe-Rockdale, Texas
Ron Brening-Aurora, Colorado
Cindy Brown-Siloam Springs, Arkansas
Curtis Brown-Siloam Springs, Arkansas
Shirley Burns-Taneyville, Missouri
Doug Forbes-Riverton, Kansas
Barbara Handley-Enid, Oklahoma
Valerie Hopson-Clay Center, Kansas
Joanna Jett-Beaver, Oklahoma
Janis Mathis-Hampstead, Texas
Kim Mathis-Hampstead, Texas
Bryan Morris-Willow, Alaska
Renee Morris-Ashland, Alabama
Richard Morris-Ashland, Alabama
Sarah Morris-Ashland, Alabama
Ron Noble-Balko, Oklahoma
Paula Perry-Lodi, California
Wayne Rucker-Katy, Texas
Jana Sanger-Elmwood, Oklahoma
Karla Schelf-Taneyville, Mo.
John Scruggs-Hempstead, Texas
Virginia Stafford-Formoso, Kansas
James Swanner-Pine Hill, Alabama

Girl's Dorm

Together Again!

We are back again for another great semester in the Lord. We are looking forward to the fantastic times in 1984 that the Lord has in store for us. We've only been here a few weeks but we've already seen the marvelous work of the Lord. We are looking forward to the many blessings to come! PRAISE THE LORD!

We have a few new girls in our dorm to replace the one we lost. But we are still with her in Spirit. She is going to school and witnessing to others at West Texas. We are glad to have the new additions to our family.

We have our devotions in our dorm and we are praying for a revival.

We would appreciate your prayers. But we know the revival starts in us.

For us 1984 is going to be a wonderful year. How about you?

Shirley Burns
Taneyville, Mo.

Deadline!

Copy must be in by the 15th of the month to be in the next month's issue.

Are They Esteemed Highly?

Danny Robinson
Balko, Oklahoma

I Thess. 5:12-13, And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

There are two important factors to know about these verses of Scripture. 1. Who is the one over you? 2. What does to esteem highly mean?

The one who is to labour is to be known of the congregation. He is the minister, the pastor of the church. The individual is to lift Christ up among the people. He is to point souls to the one who can save, satisfy, and bless those who put their trust in Christ. The pastor is to be caring, compassionate, and prayerful for the Christian and be a burden - bearer for their needs whatever they may be. He is also to be a person who is everlooking for lost souls that are out of the ark of safety. The pastor is an over - seer, Acts 20:28, Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood. In order to feed the flock or the Church, it is necessary to pray and to study the Word of God that He might feed people's souls. That will take plenty of time and plenty of effort. A minister must not have the motive of self-gain in mind. I Pet. 5:2-3, Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight, thereof, not be constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. A true minister takes heed to himself when he nourishes his own soul by sound doctrine, purifies his own heart by loving obedience to the truth, strengthens his own spirit by habitual devotion, and lives in inward communion and fellowship with Jesus. There must be spiritual wisdom and understanding in the mysteries of the gospel, experience of the power of the truth, skill to divide the Word aright, and a zeal for the glory of God. The Christian service can never be other than a willing service of love. Wise authority in a Church is that which the minister can wield who loves the members, seeks their highest well-being, and is ever ready to put his own advantage, and even his own preferences, aside in order to secure it. Unwilling authority is sure to be unwise and unworthy. Impure motive is seen in using an official position for securing any personal ends. The position in Christ's Church is one of service to others. It may bring both gain and authority to the minister, but in no way should this be sought. These duties must be performed 'not be constraint' but from a willing mind that takes pleasure in the work of the Lord.

There is also a need to turn our attention to the 'esteemed very highly' for the minister's work. It is to look upon this man with high opinion, appreciation, respect, and to rate him worthwhile. That does not mean he is not human, because he is just that. The Lord calls the minister an 'anointed one'. Ps. 105:15, Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm. The minister is to come to a Church as an overseer, as a God - called man, and one who is to guide the people. We are familiar with the fact that the minister comes to the Church without a promise of a salary

to keep him for his labours. But a Church must look on a minister as one who is worthy of his hire. I Tim. 5:17-18, Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the WORD and DOCTRINE. For the Scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, the labourer is worthy of his reward. It is in vain to expect spiritual profit from a minister we do not respect. As a public man he is exposed to much criticism, criticism that is often thoughtless, shallow, and unfair and all such criticism tends to lower his influence with the indifferent and unspiritual. To get the highest good from the pastor the people must love and esteem him (rate him as worthwhile). Where this spirit lives, his maintenance, his reward, his needs, will be just and generous, and cheerfully rendered. he devotes his life, his powers, his all to his work (The Ministry), first for the love of his master, and then for the spiritual salvation of his people. If he ministers faithfully in holy things, he is entitled to honour and becoming support in temporal things.

