

In Memory

The

Apostolic Faith

Report

Jan. - Feb. - March
1988



Stella Elizabeth Yeakel Cornell
1907 - 1988

Vol. 34
No. 1, 2, 3

Some day all doubt and mystery
Will be made clear;
The threatened clouds which now we see
Will disappear.

Some day what seems a punishment,
Or loss, or pain,
Will prove to be God's blessing sent
For every gain.

Some day our weary feet will rest
In sweet content,
And we will know how we were blest
By what was sent.

And looking back with clearer eyes
O'er life's short span,
Will see with wondering, glad surprise,
God's perfect plan.

And knowing that the way we went
Was God's own way,
Will understand His wise intent,
Some day-some day.

From The Editor

Dear Readers of the Apostolic Faith Report, 1987 is now history and we are well into 1988. I want to say a special "Thank You" to each of you for all of your support to the ministry of the Apostolic Faith Report during 1987. Your support of prayer, finances, articles and news is always appreciated so very much. This ministry would not be possible without your help.

1988 lies before us with much to be done for our Lord. The message of salvation must go forth and bring the lost to Christ. Many lives are hurting and are desperate for the touch of the Master. May we all work together in this New Year of 1988 and be a blessing to others. Jesus is coming soon.

Karen Oakes-Editor

Prayer For 1988

Dear Lord,

I know that I will make mistakes
most every day,
Keep me from making serious ones
for which someone must pay.

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. 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 Karen Oakes Editor

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God Answers Prayer

I do not know by what methods rare,
But this I know, God answers prayer.
I know that He has given His word,
Which tells me prayer is always heard,
And will be answered, soon or late;
And so I pray, and calmly wait.
I know not if the blessing sought
Will come in just the way I thought
But leave my prayers with Him alone,
Whose will is wiser than my own,
Assured that He will grant my quest,
Or send some answer far more blest.

...Author Unknown

Apostolic Faith Bible College

From The Superintendent

Greetings from us at A.F.B.C. in the 1988 Spring Semester! We are diving into the Bible as this new year of study begins. We are thankful for our students and for their earnest desire to draw closer to the Lord.

We send our thanks to all who made 1987 possible by prayers and offerings. The ministry here continues to go on because of faith-believing people like you.

Please make note of the Annual Alumni Banquet scheduled for May 13th at 6:00 p.m. The cost will be \$12.50 per person and will be held at the Holiday Inn of Joplin, Mo. Please make reservations (by sending you money) by April 15th. The banquet this year will be opened to not only alumni but also to friends of A.F.B.C. So make plans now to come.

We are looking forward to many things this semester. One is the dorm area beautification project being sponsored by the Alvin Church. This will be an obvious addition to the campus. Another project in the making is the school library. Sis. Kayla Freeman is working on organizing and cataloging some 2,000 books. This library is of enormous help to our students in their research work. If anyone has books they would like to donate, please feel free to send or bring them. We always welcome visitors at the school.

One project to mention is the coordination and publishing of study literature for the school and for correspondence courses. With the capabilities of the new computer system, it is possible to put forth professional quality work at affordable costs.

And finally, our largest project is the completion of the computer system which will be of unending results. We are approaching stage 2 of the computer system which will include a laser printer. We lack a little in the fund to do this now but are looking forward to purchasing it soon. After stage 2 is purchased we will begin compiling funds for the final stage 3, which will be a terminal for the Report Office. We are excited about all of the projects, as they serve to be a blessing to the school and an asset to the Movement. Remember the special events at the school for this semester.

May God bless,
Lyndel Arnall

Girls' Dorm

"As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee". Joshua 3:7

What a wonderful promise to hold on to as we enter this year of 1988. God has been faithful to us in the past and He's promised to always be with us.

The Lord blessed us last semester bountifully and we are expecting even greater things this year. Each girl in the dorm has experienced spiritual growth in their life.

We are so thankful to those who faithfully support this ministry. Be assured it has not been in vain.

May God richly bless you in this New Year and may we realize it brings us that much closer to his return.

