



# HE IS RISEN

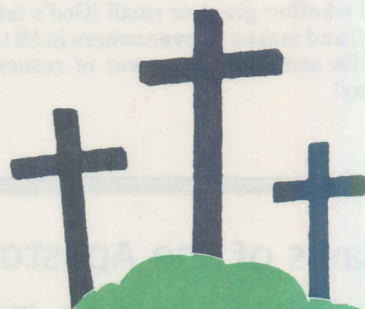
## The APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

APRIL

1985

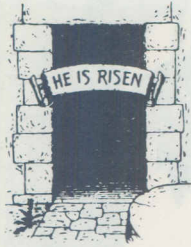
Vol. 32

No. 4





"That I may know him and the power of his resurrection"  
Phillipians 3:10a



When we think of Easter and the resurrection of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ we stand in awe of the power and force that caused it to be. The power of God Almighty, the creator of heaven and earth, the alpha and the omega. We feel so small and insignificant when we consider God and his power, and yet God in all of his omnipotence cared enough for us that we might know that resurrection power in our lives today. Because of that resurrection power we know the joy of sins forgiven, the covering of the blood, healing for our bodies and leadership of His Holy Spirit. Because of that power of resurrection, each day we are able to draw strength from Him.

The Lord has reminded me many times as his children we draw from that power not because of who we are but because of who He is. How many times have you walked through the valley and felt you couldn't make it by yourself? We've all been through valley experiences and as we came out of the valley onto the mountain top we knew that it was God's power that brought us out.

The power that raised Jesus from the dead on that early Easter morn is the same power that still works today bringing victory to those that trust in Him. Power over every trial whether great or small (God's interested in small things too!) and makes us overcomers in all things.

Praise His name for the power of resurrection that still works today!

Karen Oakes

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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

April 1985

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.

These 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 teachings approved by the Board from time to time if they are not inconsistent with the above listed basic doctrines.

### THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

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# The Resurrection Morning

In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: and for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. Matthew 28:1-4.

As we consider the wonderful story of the resurrection of our Lord Christ Jesus, it is well to observe the precautions taken by His enemies, the scribes, the pharisees and the elders to prevent the fulfillment of His prophecy that on the third day He would rise again from the dead.

A deputation of priests and pharisees came to see Pontius Pilate, stating that they did not believe in any such prediction. Pilate replied, "Ye have a watch;" (that is to say: a competent body of soldiers) "go your way, make it as sure as ye can." So in accordance with their own request, the deputation departed ordering a great stone to be placed at the mouth of the sepulchre, and the placing of a Roman watch, men who would rather have encountered death, than to have betrayed their duty beside the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea wherein the body of Jesus lay.

The very precautions taken by the enemies of our Lord were overruled by Almighty God, thereby constituting the most triumphant evidences of the resurrection of the Lord of life. For, the season was a great festival of the Jews, it was bright moonlight, and visitors to Jerusalem were unable to obtain lodging; many of them were camped in the streets, living in tents, or wandering about all night. Also a watch of Roman soldiers was the most exclusive guarantee that none should interfere with their charge, except at the sacrifice of their own lives.

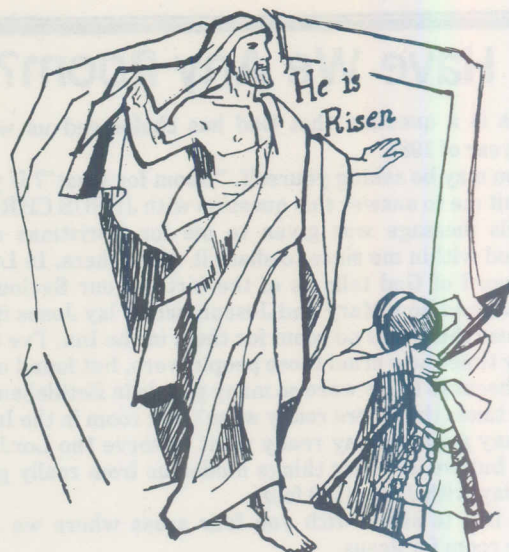
Furthermore, it is absurd to assume that eleven fishermen of Galilee could possibly have rolled away the gigantic stone in bright moonlight in the midst of a watch of twenty-five or thirty Roman soldiers, and then take out the dead body, carrying it along the streets of Jerusalem without having been observed. A Roman soldier was punished with death if he slept on his watch. And again, how could it have happened that all the soldiers slept precisely at the same moment? Obviously the story that the body of Jesus was stolen from the tomb carries its own refutation.

There can be no other conclusion than this: that Jesus rose from the dead in the majesty of the God-Head and ascended to our Father and His Father, and there today lives as a Prince and intercessor to give repentance and remission of sins.

How remarkable that Jesus, after He rose from the grave, retained on His hands and in His side the marks of the nails and the spear that pierced them.

It has been asked, does He retain the marks and memorials of the cross amid the realms of glory?

In any event we gather from this that the same body which was laid in the grave, was the very same body that



rose again from the dead and thus the identity of Christ's body in His resurrection was clearly and undeniably established.