Why do people feel they should receive for the labour that they would spend out on a job? If a person takes a load of wheat to the elevator, or takes beef to the sale barn, has oil and gas wells, or a business, why should he feel he is worthy of wages from these? Simply because he has laboured and is worthy of wages! A person expects to pay you for your labour, and you expect to get your income. There is nothing wrong with that attitude. It is nothing more than right, honourable, and expected.

Should we draw a line then when it comes to the honourable support of the minister? It is not up to just a few to fulfill this obligation, but it is up to everyone to do their individual part. We must not fail to see the value of the work of the minister. We must esteem very highly (have a high opinion of, appreciation, respect, and to rate him worthwhile) the minister in financial support also! We would not fail to feed an animal that would do the work that we would need them to do. There is a responsibility of the laity as there is a responsibility of the minister. Rom. 13:4-7, For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain, for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon his that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

There is a promise from the Word of God that is still in effect as much as it has ever been and all Christian workers need to remember. When we are doing our part in seeing to the needs of the minister, we are allowing God to impart His blessings upon us too! Mal. 3:10-11, Bring ye all the tithes into the store house, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. There are unlimited ways of looking at this Scripture. This promise is not just to the farmer, it is to the one who will honour the Lord. You will be healthier, you won't be as careless, your clothes could last longer (the Israelites lasted for 40 years), you could be wiser with your money and find

good bargains, better investments come along, and many, many more. When ALL, not PART of the TITHES are given, nothing will be held back for God has control of it all, and He can supply your need according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus, Phil 4:19. Afterall, God has a right to the first fruits and the best of everything and He turns it around to bless us back for our being obedient to Him and His Word! Yes, Yes, if these conditions are complied with, the blessings like fruitful showers will fall upon you! There will be meat, not superfluity, for the minister who labours in the Lord's house. If we honour God with our Tithe and free-will offerings, we shall not lose in this world. The windows of heaven will open and no real good will be withheld. Prov. 3:9-10, Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

We don't want it to happen as it did in Nehemiah's day. Nehemiah 13:10-12, And I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given them: for the Levites and the singers, that did the work were fled every one to his field. Then contended I with the rulers, and said, WHY IS THE HOUSE OF GOD FORSAKEN? And I gathered them together, and set them in their place. Then brought all Judah the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil, unto the treasuries. When the minister of the Lord knows that the people are standing behind him in prayer, looking for the highest good for him, and his people are supporting with their financial support, he will do all that is required of him before the Lord. That pastor will not even mind to supplement his salary with outside work, if necessary. You won't find burned out ministers nor ministers ready to find greener pastures when these conditions exist. When this kind of atmosphere exists there is contentment, peace, joy, and the good of each other is prevalent. This is when the fingers of the Gospel begins to reach out to the oppressed and people are fully blessed. God blesses our intentions when they become good works and good deeds that promote the kingdom of God. So let us as ministers feed the flock, that the Lord has purchased with His own blood, and let us as the people of the Flock esteem very highly the Lord's minister.

Isn't He Wonderful!

Greetings from the high desert in California! I receive the Report each time it is published. It is such a blessing to me. It helps me to keep up with the Apostolic Faith Movement and fellow ministers. I hardly lay it down until I finish reading it. Thank you for the good work you are doing and your services as editor. God bless you.

Isaiah 9:1-7

1. Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations.

2. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

3. Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

4. For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

5. For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

6. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

ISN'T HE WONDERFUL!

Everything about Jesus is wonderful! Of Him it was said, "(He) hath done nothing amiss" (Luke 23:41), "Never man spoke like this man" (John 7:46), "I find no man" (Luke 23:47). And God Himself declared from heaven, "This is My beloved Son; hear Him" (Mark 9:7). Yes, Jesus is unique and amazing because He is the only One who is both divine and human.

Throughout the centuries since Jesus' birth, man has marveled at the wonder of His person and work. An unknown author declared: "He became a man that we might become the sons of God. In infancy He troubled a king; in boyhood He puzzled the teachers; in manhood He ruled the course of nature. He walked upon the billows, hushed the sea to sleep, and healed the multitudes without medicine. He never wrote a book; yet the libraries of the world are filled with volumes that have been written about Him, Satan could not seduce Him, death could not destroy Him, the grave could not hold Him. All others have failed in some way, but not Jesus! This perfect One is altogether lovely."

Not only is Christ matchless in His person and accomplishment, but he can also be known as Savior and Friend by the most humble believer. With Isaiah we can say that Jesus is wonderful! Let's worship Him today!

All glory to Jesus, begotten of God,

The great I AM is He;

Creator, sustainer-but wonder of all,

The Lamb of Calvary.

Peterson

PONDER THE WONDER OF JESUS.