In His Service
Kin Mathis

Boys' Dorm

The start of the new semester brought with it warmer weather for the first week of school, making it much nicer to get into the curriculum and activities of the College. However; we suffered with the cold weather like much of the nation did during the Christmas break.

J.C. Morrison left this semester, having all his credits, to work with Ross Briles of Modesto, Ca. We are happy to say, we have a new student in the dorm from Rockport W.V., Don Wade.

Like always, I request your prayers for the young men of the dorm. I realize that it was the prayers of my family and friends that helped me obtain all I could from Bible College. I believe in God's Word and Prayer.

Ron Brening

MIDWEST ALUMNI BANQUET

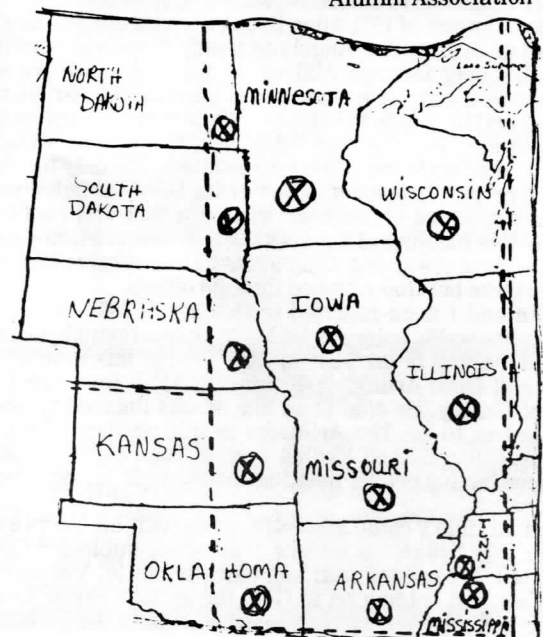
The Midwest District announces their ALUMNI BANQUET to be held March 19th, 1988 at 5:00 p.m. at A.F.B.C. The cost will be \$5.00 per person. Please make reservations directly to the school. (There will be limited facilities for overnight guests).

See below map for area outline. States and parts of states with the X marking represent the midwest district. If in doubt to whether you fit in that district, come anyway!

As district representative, my goal is to reach the Alumni of this midwest area. I would like to reunite them with their memories, show them the changes that have occurred over the years and make them a part of the future progress of the Bible School.

At the banquet, we plan a time of sharing and also entertainment. There will be a report given on A.F.B.C. and where it's going. We trust you will plan to come and bring a friend. And by the way, if you have photo's... Hope to see you there!

BARBARA CROUSE
Midwest District Representative
Alumni Association



Over 40 Years!

Sis. Karen wrote asking for an article about my ministry and the places we have pastored. It's rather hard to remember everything but God's blessings we DO remember. For the past 56 years we have labored for the Lord across the mid-section of our country and in California. God has never failed! There were humorous times as when our son Bill awoke from his bed in the car and entered the church during the sermon, making his way to my side before anyone spotted him. And...yes, there were some times when it was difficult but God's grace is and always has been sufficient for the time.

I was born in Canada but soon after moved with my parents to Laverne, Okla., where I grew to manhood. While I was employed as a printer in the Laverne Newspaper office, some ministers came to town (1929) and set up a tent right in the middle of the street. They had a small camp meeting. Later, in January 1930, Jack Barker and Johnny Modrick returned to begin a revival. They came into the shop to have some bills made to advertise the meeting. My curiosity was aroused when I set the type...No Collections...Healing for the Body, Soul, and Spirit!

I attended this revival every night discovering just what I needed. The Lord gloriously saved me...changing me from a man of sin (drinking, dancing, wild living) to a man that loved God and His service. Soon I felt my call into the ministry. My first revival was held in a large 2 room school house S.E. of Laverne. Floyd LaMunyon and Ralph Huff went along as my gospel workers. Bro. Jack Barker had promised to come help if his meeting in Wichita closed in time. But he didn't arrive until the last service. This caused me to rely on the Lord completely and He began to teach me that HE would always provide the sermons, and all the needs of my life. The Barkers brought Stella Yeakel of Wichita home to work in revivals with them.