Just as His body rose from the grasp of death and ascended into heaven, so when the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be changed, these very bodies of ours shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall rise, the same bodies that were laid in the dust, that have mixed with the atoms and washed by many waters of the seas of earth; when the great Creator of all shall speak, particle shall come to particle, dust to dust in the light of the resurrection morn we shall recognize and distinguish each other just as we do now.

If so be, we are born again from above, and our sins washed away in His precious blood, we have the blessed hope that the images of our beloved dead which we have cherished in our memories as in a picture gallery will suddenly appear before us in the presence of the originals themselves, in the light of eternity's dawn. We shall meet and mingle together and recount all the trials, the struggles and the troubles of the way. What a blessed group! What a wonderful saviour! Amen.

Reprinted A. F. Report 1950

## I, Too, Was There

In a painting of the Crucifixion by the famous Dutch artist, Rembrandt, our attention is drawn immediately to the Cross and to Him who hangs there.

Then looking at the crowd gathered around the Cross, we observe the attitudes and actions of these people. As our eyes drift to the edge of the picture, we see another figure standing in the shadow. This is Rembrandt himself—Rembrandt helping to crucify Jesus! How true that is! According to Isaiah 53:5, "He was wounded for our transgressions."

"Twas I that shed the sacred blood,  
I nailed Him to the tree,  
I crucified the Christ of God,  
I joined the mockery!

I look again and, in the shadows with Rembrandt, I too am there!



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## Have We Any Room?

This is a question that God has challenged us with for this year of 1985.

You may be asking yourself, "Room for what"? If you are, permit me to answer this question with JESUS CHRIST!

This message was given to me for Christmas and has burned within me since to share it with others. In Luke 2:7, the word of God tells us of the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and how Mary and Joseph had to lay Jesus in a stall because there was no room for them in the Inn. I've thought many times how cruel those people were, but found out later that because there were so many people in Bethlehem to pay their taxes that there really wasn't any room in the Inn.

Many people today really want to serve the Lord and do good but we let other things hinder us from really going all the way with Jesus (100 fold).

I'd like to share with you four areas where we need to make room for Jesus.

1. Have we any room for Jesus in Our Hearts? Many people are sitting in Churches, Sunday School classes, attend every service, and even placed in responsible positions in the body of Christ who have never really let Jesus into their hearts.

In Matt. 15:16-20, Jesus explained a parable to Peter and the other disciples. The Pharisees were upset because the disciples had not washed their hands before they ate. They looked on the outward acts and not on the inward motives of man. Jesus told Peter and the others that the things that came out of a man defiled him because they came from the heart. In verses 19-20, "For out of the heart proceeds evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not a man.

Folks, we can't be a Christian without Jesus in our hearts. In Romans 10:9-10 the word says "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus Christ, and believe in thine heart that God has raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

With Jesus blood our hearts are cleansed and we become the righteous of God. We then need to consecrate (devote ourselves totally to God) our lives to God, that He may sanctify us (set us aside for His holy purpose). We then through the Spirit of God and the blood of Jesus have the power to overcome the carnal man (inward-man). Jesus takes the desires of adultery, fornication, evil thoughts, etc. away. "Praise God"! James 4:7-8 says, "Submit yourselves therefore to God and resist the devil and he will flee from you: Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you: Cleanse your hands ye sinners, purify your hearts ye double minded."

2. Have we any room for Jesus in our Daily Lives? On the average, Americans spend over 2,000 hours a year watching the one-eyed demon, this is not counting the time we spend doing other things. We need to spend time in prayer. We wonder why we don't see the Spirit of God move today like He did 30-40 years ago. Take a glance back and look at the prayer warriors that took time out their daily schedules to pray for a lost soul, for the sick, for those who were seeking from God. David opened his windows three times a day and prayed. Jesus, many times prayed all night and sought the will of God.

How much time do we spend in the word of God? I've heard people say, "Oh I wish my faith would be stronger." Romans 10:17 tells us that, "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Our faith is strengthened through the word, because the word is God! Hosea 4:6 says that "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Many Christians are walking in darkness, or sin consciousness, and sickness because we don't know what the word of God even says about having power over sin or we don't stand on the word of God that tells us that "by whose stripes we were healed." God's word is for instruction, correction, doctrine, reproof, so let's read and study it. II Tim 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God; a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

3. Have we any room for Jesus in Our Homes? As a young married couple, without children, my wife, Renee, and I try everyday to spend time in God's word and pray together. It strengthens us and helps us to face the day with joy in our hearts.

Parents, you need to spend time with your children, teaching them the ways of God. Prov. 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Deut. 6:6-7, "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." How much do you talk about God in front of your children? Do they ever hear or see you pray? Folks, our children are the church of today, lets train and teach them the ways of God. The world sure won't!

4. Have we any room for Jesus in our Finances? We can never give enough. As an Apostolic Faith preacher, I praise God for those who so faithfully support the work of the Lord and I think, I could speak for all those who labor in the vineyards.