Submitted by James Hosler

9401 Crystal Creek Road

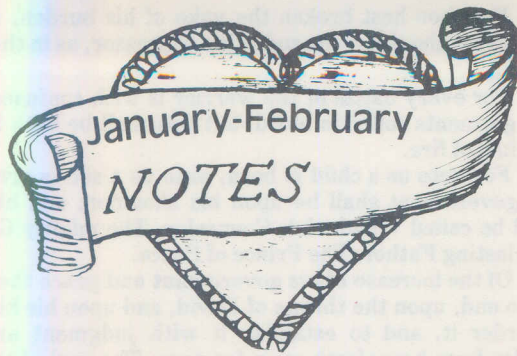
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Enid, Oklahoma

Happy New Year from all of us in the Enid Church. As we look back at the past year we want to thank God for all of His blessings. He has been good to us. We have been especially blessed these past few months with the good messages from Brother and Sister Beydler. Sister Dora's lessons on Revelation are so timely and we are all made aware of our need to take inventory, do more and draw closer to the Lord in this new year.

The weather was very cold and bad through the Holiday Season but it has been improving until now it is really quite nice. The bad weather made it difficult for some to be at church but we praise the Lord for those who made it and also praise Him because others would have come if they could have.

Our number here is small but we know the Lord is with us in each service and we are praying for more to come. Some of our people have lost their jobs recently and we desire your prayers for guidance in seeking new jobs.

Come visit us any time and may God Bless and keep all of you through the New Year.

Bro. and Sis. Beydler - Pastors
Roberta Stubblefield - Reporter

Amarillo, Texas

Greetings in the name of our Lord.

We were privileged to have the Bible College Choir in our church in October. We were richly blessed by their singing. The ladies of the church provided supper after the concert.

Rev. and Mrs. Gene Cornell visited in our church several weeks ago. Bro. Cornell preached both the morning and evening service. It was so nice to have them back in Amarillo for a visit. All who heard his message were blessed.

December was a busy month. The teenage class had a bar-b-que supper and took a drive to look at Christmas lights. All the class enjoyed the fellowship. Our annual Christmas program was held on Dec. 18. Our young people worked very hard on this program. We really appreciate Valorie Ashmead for her dedication in organizing and arranging this program.

There has been a lot of sickness in our church. We praise the Lord for hearing and answering prayers for healing.

Come and worship with us anytime you are in our area.

Brent Blythe-Pastor
Marietta Heisch-Reporter

Midway, Oklahoma

Happy New Year to all from Midway Church. Due to being busy and the cold, cold weather I haven't sent in a report for some time.

In October the Bible School Choir visited our church.

Then on Nov. 6 Bro. and Sister Ted Parker held us a weeks Revival, and the Church was blessed very much, and we hope that they will come back and see us soon.

We had our usual Thanksgiving Dinner at the Victory School House the week before Thanksgiving, and we all enjoyed it very much.

Then on Dec. 18 we had our Christmas program, it was supervised by Kathy Arnall and Joyce Bensch, and they did a great job, and we all enjoyed the program, hope the girls continue the good work when needed in the work of the Lord.

There was morning Church Services at Midway on Christmas morning, and no services in the evening. We had a nice crowd on Sunday morning, even though many were gone to various places.

Our little Church has been blessed with a new ceiling in part of the church, and also new carpeting just before Christmas. Thanks to the Lord for all of it, also a new storm door.

We are very glad to have Jana Sanger and Joanna Jett home with us for the Holidays. Girls we will miss you much, but God bless you good as you continue Bible School.

Hope this will a good year for all; health, wealth and most of all spiritually. We love you all.

Bob Taylor-Pastor

Spearman, Texas

Since we last wrote several things have taken place. The Berners daughter, Denese, and family visited the service on Sunday, September 4, 1983. On Sunday night September 15, Bro. M. D. Methvin and his wife, Juanita, began a revival that proved to be a blessing, inspirational, and informative. He used the chart of God's plan of the Ages. On the last day of the revival the church held a church dinner that was enjoyed by everyone.

Sis. Elma Greever is almost well after an extended time of suffering with her hands. We praise the Lord, for the deliverance. On October 16, we called many of the churches for prayer in her behalf and we thank all who prayed.

On October 24, Edna Lee and I left for Dickinson, Texas for a few days of vacation and visiting with Savoy and Karen Grimmer. We had a good time and we thank Bro. E. W. Dickson, for filling in for us while we were gone.

On October 23, the Apostolic Faith Bible College Choir ministered for us in our church and the church family and friends really enjoyed their ministry.

On November 20, our church family took part in the Community wide Thanksgiving service and it was a good fellowship and service. Since then services have been about the same with God's blessings upon each service.