For awhile I helped Johnny Modrick in revivals as well as Percy Campbell. This was my schooling as a youth because at that time we didn't have a Bible School. Bro. John Modrick had great faith and was a great help to me. I also helped Jack Barker in a revival or two...where I did part of the preaching. I still recommend that young ministers go with an older one to learn and observe before beginning on this own.

In the summer of 1931 Allen Broyles joined our group. Allen wanted us to go to San Angelo as a lady there was wanting a revival. Going through Abilene on the way down we were stopped by a cop. He accused us of stealing the car we were driving and took us to the station. While there the police searched our car and found our Bibles and Allen's guitar making them realize we weren't the ones wanted. The lady that wanted the revival happened to be "Jesus Only" in belief so she put us out of the church. We rented a hall and continued. During this meeting of 2-3 weeks we ate beans 3 times a day, often without seasoning. Only about \$3 was received from the people there but God supplied through others.

Stella and I were married in October of 1932 in the Jack Barker home. We helped John Modrick in a revival at Cheney around the first of the year in 1933. During this time Johnny got a call from Arlington, Kansas, a small town north and west of Cheney. He didn't feel like he was finished at Cheney so asked us to go. The Arlington people wanted Johnny but took us. Bill and Zana Yeakel went to help, also. The people had been having prayer meetings every night for six weeks in preparation.

Revival didn't come instantly, even with all the previous prayer. For two weeks we saw nothing accomplished that we could tell. We needed food and had very little. Yet by being steadfast and holding on to God, the victory came. Over 50 people were saved, some sanctified, and a large number

prayed through to the Holy Spirit. We baptised over 40 in water. Revival doesn't come in 3 or 4 nights of service...but must be "prayed down"...and then once the services begin...must be "prayed through." In other words, God is wanting His people to wait on Him until He sees they are ready for the victory He had prepared.

Following this we held a revival at Mt. Hope, Kansas where again God blessed in a very special way. Next we were in the Orchard Community in the west part of Wichita. This was an outdoor revival and enough were saved that with the previous believers we saw a church built. Since the birth of our first child was near, we remained in Wichita for a time. Yvonne Margaret was born in September. During the next few years we held revivals in the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles, Missouri, Arkansas, and other areas. Our son Bill was born in Elmwood, Okla., February 1936, and Jack at Waka, Texas, Feb. 1938.

During our ministry at Waka, the Dave Regiers, the Pipkins, Greevers, Scroggs, and Mitchell Modricks attended and then later went to Spearman to church. Lenora Peck (Russell then) was our gospel worker during this time.

Our movement leaders at this time told the ministers NOT to stay and pastor churches. Therefore, ministers just travelled from one church to another holding services. But when Yvonne was six and ready to enter school, we felt we had to stay in one place for her schooling. We had been in a good revival at Galena, Kansas. Bro. Otis Wade asked us to stay and pastor. We accepted and had a very good ministry with the people for two years. During this pastorate I helped Robert Parham in publishing the Apostolic paper. He had an old press in a building back of the large Parham home where we worked. We also printed letterheads and bills for special services. After Galena we went to Curtis, OK.; Granby, MO.; then to Greenland, Ark. The folks at Cave Springs were without a pastor and asked us to come. Again God gave us a fruitful ministry among very dear people.



Rev. E.K. Cornell

From Cave Springs we were asked to return to Wichita. This group of people were having services in a store building on St. Francis Street, but desired a real church. As we worked with them, the New York Tabernacle was purchased with much sacrifice by the people. Some borrowed money in order to have the down payment and then helped make the monthly payments on the building. Our church grew...people visited, I visited...and God gave the increase. One man filled his car 3 times with people every Sunday bringing them to our services. We had a radio program on the largest station and many came to hear the quartet sing; Donald Dibbens, Bill Yeakel, Fern Dibbens and Grant Hall.

Upon resigning the church two years later, we were asked by Bro. Benny Stanberry at the Webb City Camp Meeting to come to Katy and help him in revivals. When we arrived at Katy, they were without a pastor and wanted us to stay. Again God blessed us with two years of fruitful service to Him in that place. We still count good friends from the many places we've served God.