I Tim 6:10, "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." God commands us to honor him with our tithes and offerings. Prov. 3:9-10, "Honor the Lord with thy substance and the first fruits of thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine."

Folks if we don't support the work of the Lord, we're not just disobeying God but we're also robbing ourselves of a blessing from God. Mal. 3:8-10, "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me (God) even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, 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 window of Heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Let's be a cheerful giver, II Cor. 9:7, "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give not grudgingly or of necessity for God loveth a cheerful giver."

It is our prayers and desire that all of us, as a body of Christ would make more room for Jesus in 1985.

May God bless you and keep you in His loving care.

Bro. Richard & Sis. Renee Morris  
Pastors - Apostolic Faith Church  
Arnett, Oklahoma



# The children's Page

By Janis Mathis

## THE EGG FAMILY

The Egg Family gathered for a family reunion.

"Happy Easter, everyone," said **HARD BOILED**. "This afternoon I'm going to an Egg Hunt for the children at the Sunday School teacher's house. I've been dyed and my pretty color will contrast with the green grass, so the teacher had better think of a good place to hide me. Some of my hard-boiled brothers were at the breakfast this morning after the Sunrise service. We solid eggs are good for times like this. The Sunday School teacher told the children that they should be solid and firm like me." (Read Hebrews 3:6)

"My shell doesn't get colored special for today," said **SOFT-BOILED**, who felt sort of out of place for Easter. "I'm eaten all through the year. I'm not quite solid, but my softness can remind the kids of something, too." (Proverbs 15:1)

Soft-Boiled has a lot going for him, but just then his cousin **SCRAMBLED EGG** spotted him.

"Hi, Soft-Boiled," called Scrambled. "Come over here and mix with us for a while and we'll scramble up this hill for some exercise or maybe be like Zaccheus and scramble up a tree."

"That sounds like fun," said **SUNNY-SIDE-UP** as he joined the group. "The Sunday School teacher had a lesson about eggs this morning and told the boys and girls that they should be like me all the time - Sunny-Side-Up." (Proverbs 15:13)

"I know exactly what you mean," said **OMELET**. "We Omelets look a lot like pancakes and a good Omelet brings smiles all around."

"This is a big day for you," said **POACHED EGG** to **EGG SALAD**. "All those egg salad sandwiches look like enough to feed an army of children," he said as he put an egg salad sandwich into his pocket. "After all," Poached went on,

"poach means a pocket, and or yolk is 'pocketed' in the white of the egg when we're cooked. We can remind the boys and girls to be sure to pocket their pennies to save and give them at offering time, like all of you 'good eggs' have given yourselves for this happy occasion." (II Corinthians 9:7)

**DEVEILED EGG** was a joy to behold in his nest on top of the potato salad. He had some delicious seasoning to make him taste good as well as look good. He wondered how he ever got a name like that and wished he could change it. (Proverbs 22:1)

"Here comes our intelligent cousin **EGG-HEAD**," said Sunny-Side-Up. "Let's hear what gem of wisdom he can offer us today. Speak up, Egg Head."

"All right," said Egg Head. "Our bit of wisdom for today is found in Proverbs 16:16." (Read this.)

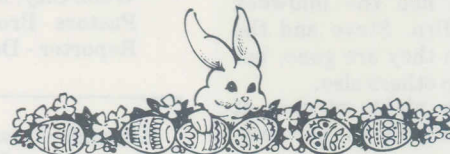
"Purple is a royal color," said **EGG PLANT**. "When the children see me they are reminded by my royal purple color to make Jesus the King of their lives."

"My color isn't royal," said **EGG SHELL**, "but it's used on the walls of the Sunday School room, a nice yellow-ivory shade. I'm cheerful and remind the boys and girls how to be joyful." (Philippians 4:4)

**EGG NOG** was the last of the Egg Family to share his wisdom.

"I'm a good egg who has been mixed with milk, some sugar to make me sweet, some vanilla for flavor, and a sprinkle of nutmeg. We Egg Nogs are a very nourishing and filling drink, besides quenching the thirst. We only fill the body, though, something else is needed for the soul." (Read Matthew 5:6)

So there's the Egg Family, boys and girls, all of them good eggs. A whole dozen eggs and not a bad one in the bunch. (Psalm 107:8) Happy Easter!



## Match Verse To Word

- |                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| A. Genesis 43:11       | 1. egg    |
| B. I Samuel 20:36      | 2. thread |
| C. Exodus 32:32        | 3. nuts   |
| D. Psalm 23:5          | 4. wafer  |
| E. Job 6:6             | 5. salt   |
| F. Isaiah 64:6         | 6. arrow  |
| G. Matthew 19:24       | 7. cup    |
| H. Matthew 5:13        | 8. needle |
| I. Song of Solomon 4:3 | 9. book   |
| J. Numbers 6:19        | 10. leaf  |

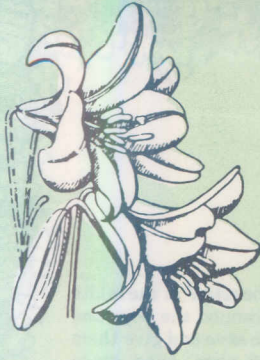
## A CHILD'S PRAYER

*Lord, teach a little child to pray,  
And oh, accept my prayer!  
Thou hearest every word I say,  
For Thou art everywhere.*

*A little sparrow cannot fail  
Unnoticed, Lord, by Thee;  
And, tho' I am so young and small,  
Thou dost take care of me.*

*Teach me to do what-e'er is right,  
And when I sin, forgive;  
Make it still my chief delight  
To love Thee while I live!*





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## Midway, Okla.