God Bless you in your Labor of Love,

Christian Love,
Lealand Grimmer, Pastor

Alvin, Texas

We enjoyed a beautiful fall in Alvin, Texas. Our services have been annointed by the Holy Spirit and our church has been growing spiritually and also in number. We have had quite a few visitors the past few weeks and have enjoyed seeing old acquaintances and making new firends.

Sunday, November 20th we had a Thanksgiving dinner in the fellowship hall. The dinner was delicious and enjoyed by all who attended. The evening service was a song and testimony service which was very special. It's always wonderful to give thanks to our Lord for all our blessings He so freely gives.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth for ever. Psalms 107:1.

Pastor: Neil Ragan
Reporter: Doneva McPhetrige

Arnett, Okla.

Greetings from Western Oklahoma:

God is still on the throne and blessing His people in this small town of Arnett.

Brother Elmer Christenson conducted revival services for us Nov. 6 through 13th. The Holy Spirit really blessed our hearts and encouraged us in the things of God. When trials come our way and seem so hard to bear, it is wonderful to be reassured that God still answers prayer.

Ronnie Hoskins, Pastor

Pampa, Texas

We, the people from Pampa chapel, want to say a HAPPY NEW YEAR TO all, And to tell you we have won victories in 1983. The Lord heard and answered our Prayers for our Church growth. We have had four new families and we have seen our children go from 4 to 14. We had a wonderful children's program for our Christmas and our Christmas dinner afterward and we had 60 people for our dinner.

We have had a wonderful year and have felt the leading of God's Spirit in all we did. Our Revival with Brother Ted Barker was real good but did not have as good attendance as we would have liked. But God was FAITHFUL.

Our Pastors were able to go to his folks for Christmas in Gardner, Kansas and we had our Sunday School and dismissed for the people to be with families that day.

Everyone enjoyed the College Choir in October and it was a priviledge to have the young people in our homes.

God bless you and give you a wonderful New Year in 1984.

Austin Sutton, Pastor
Anabel Simmons, Reporter

Kingman, Kansas

The Kingman, Kansas church is praising the Lord because of His love, mercy and patience He gives to all of us.

We are happy to welcome a wee newcomer to our church, David Alan Brening, son of our pastors, Rev. & Mrs. Mike Brening.

We are thankful to have central air for our church now.

Several of our church family members have recovered from various illnesses and we are thankful they are back in services again.

We are continuing to pray for revival.

Mike Brening-Pastor

Wedding Bells



Arnall-Robinson

Believing marriage is ordained of God, Rae Mona Arnall and Danny M. Robinson were united in marriage on December 30 at the Apostolic Faith Church in Baxter Springs, Ks. The bride is the daughter of the late Lora Arnall Boyer and the late Floyd Arnall. The groom is the son of Danny and Pat Robinson of Balko, Ok. Rae Mona and Danny currently reside at the Apostolic Faith Bible College where Danny is teaching and serves as Dean of Men.

Oakes-Dorris

Mr. and Mrs. Dennie Oakes and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Dorris are happy to announce the marriage of their children, Tamara Oakes and Joel Dorris. The couple were married on Jan. 7, 1984 at the Apostolic Faith Bible College in Baxter Springs, Kansas. The double ring ceremony was performed by the Rev. O. A. Busch. After a wedding trip to Arkansas the couple are at home at 431 1/2 St. Charles, Joplin, Mo.

Psalm 19:7-11

The law of the Lord is perfect,
converting the soul:
the testimony of the Lord is sure,
making wise the simple.
The statutes of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart:
The commandment of the Lord is pure,
enlightening the eyes.
The fear of the Lord is clean,
enduring for ever:
the judgments of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether....
**more to be desired are they
than gold, yea, than much fine
gold: sweeter also than honey
and the honeycomb.**
Moreover by them is thy servant warned:
and in keeping of them there is great reward.

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OBITUARIES



Ida L. Sluder

Mrs. Ida L. Sluder, 70 years of age, 2121 Virginia, Joplin, Mo. passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 1983 at Oak Hill Hospital, Joplin, Mo where she had been a patient since Oct. 18, following a years' illness.

She was born May 19, 1913 in McDonald County, Mo moving to Reeds, Mo. where she attended school. She then moved back to the Anderson area where she met and married Carl Sluder on June 3, 1933. Together they moved to Joplin in the early 1940's and resided there the rest of her life.

She was converted at the age of 10 and was actively involved in and a very strong supporter of her church. Surviving her are: Two daughters-Miss Roberta Sluder of the home and Mrs. Jim Higley, Joplin Route 6; five sons-Jack Sluder, Fayetteville, Ark., John A. Sluder, Uriah, Ala., Leonard Sluder, Mayfield, Ky., Birchie Sluder, Dallas, Tx., and Robert Sluder, Joplin, Mo., one stepson-Leon Sluder, Queenomo, Ks.; one sister, Mrs. Verna Beaver, Carthage, Mo., 22 grandchildren, 3 great-children and a host of friends.