Some of the young folks from the Midway Church attended the Valentines Banquet at Baxter Springs, at the Bible College. They came home reporting a great time. They came home a little earlier than planned due to stormy weather.

Feb. 16 and 17th Bro. and Sister Steve Arnall took some of the young people skiing at Raton, New Mexico. Bro. and Sister Taylor and Bro. and Sister Winton Jett went along to help take care of the little children.

It was good to have Bro. Wayne Messner, Sister Eva Howard, and Sister Francis Elston back in Services, as they have been sick for sometime. The Lord still hears and answers prayer, Praise His Name.

Our Sunday School attendance has been down due to bad weather and sickness, but we thank the Lord for the ones that have been there. The Lord has blessed in every service.

Bro. and Sis. Bob Taylor held a Revival meeting in Cave Springs, Ark. with Bro. and Sis. Alvin Buschman that started on Feb. 24th. Bro. and Sis. Jake Regier filled the pulpit at Midway on this day, also Bro. Jake was with us the following Sunday morning, then Sunday night the young folks of our church had the evening service, and on Wednesday night, Bro. Steve Arnall had the midweek services. Thanks to the Regiers and Bro. Steve and the young folks. We miss our Pastors when they are gone, but we are glad that they can be a blessing to others also.

Bro. Calvin Springer is to have a few nights services at Midway the last part of April, help us pray for the services, and come to the services if you can.

We just want to say Thank You Jesus for your great blessings daily.

Bob Taylor - Pastor

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## Galena, Kans.

Greetings from Galena, Kansas

We are having good services and God meets with us. Bro. Ron Noble preached for us Feb. 24. Bro. Russell Ball gave us several numbers in song. These boys did a good job. With these boys were Kevin Thielan and Kayla Doll. All were from the Bible College. We enjoy having our Bible College folks to come over and help us.

Prov. 16:3 "Commit thy words unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established."

Prov. 16:9 "A man's heart desireth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps."

Prov. 18:10 "The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."

We welcome all our brothers and sisters in the Lord to come by and visit us.

Remember all our shut ins. Also we have a prayer list for the sick.

Florene Munson, Sarah Jefferys, Alice Scott, May Rowland, Ruth Brown, Jack Coberly, Mildren Walton.

Pastor - Howard Whitely

Reporter - May Rowland

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## Webb City, Mo.

Dear friends in Christ,

Greetings from all of us at Trinity Apostolic Faith Church in Webb City. Spring is in the air and so is excitement, as plans are in the making for building a new church. We feel the Lord has opened some doors for us to reach out. Pray for this endeavor, as we feel we need the prayers of God's family.

The Bible College students have been a blessing to us; teaching and singing and being a part of our services.

Our young people recently had our Wednesday night service. They did a great job. May God bless them for their desire to serve Him.

I would like to speak for all our church family here in saying how much we appreciate our pastor and his wife. Bro. and Sis. Busch are so faithful to visit and pray and let us know they care about us. I am taking this opportunity to publicly say "Thank You" for all you labor and sacrifice. You are loved very much.

Let me also say "Thank You" to Jesus for meeting with us every time we come together to worship. God is so good to us!

Please feel free to stop by to visit our services any time. God bless you.

In Christ,

Trinity Apostolic Faith Church

Webb City, MO.

Pastors - Bro. and Sis. O.A. Busch

Reporter - Donna Kinser

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Remember always that the road from Palm Sunday to Pentecost must first pass through Good Friday and Easter.

The Lambert Fathers

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## SUMMER GOSPEL PARTY

A group of Bible College students will be traveling in the gospel work this summer. Sis. Janae Harris, Music Director at the Bible College will be leading the group. They will be available for services, youth services, camp work, and-or VBS help, as the Lord directs. Among the group are two ministerial students as well as several singers and musicians. The students in the group are:

Russell Ball, Ron Brening, Kim, Karen,  
and Janis Mathis, Kelly Stevenson.

If you are interested in having these young people in your church, please contact Janae Harris at 316-856-2738 as soon as is convenient. The group is desiring to see the Lord work out their summer schedule and to be "always abounding in the work of the Lord."





# OBITUARY

## Maple G. Phares

Maple George Phares was born May 26, 1904, to Bert and Alice Phares at Kremlin, Okla., and passed from this life February 22, 1985 at the age of 80 years after several months of illness. He lived in the Kremlin-Enid area all his life and worked at Pillsbury Mills from 1933 until he retired in 1969.

Maple was a member of the Apostolic Faith Church and served as a member of the Church Board. He was also a member of the Grain Miller Association.

Maple was united in marriage to Viola Farrell on June 12, 1926. They made their home in Enid at 2807 N. Jefferson. Survivors include his wife, Viola, of the home, 2

daughters-Mary Lou McNett and Della Alvarez, both of Enid, 4 sons-Bert, George, Chet, and Hubert (Pete) Phares, all of Enid, 17 grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren, 3 sisters-Mary Batchelder of Enid, Nina Gooch of Washington, and Hazel Hubbard of California. Maple was preceded in death by 3 sisters, 1 brother and 1 grandson.

Officiating at the services were Rev. Elmer Christenson of Bentonville, Arkansas and assisting was Rev. Robert Beydler of Enid.

# NEW ARRIVALS

Mr. & Mrs. Herb Jarrett of Baxter Springs, Kansas announce the birth of their first child, Holly Michele on Feb. 23, 1985. She weighed 5 lbs. 14 oz.

Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Volley Rose, Carthage, Mo. and Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Jarrett, Baxter Springs, Ks. Maternal great grandparents are Louisa Atkinson and Loren and Nellda Rose. Paternal great grandparents are Lonzo Hale and the late Edyth Hale.

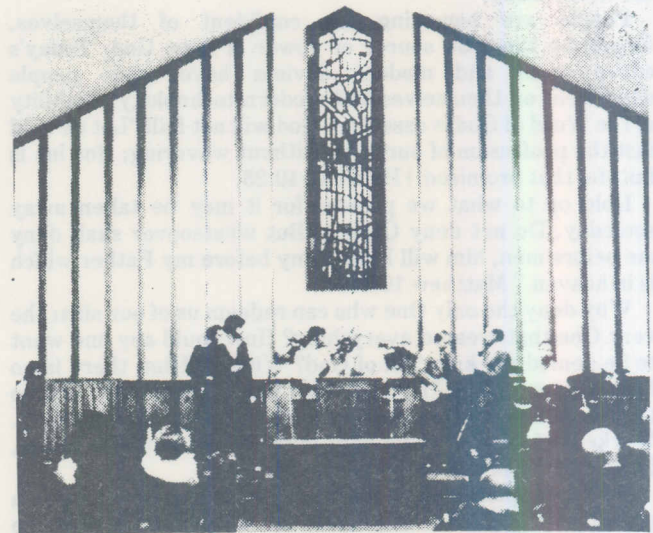
## CHURCH DEDICATION

### On Feb. 24, 1985

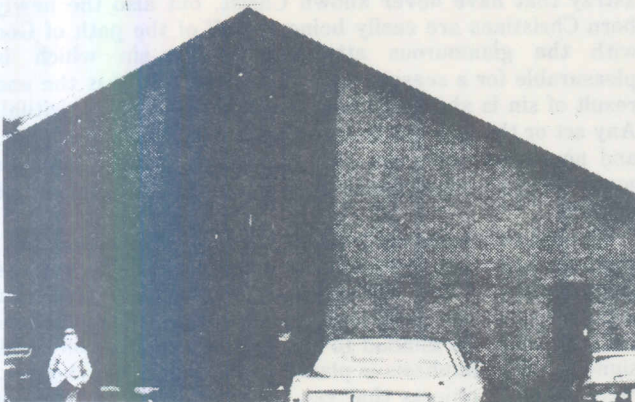


Rev. Larry Welsh is pictured above with wife, Betty, during the dedication ceremonies.

Dedication services of the Christian Faith Church, Bellville, Texas were held on Sunday, Feb. 24, 1985 at 3:00 p.m. It was also the 30th anniversary of the ordination of Larry Welsh, pastor.



Pictured in background is beautiful stained glass window which was specially designed for the new church.



The New Christian Faith Church in Bellville.

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



# A PROPHECY STUDY

## Pergamos - Church of Asia

The church of Pergamos is addressed with a characteristic of Christ, as are the other churches. The words spoken to Pergamos are from the One that has the sharp sword with two edges. Jesus Christ is holding the Word. Heb. 4:12. "For the Word is God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

The Word of God is the most powerful weapon on earth. The Scriptures of God are the only Words that can penetrate our innermost soul and being. The Bible does hold the answer to every problem of life! Search for it!

To the church, Christ says, "I know thy works....," just as He does today. He knows of every thing we do. Nothing is hid from His discerning eye. A person may be able to hide his sins from the world, but not from the Lord. Psa. 33:13-15. "The Lord looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men. From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth. He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works."

The cover of darkness will not hide iniquity. There is no place on earth a person can run to that God isn't already there.

Although Pergamos became "satan's seat" when Appolus III, king of Babylon, fled from Persian invasion.

The church of Pergamos held fast to Christ's name and hadn't denied Him even in martyrdom. Holding fast Christ's name and a society without God is just what some people are not doing today.