Services were held at Thornhill Dillon Funeral Home in Joplin on Nov. 10, 1983 with the Revs. Neil Ragan, Tom Day and O. A. Busch officiating. Music was-It is well with my soul, Hold to God's unchanging hand, and Because He lives. Singers were Billie Ragan, Iletha Bard, Chloe Suman, Naomi Busch with Gloria Sanborn at the organ.

Interment was at the Osborn Cemetery, Joplin, Mo.



A Pearl Of Great Price

Mother is the potter, we the clay
Molding our lives in a Christian way.
The RIGHTS from WRONGS of life she'd taught us.
Showing the tender love of Jesus.
Going beyond her call of duty,
She's a gem of rare beauty.

A nurse, cook, and a whole lot more.
A shining example to adore
Her prayers, tears, laughter, and smiles.
make unpleasant things seem worthwhile.
Valued more than silver and gold.
A beautiful gem to behold.

Like a pearl, she's a jewel rare.
Her love shining beyond compare.
A treasure of God's creation.
Deserving of our adoration.
A woman of love and sacrifice,
A gem of gems; A PEARL OF GREAT PRICE.

Jack Sluder

Florence Alberta Walls

Florence Alberta Walls was born Nov. 6, 1902 in Quincey, Mo to Albert and Sarah Loomis and departed this life Nov. 24, 1983 at Grand Junction, Colorado at the age of 81 years and 18 days.

She was married to Claude Melvon Walls, Sr. on Sept. 14, 1919 and to this union five sons were born.

Florence accepted Christ as her personal Saviour at an early age at the Frisco Mission in Webb City, Mo. and lived a dedicated Christian life until the time of her death. She was instumental in helping build the Silver Strand Country Church with Sis. O'Strander at Imperial Beach, California in the early 1940's. After he husband's retirement from the Navy they moved to Pineville, Mo. where she helped start the church there.

She was preceded in death by her husband, a son Clifford, two grandchildren, Jacquelyn and Amber Walls, two sisters Mable Boyd and Dorothy Greene. She is survived by her children, Alfred and Florence Walls, The Dalles, Oregon, Claude Jr. and Laura Walls, Grand Junction, Colorado, Jack Walls, Camby, Oregon, Albert and Lela Walls, Barstow, California, 17 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren, one sister, Vesta Linscott, Montrose, Calif., a sister-in-law, Opal Ytell, Webb City, Mo., a number of nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

She was a good Christian wife, Mother, Grandmother and sister and was faithful in attendance at the Silver Strand Church as long as her health permitted. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Funeral services were held Wed. Nov. 30, 1983 at 11:30 a.m. at the Pinkham - Mitchell Mortuary, Imperial Beach, Calif. with Pastor Homer Allen officiating. Mrs. Sue Allen sang "In The Garden" and "I'll Meet You In The Morning". The organist was Mary McMillan. Pallbearers were Mark Roomsberg, Donald Walls, James Walls, Terry Walls, Scott Allen and Todd Allen. Burial was at Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery, Point Loma, California.

Doubt sees the obstacles;
Faith sees the way!
Doubt sees the darkest night;
Faith sees the day!
Doubt dreads to take a step;
Faith soars on high!
Doubt questions, "Who believes?"
Faith answers, "I"

We've Sure Been Misled!

They told us that if we'd relax about sex and not get all uptight about it, there would no more sex crimes.

So we gave purveyours of filth and nudity a free hand. And the incidence of rape has been climbing at least 10 percent each year. So has prostitution.

Maybe we'd better question some of the other advice they gave us.

They told us that we've been too tough with criminals, that we shouldn't be concerned about punishment and justice - that these were not deterrents to crime.

So we went easy on them. And the rate of violent crime has increased so much that some of our streets are hardly safe for policemen anymore.

They told us that alcoholism and drug addiction were sicknesses, not crimes.

So we lowered the drinking age and liberalized some of our laws. Now we're alarmed that an increasing number of our young people are destroying themselves with the stuff.

Educators have relied heavily in recent years on sex education for our youth (without any moral teaching).

But an adviser in the Communicable Disease Center says: "Today we have a very disturbing situation despite the tools and techniques. Venereal disease and illegitimacy are increasing at a dramatic rate."

They told us that if we'd just be more generous with those who won't work, there'd be no more motive for stealing. So we gave everybody welfare and assistance. and robbery, shoplifting, burglary, and car theft are running higher than ever.

Life on planet Earth came with a Book of instructions. Let's see what it says.

It says don't steal anything - anywhere, anytime.

It says don't believe the booze baloney - don't get drunk.

It says wait until you marry and then sleep only with your wife.

It says women should wear modest apparel.

It says be honest in everything and don't ever lie.

It says you don't do what you "want", you do what you "ought". And it specifies which is which.

It says wisdom is seeing life from God's viewpoint.

And that Book is still the best blueprint for living. It will endure when all the other "experts" are gone!

When Columbus sailed into the mouth of the Orinoco River, he said in substance, "Gentlemen, this is not an island! this land is a continent, for there is no such river on an island.

He recognized that the great volume of water rolling down that river was absolute proof of the vastness of the extent of the land it drained.

And as I stand before the Holy Scriptures, I behold such rivers and floods of marvelous, wonderful truth regarding every phase of life - surpassing all the works written by uninspired men - that I am led to exclaim, "The Scriptures are a fathomless river that flows from the boundless source of the infinite wisdom and knowledge of the eternal God!"

David L. Cooper

A Letter

And a note of "Thanks" to every one of you who for sometime have been praying for my deliverance from a tormenting skin plague the Lord permitted to come my way. This commenced with a very small spot on the left side of my left hand and in a short time covered it and soon covered the right hand and the past two months from my hands to my elbows and from my ankles to my knees with spots here and there all over my body but only my hands have brought great misery. I have not been delivered yet but am much better. Praise the Lord! He that the Son makes free is free indeed we read in John 8:36.

Never have I questioned the Lord, for His Word declares "All things work together for good to them who love the Lord who are the called according to His purpose." Romans 8:38. Never has there ever been any fear concerning deliverance for spirit, soul or body since I surrendered my life to the Lord in 1921. O it has been so wonderful to trust Him.

During the weeks and months of torment my soul has rejoiced, often my cup running over with joy but never could I in prayer or praise hear anything concerning the way I was bound until Nov. 20th when relaxing in the recliner chair with not a thing on my mind scriptures began to fall upon my spiritual ear (a still small voice like Elijah heard) and immediately I knew from whence it came and for what purpose and I am still rejoicing. It is so blessed to walk and talk with the Lord. The following are the scriptures;

Luke 21:19 In your patience possess ye your soul

Romans 5:3 Tribulation worketh patience.

John 16:33 In the world ye shall have tribulation but be of good cheer I have overcome the world.

II Peter 1:6 Add to temperance patience.

James 1:3-4 Knowing this that the trying of your faith worketh patience, But let patience have her perfect work that ye may be perfect and entire wanting nothing.

James 5:7 Be patient therefore my brethern unto the coming of the Lord.

When hearing all of these scriptures I went and got Webster's dictionary to see what it said about tribulation and patience. Tribulation - great misery and distress as from oppresion and this one definition perfectly fit my case. Nothing but oppresion of our adversary the devil. My hands itched and sometimes burned, there were fiery darts or pains for an instant, they were swollen and feverish and at all times fiery red. Patience - The ability to wait or endure without complaint. Bearing of suffering or delay with calmness and self control. I had at times said dear Lord how much longer must I wait for release? And I have learned since reading about patience we must not get in a big hurry, but there is a promise given in Isaiah 40:31 - They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up as with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. He is faithful who hath promised. Praise His Name.

My love and prayers,

Mrs. E. A. Greever

Note - Before sending this to the printer I talked to Sis. Greever on the phone. God has truly performed a wonderful miracle in her life. He has touched her and made her whole. Praise His wonderful name!

God Still Heals

When our oldest son Joshua was 2 1/2 weeks old he received a large dose of a prescribed drug. Within hours the drug began to take a fatal affect on him. He began breathing very fast, his coloring started to look bad. It went from rosy to pale to ashen. His eyes became glossy, his cries were feeble. You could tell he was hurting but he didn't have the strength to cry. We had to take him to a hospital 40 miles away as our hospital didn't have a pediatrician and equipment to handle the emergency at hand.

Five minutes after we reached the hospital he stopped breathing in my arms. The doctors worked on him a couple of minutes before he started to breathe again. They asked permission to run tests on him and then we didn't see him again for five hours. There were five doctors working on Joshua at this time. When the doctor came to us he was almost in tears. They had run tests, just spent five hours with him and we were told he could die at any minute. The doctor was told what medication was given to Joshua as there had been no time to ask questions earlier.

The next few days were critical. Joshua was on a breathing machine. He was given 100% oxygen but his body was only retaining 20%. He was having several seizures. His body chemistry was totally wiped out. They had to inject pure calcium through IV's. His veins couldn't handle the calcium and thus he would swell up and turn purple in the areas where the IV's were. They had them in his hands, feet, legs, and finally his head. As a last resort they were going to cut into a deeper vein but finally one of his veins in his foot took it.