People are becoming too confident of themselves, forgetting the true source of power is from God. Today's conveniences and modern devices have made people dependent on themselves and modern technology. Stability in the Word of God is essential. God will not fail! "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for his is faithful that promised;) Hebrews 10:23.

Hold on to what we possess for it may be taken away someday. Do not deny Christ! "But whatsoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 10:33.

Why deny the only One who can redeem us of our sins; the very One that created everything? How could any one want to be denied the kingdom of God? Without Him, there is no hope of eternal life. "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the son of God hath not life." I John 5:12. Workers of iniquity have only false confidence, false peace, false security in a world of materialism.

The Lord spoke first to the church with a commendation-a praise, but He also rebuked them for holding to the doctrine of Balaam. This doctrine taught fornication, eating of meat that had been sacrificed to idols, and the teaching and preaching for hire-compromising the truth. The world is filled with fornication today, not only physical, but also spiritual fornication--involvement with things of this world.

Pergamos perhaps indicated that the church was married to the state, making it exalted. That's exactly the condition which the church held. The church had compromised with the world by involving itself in political matters rather than in the Gospel. A union between the church and state caused the church to be highly exalted. This is a characteristic of

the present age. Some people will do anything for personal benefit. People want to be associated with the world and still be called a righteous Christian. It will not work! Christians are in the world, but not of the world.

I John 2:15, 16, 17. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

The world is corrupt, and it doesn't matter if we believe it or not. One cannot ignore the fact that iniquity exists in every aspect of life.

The lust of the flesh causes people to want to do things of this world. The Epicureans had a hellenistic philosophy of "Live for today, tomorrow we may die." It is true that no one knows what tomorrow may bring, but as for enjoying worldly pleasures, Titus 2:11 states, "Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, and godly in this present world."

Labor that the Lord doesn't approve of is in vain. With His blessing and guidance, nothing is really worth striving for. Ecclesiastes 2:11. "Then I looked on all the works that my hands wrought, and on all the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun."

The desire to go places, to do things, and to learn stimulates some people so much that God is left out of lives because of lack of time. We have to make time for God. Has He not been so gracious and merciful in giving time to us? The Prophecy in Daniel 12:4, "...many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

Today's advancements in travel have made it possible to go anywhere on earth in just a few hours. People are rushing to and from places in a vain effort to find contentment, but too many people are rushing the wrong way! Too many people are relying on the world's foolish man-conceived wisdom and wanting to "do their own thing." That's the problem today! Society wants to "do their own thing" and it seems they are! Thousands of people going different directions, or so they think, but all are headed for one main destination. The pleasures of this life will, and are, destroying values and the faith of those that have received the Gospel but have not held strong.

Not only are the pleasures of this world leading people astray that have never known Christ, but also the newly born Christians are easily being led off of the path of God with the glamorous attraction of sin--sin which is pleasurable for a season. Satan hides the fact that the end result of sin is absolute death, both physical and spiritual. Any act or thought not in accordance with God's law is sin, and no matter who you are, how much money, fame or power that a person thinks they have, death comes to all who sin.

The lust of the eyes is perhaps the most wide-spread evil that has overtaken people in creating a desire to possess abundantly of this materialistic world. The love for popularity, wealth, and power is driving people into hell because they are blinded to the common destination of all sinners. Over-emphasis is placed on clothing, cars, houses, etc.--tangible objects that can become idols if put before God. No one was born with anything and no one will die carrying anything to the grave. Striving for riches isn't



really totally putting one's faith in God. He will supply everything needed, and sometimes, graciously allows us to have our own desires. Money does not really make a person happy for very long. If God is placed first, then money becomes a useful tool for His work. The love of money is the root of all evil, not money itself. Consider Proverbs 11:4. "Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death." Money cannot buy God's salvation, nor can it ransom a soul from death. Psa. 49:7. "None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for his."

Today's lifestyle of many people is a vivid example of the pride of life--the desire to accomplish goals to benefit oneself. The thought of power and possessions are first priority in many lives, motivating people so strongly that they don't care how they achieve their goal. No one possess any wealth and power that the Lord has not allowed them or helped them to have. Psalms 75:6, 7. "For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, not from the south. But God is the judge: He putteth down one, and setteth up another."

Do not become very reliant on oneself. A boastful attitude is what the Lord hates. Over-confidence will end in defeat. Psalms 16:18. "Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall." The chapters of Daniel 4:28-37, relates the story of King Nebuchadnezzar and his pride. The empire of Babylon had reached it's peak in power and splendor in his reign. Nebuchadnezzar was aware of this so much that he stated, "Is not this the great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?" Verse 30. After he had spoken this, a voice from Heaven declared that because of his pride, he would dwell with the beasts of the field and eat grass with the oxen. This was to last for seven years "...until thou know that the most high ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will." V. 32. In the same hour the declaration was issued from heaven, "The thing was fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar," driving him from among men, making him to eat the grass as oxen, giving him hair as eagles feathers and nails like bird claws. V. 34 "And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar," lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honored him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation?"