During this time we were in complete despair. A year before we had lost our first child to negligence resulting in her being stillborn. We couldn't understand why we were having to endure another possible loss. But we made up our minds that we shouldn't take no for an answer. We stood upon God's promises and he led us to Ephesians 3:20-Now unto him that is able to do exceeding, abundantly above all that we ask or think according to the power that worketh within us. We stood on that promise, what followed next was amazing. Everytime we saw Joshua lying there with wires all over his body, tubes in his nose, a breathing machine breathing for him, it just tore at our hearts. It was such a helpless feeling. All we could do was pray and trust God all the way. God began performing His miracles. There were so many. About the 4th or 5th day in intensive care Joshua tried to pull the breathing tube out of his mouth, the nurses tied his hands (remember this was a 2 1/2-3 week old baby). He then proceeded to cough and gag it out. The nurses were astonished. He was then placed under a oxygen hood, but praise the Lord he was breathing on his own. Next his seizures were almost down to nothing. His body chemistry began to stabilize and return to normal. He began eating. His coloring began returning to normal. Within 5 days to a week he was out of intensive care. During all these miracles the Lord was performing, there were many interceding in Joshua's behalf. Curt and I was impressed many times to lay hands on Joshua which we did.

The doctors and nurses many times walked around shaking their heads in awe of the whole situation.

Well Joshua was going to live, Praise God. The doctors wanted to prepare us that because of all the seizures and



because Joshua had stopped breathing that he would have brain damage. We didn't receive that. There was nowhere in the whole Bible that it said God heals 20%, 40% or 60%. The God I knew heals 100% and I wasn't settling for less. His first brain scan showed some abnormality but we still wouldn't accept brain damage. Nine months later his next brain scan showed completely normal. Praise God for divine healing! Joshua has some scars on his hands and one on his leg from the calcium injections (as pure calcium burns and is equal to that of a 3rd degree burn). But to us they are gentle reminders of how good God is and the miracle of His divine healing. Our Joshua was truly touched by the hand of God.

Cindy Brown

NOTE-Curt and Cindy Brown are from Siloam Springs, Arkansas and are attending this semester at Apostolic Faith Bible College. To see Joshua playing around with his younger brother Jeremy no one could tell that he was ever such a sick little boy. Along with Curt and Cindy we say Thank God for divine healing that is always 100%.

Why God should care I cannot say,
Nor how He hears me when I pray;
These things belong not to my care;
But this I know; God answers prayer!

Six Teachings of Jesus

Matt. 7:6 - 29

"Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you."

These are the words of Jesus as he taught His disciples on the mountain. Matt. 5:1-2. There are no greater words than those taught by Jesus. He was the Divine Son of God and understood all things about life. He took upon Himself the form of man to be tempted in all points like as we are, so He would know how to help us in the every day problems of life. He knew hunger. He knew want. He knew satisfaction. He knew real joy. He knew tumult and He knew peace. In all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

I have six things from the lips of Jesus. (1) How to handle the gospel. (2) How to get our needs supplied. (3) How to choose life's path. (4) How to detect false prophets. (5) How to avoid hypocrisy and (6) How to build a Christian life.

"Give not that which is holy unto dogs - neither cast ye your pearls before swine."

Jesus does not promise to back anyone that goes out promoting the gospel. Yes, we are to tell the lost about God's plan of salvation. But we are to be directed by the Holy Ghost. There is a time and place to tell the good news. There are hungry hearts that need to hear the gospel. There are hardened hearts that are ready to rend when presented with the gospel. We cannot look into these hearts so we must rely upon the leading of the Holy Ghost and then be ready to tell the good news.

Also the good news - the gospel - God's plan of salvation is such a precious thing. Purchased by the Jewel of Heaven at a terrible price. God is not pleased with us wasting such a precious thing on hardened, unconcerned hearts. If the Holy Ghost cannot mellow their hearts with conviction we will only antagonize them with the simple truth.

I can assure you that some will trample the beautiful story of the gospel under feet, crucifying the Saviour anew and turn and rend you. They will take you to a verbal onslaught and even do you bodily harm. Jesus simply says - "Be careful with the precious Gospel."

Verses 7 through 12. (2) How to get our needs supplied. "Ask and it shall be given you; Seek, and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you."

I am impressed with the simplicity of Christ's teaching. A need appears. Ask God, in the name of Jesus. It is just that simple. This covers all the scope of life; spiritual; physical; large; small - what ever the need. The need is not supplied - seek. It still is not supplied - knock. That's very wonderful. Just be honest hearted with God and do what He says. Ask; seek; knock. The answer will come.

To give us some assurance Jesus left a very emphatic illustration. Verses 9 through 12--

(9) "Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?"

(10) "Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?"

(11) "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?"

Jesus concluded this with a very special point. Verse 12, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."

We are not to expect others to do something for us. We are to do something for others and then we can expect something nice to come our way. This is what it is all about.