Nebuchadnezzar recognized the Almighty, that the boastful man shall be brought to humility, and then he was restored to his former place.

Do not lust after the flesh, or unimportant material possessions, and be not boastful! We are not to impress man of ourselves, but to impress them with the Gospel of Christ. Christians are not to compromise the Truth for respect of men or to be favored among society. The world has nothing substantial to offer. Distorting God's Word for popularity is not right. If God's saving message has to be compromised; it has to be twisted to suit men's feeble way of thinking just for sake of unity with the world of other churches, then unity must not be."

Building big, fancy churches to impress the world are vain in the sight of God. God does not want big church buildings, He wants people. People are the church, not the buildings. I am thankful to God for allowing us the places in which to worship, but let us discipline ourselves to not become to

elaborate and forget who the church belongs to--the Most High God.

Many people profess to be religious people. Many are "religious" but not righteous. A very large number of "religious" people today go to church, but many want to be associated with a church just for the social prestige.

Emperor Theodosius, successor of Constantine, made church membership compulsory, in fear of persecution for not being a Christian, many iniquity-filled and uncommitted people joined the church. Today, no persecution threatens the ungodly, but isn't it true that people still join a church just to be called a "religious" person?

As for preaching for hire, I Corinthians 9:18, "What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel."

Once a price is charged to hear the Gospel, fewer people will be able or want to hear it. Sinners will not pay to be preached to. If the Gospel is to be preached only the money-paying people, the poor and destitute people are without hope. Money cannot buy salvation. Christ paid the price, the very expensive price, a price beyond compare, in the giving of His life that we may receive forgiveness of sins. He left His riches in glory to be killed as a near kinsman for us.

The doctrine of the Nicolaitanes as mentioned in the church of Ephesus also continued at Thyatira. The Lord hates the deeds of the people, as he does today.

He doesn't hate anyone. God Loves You.

Again, Christ gives the opportunity for repentance or else suffer the consequences and judgment of the Sword. People of Pergamos as with people of today are admonished to hear and understand what the Spirit says. To the overcoming Christian is promised hidden manna--spiritual life-giving food. A white stone, representing innocency and purity, will the righteous man also receive. Pergamos: The church age extending from 312 A.D. to 590 A.D. Also a church praised for something, disciplined for their sins, and encouraged or else see the wrath of God. Let each one of these churches be an example to present generation. The laws of God exclude no one!

Ron Noble

Ministerial Student - AFBC

## His Last Prayer

"Lord remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom" (Luke 23:42).

Nicholas Copernicus was a famed astronomer born in Poland, Feb. 19, 1473. He was a mathematician whose accomplishments changed men's ideas of the universe. Also he was a well-known writer. Although highly educated in astronomical science he was much more--he was a child of God who had learned to know and trust his Savior, Jesus Christ. When he was critically ill with his final illness, his book, "On Resolutions of the Celestial Bodies," just off the press, was laid in his arms.

At the close of his life, he did not think of himself as an astronomer or scientist, but only as a sinner who needed the forgiveness of his Savior. He asked that the following epitaph be written on his gravestone.

*"Lord, I do not ask the kindness Thou didst show to Peter. I do not dare to ask the grace Thou didst grant to Paul; but, Lord, the mercy Thou didst show to the dying robber, that mercy show to me. That earnestly I pray."*



# THIS IS THE NEW TESTAMENT IN MY BLOOD

At the time these wonderful words were spoken, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, was nearing the close of His life and ministry in bodily form upon earth. He knew that the time of His suffering and crucifixion was at hand, and the feast of unleavened bread, which was the Passover, drew near. Jesus bade His disciples to procure the use of the guest chamber in a certain man's house and there prepare to eat the Passover feast.

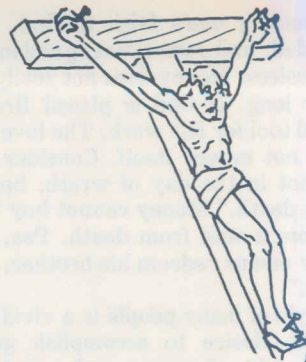
In the account given in the Gospel according to Luke, chapter 22, verse 15, Jesus spoke to the twelve assembled at the table with him and said: "With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer." His desire was not for one last meal with His disciples just for the fellowship of eating and drinking together, but it was for a higher purpose that was to have a lasting effect until He should come again. This purpose was the fulfillment of one testament (or will, or covenant), and the installing of another testament or will.

In verse 20 of this same chapter, Jesus took the cup after supper and gave it to the disciples saying: "This is the NEW TESTAMENT in my blood, which is shed for you." Before there can be a NEW will or testament, there must needs have been one already in effect. This old testament was given in the Law to Moses and was sealed by the blood of bulls and of goats. The people under the law were required to offer up blood sacrifices for their sins and for their cleansing. not just once but year after year they must bring these sacrifices to God. This was God's covenant or testament to the people. As long as they complied with the law they were justified before God, but when they refused to comply, Hebrews 10:28 tells us: "He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses."

The blood of bulls and of goats had no saving virtue: it had no cleansing effect upon the consciences of those who offered it. Yet, because it was a type of the pure and powerful blood of the sinless Lamb of God, it availed for them, as long as the people kept these ordinances in obedience to God's laws.

But now, on the occasion of Jesus taking the cup and giving it to His disciples, He said: "This is the new testament in MY BLOOD, which is shed for you." He was instituting the new will or testament. Shortly after this supper Jesus shed His blood to the very last drop, not only for the sins of the people then living and all who were to follow them, but as the plan of redemption even for those under the FIRST testament. In Hebrews 9:15 we read: "And for this cause He (Jesus) is the mediator of the NEW TESTAMENT, that by means of death, FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE TRANSGRESSIONS THAT WERE UNDER THE FIRST TESTAMENT, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance." We see by this scripture that Jesus not only died for the redemption of the people who should live under the new testament, but also "For the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament." How marvelous and awe-inspiring are the workings of God!

Hebrews 10:4 says: "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins." The blood of animals under the law did not take away sins, but God



merely used this method of justification by obedience to the law till the time came for Jesus to shed His blood once and for all and to bear the transgressions of every man. Those who kept the law and any who were conscientious and consistent in offering sacrifices for their sins will not be saved because of the blood of animals but because Jesus died and shed His blood for the transgressions under both the first (or old) and the new testaments. Thanks be unto God for His wisdom and power to devise such a great plan!

When Jesus said "This is the new testament in my blood." He was fulfilling the law of dead works and ushering in a new covenant, or testament, under which our consciences are made clean. Hebrew 9:13-14 tells us: "For if the blood of bulls and of goats and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, PURGE YOUR CONSCIENCE from dead works to SERVE THE LIVING GOD?" There is power in the blood of Jesus Christ! Saving power: cleansing sanctifying power! We hear so much said about atomic power, as well as other powerful forces in the world, but they are powers that destroy: that maim and kill: that demote and madden. But the glorious power of Jesus' blood, which is greater than all other powers combined, is for the purpose of saving, cleansing, healing, sanctifying, and delivering from Satan all those who by faith trust in its merits.

However, there is something else to consider in connection with the blood of Jesus. It is offered freely to us as the only means of salvation and redemption, but if we refuse to honor it, and if we spurn its saving power a dreadful and sure retribution awaits us. The writer of the book of Hebrews asks us a question and leaves it for us to answer when, in chapter 10, verses 28 and 29 he says: "He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?"

Moses's law was only the figure of the true law which was to come later, yet those who despised it were slain without mercy. According to the teaching of the word of God, those who refuse and despise Jesus' blood and count it an unholy thing, shall find their reward in the second death, also without mercy. Having the blood of Jesus resting upon us in saving power is a wonderful and glorious experience. Having the witness of Jesus' blood against us will be the ultimate in despair and doom.

Mrs. Floyd La Munyon

A. F. Report





## Be a Summer Volunteer Camp Leader!

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### Uncertainty

There can be no peace, there can be no true hope, there can be no true comfort where there is uncertainty. I am not fit for God's service, I cannot go out and work for God, if I am in doubt about my own salvation.

D. L. Moody

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July 22 - 28

Baxter Springs, Kansas

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## Jesus Instead Of Barabbas

We hear much about Pilate's release of Barabbas and of Jesus' being sentenced to death by crucifixion. The way, however, that Barabbas viewed the crucifixion of Christ was that in Christ's crucifixion Barabbas found his freedom. If Christ had been released and Barabbas held, Barabbas would have been put to death for his crime and suffered eternal loss.

On the day of Christ's crucifixion, no one must have had a better understanding of the atonement than Barabbas himself. Subsequent to his physical release, Barabbas may have gone to Calvary to see Jesus die in his stead. If so, his thoughts must have been overwhelming! When Barabbas was freed by Pilate, did he realize that he was still a prisoner of Satan? If he had indeed exercised living faith in the One who was dying in his place, he would have found also his soul released from Satan's grip. (We have no indication of this from the Scriptures.) However, was he indifferent to the One whose death was followed by such supernatural occurrences? It is quite unlikely.

Barabbas may have known very little about Jesus Christ. He knew, however, that He was exceptional, and unique. Observing the events that surrounded the death of Christ and possibly viewing His crucifixion on Calvary's hill, Barabbas may have even said to himself, "I do not know who you are, but I do know you are there in my stead."

No matter how great is your burden of sin, **you can say with assurance, "I do know who you are-you are the very Son of God, my own Savior, and you are dying in my place!"**



# APOSTOLIC FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE



## ANNOUNCES COMMENCEMENT

MAY 8 - 9, 1985

### CLOSING SERVICES OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE

**Wed. May 8**

9:00 a.m. Advisory Board Meeting  
1:00 p.m. General Business Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Final Concert by College  
Choir

**Thurs. May 9**

10:00 a.m. Ordination - Dedication  
Service

2:00 p.m. Homecoming Service

7:30 p.m. Commencement

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