Verses 13-14 - Item 3 - How to choose life's path. "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in there at:

(14) "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

There are only two ways. The choice is ours. It is an individual choice. No one can choose for another. The crowd is going the wide gate and broad way to destruction. The few choose the strait gate and narrow way to life. Notice the narrow way has a strait gate. That means confined. Everything must be laid aside. We have to be honest with God and Jesus to get in the strait gate and only you and Jesus can walk the narrow way.

Item number 4 - "How to detect false prophets." Verses 15-20.

(15) "Beware of false prophets, which comes to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

(16) "Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?"

(17) "Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit."

(18) "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit."

(19) "Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire."

(20) "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

One of the main items is to love the truth. Be honest with God. The key is verse 18 - "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit." There is no way deceit can prosper. Eventually the truth will out. A good tree cannot bear evil fruit. It is just that simple. A corrupt tree cannot bear good fruit. The words of Jesus are so wonderful. And they are so simple.

Item number 5 - How to avoid hypocrisy. Verses 21 through 23.

(21) "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." (22) "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works?"

(23) "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

This is hypocrisy - professing to know God and not knowing God in reality. It takes more than belief in God. The devils believe they know that Jesus is the Christ. It takes more than that. Anyone can say Jesus is the Christ. He rightly is but to say Jesus is the Christ by the Holy Ghost means much, much more. It means a cleansing of the heart. A personal knowledge and acquaintance with Jesus. You see without knowing Jesus they are hypocrites and Jesus does not know them.

Item number 6 - How to build a Christian Life. Verses 24-27.

(24) "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings or mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock;"

(25) "And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock."

(26) "And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand."

(27) "And the rain descended, and the floods came, and beat upon that house; and it fell and great was the fall of it."

The secret here is to dig down to the rock - the Rock Jesus Christ. Then use good material, gold, silver, precious stone. Something that will stand the test. The test of Fire. It is not difficult to understand that building on the sand and using wood, hay or second rate material is not good. Give God your best. Put your entire being into service for Jesus. The bottom line is this: time will tell how we have built.

Jesus had a doctrine. It was the doctrine of God. Jesus came to do the will of the Father. He did just that. His simple words hold the answer to life's problems. He still teaches with authority. I love the simple teachings of Christ.

Rev. Donald D. Dibbens

Teacher Seminar

April 5-7

We are conducting a Teacher Seminar April 5-7. Below is a schedule of classes and workshops. Please encourage your present Sunday School staff and prospects to attend. This is for men as well as ladies.

Please let us know how many you will be bringing so we can find housing and know how many study books to assemble. Each should bring a loose leaf notebook, paper, pens and Bible. If you prefer staying at the school in dormitory rooms you will also need to bring bedding and towels. These rooms will be set up in the basement of the church as our regular dormitory buildings are full to capacity with AFBC students.

If your group is interested in making a tour to the "Mystery Destination House" in Joplin, Mo, I will need to know this in advance. This is a retired couple who have worked in children's ministry for 20 years. They have a fantastic supply of teaching materials which they are willing to demonstrate to us. This would be well worth your time. They have many ways in which they have re-done flannel backgrounds, sand boxes, made bible characters from miniature dolls such as GI Jo, etc. If there are enough interested in this we would need to set this up at 2 p.m. Thursday.

This seminar will be conducted from our new building at AFBC located at 335 W. 10th Street, directly W of the church building. We are enjoying working at our new location very much. It is so much more convenient. You will be sharing meals with our Bible College students and faculty unless you desire to do otherwise.

We will be looking forward to hearing from you. May the Lord richly bless you as you minister for His glory.

In Christian Service,
Kathryn Cornell
Teacher Training AFBC

- THURSDAY 2-5 P.M. MYSTERY DESTINATION HOUSE TOUR
- THURSDAY 7-10 P.M. PREPARATION FOR THE MINISTRY OF TEACHING
- FRIDAY 9-12 A.M. SESSION OBJECTIVES - "A MODEL SESSION"
- FRIDAY 1-4 P.M. TEACHING METHODS OF BIBLE LEARNING ACTIVITIES
- FRIDAY 7-10 P.M. STAFF MEETINGS - RECRUITING - OUTREACH
- SATURDAY 9-12 A.M. PLANNING A SESSION - LEADING A CHILD TO CHRIST
- SATURDAY 1-? P.M. WORKSHOPS - PUPPETS - Mergie Doll BIBLE CHARACTER - Kathryn Cornell

MARK THESE DATES!

Lost Pines Youth Camp
Warda, Texas
June 3-8

Mid-west Youth Camp
Laverne, Oklahoma
June 11-16

4-State Youth Camp
Baxter Springs, Ks.
June 17-22

Mississippi-Alabama Youth Camp
Camp Pine Crest, Quitman, M.S.
June 23-28

Camp Meeting 1984
Laverne, Oklahoma
July 23-29

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