For the next year we held revivals while the family stayed in our home in Wichita. God gave us many souls in revivals that we conducted in Webb City, MO., Magnolia, Ark. among others.

Following a Camp Meeting we conducted with Murphy Barnes at Menard, Texas, we became pastors at Center Point, Texas in 1947. During this two year ministry we held a convocation during which Bro. Doc Methvin accepted the Lord. Though money was tight, God saw us through and the church grew and was a beacon for God.

In April of '49 we held a revival in Stockton, California and then returned to Big Spring, Texas, in late May to begin our pastorate there. We served there two years and then remained in town while we conducted revivals the following year. Next we were in Wichita for two years holding service in our home before pastoring the churches in Guymon, and Hardesty, Oklahoma. These were years that God blessed and moved to establish hearts in His knowledge and ways.

Next we were in Southern California for a few months following our Hardesty pastorate and then returned to our home in Laverne. Bill had married and Jack had begun his ministry...and we had thought we'd slow down a bit. But God called again and we ministered in Kingsmill, Texas, and Bayard, Nebraska. At the close of our time in Kingsmill the building of the Pampa church was started. Later we served as interim pastors in their new church.

Again we thought we needed to slow down but God had other plans. We pastored the churches at Arnett, Okla.; Galena, KS.; and then Amarillo, Texas. God blessed in all these labors for Him and we enjoyed being in the place He desired for us. Even since being at Laverne these past few years, we have filled in at several churches and go to Woodward to help the people there still trying to keep their doors open.

We can look back over a successful ministry for the Lord. Yes...there were times when food was hard to find, money was very scarce...but God always provided and never once have we been completely without or the Hand of God fail to meet our needs. There were troublesome times but God took us through to victory. This is just part of His refining fire through which each Christian must pass that our faith will be made strong in our Redeemer. God has given us many wonderful friends through the years and we cherish these friendships. People were so wonderful to us when our children gave us a reception one day during the Laverne Camp Meeting to honor our 50 years in the ministry. It was a time to think back over revivals held with the various ones who attended and those friends from our pastorates or revivals. Then when we celebrated our 50 years of marriage, again people showed their love and thoughtfulness to us. It was just a perfect day and God blessed us with enjoying so many friends.

The gospel we still preach as we do fill-in work, is the same one we preached in 1930. God never changes and His love

abounds for all who will partake. He tells us "His yoke is easy and His burden is light." There is no better way than to serve God wherever He may call...in an office, teaching, doing mechanic work, or preaching. God will lift the shadows when they gather and bring warm sunshine to the soul.

Our love to all our friends throughout the movement that God has given to us. May His loving care always abound over your lives and families.

Gene Cornell
Box 656
Laverne, OK
73848

This is the fourth of a series of articles which will be written by ministers and gospel workers who have been with the Apostolic Faith Movement for 40 years or more. We are looking forward to receiving your article about your ministry. Please include a photo if possible.

To each of you - thank you for being so faithful in your labors for the Lord.

**Karen Oakes - Editor
P.O. Box 653
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How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Romans 10: 14-15

OBITUARIES



Beulah Steffen
1906 - 1987

Beulah May Steffen was born in Hansford County, Texas on December 20, 1906 and departed this life November 13, 1987 in St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo, Texas at the age of 80 years, 10 months and 23 days.

Beulah was the fourth daughter of nine children born to Charley and Essie Pearl Thompson. The family was raised on a farm near Gruver.

In the Range community on August 26, 1922 Beulah gave her heart to the Lord in a brush-arbor meeting held by the Morton Sisters. Soon the singing "Thompson Sisters", Beulah and Jo, began to travel in the gospel work. In 1923 Beulah began to preach. A number of revivals were held in the Hereford, Texas area and a great many people were won to the Lord.

In 1925 Beulah married Eldon Bollinger. Three children were born to this union. In 1934 Eldon went to be with his Lord. At the time of his death he was the pastor of the Mission Church in Hardesty. Beulah continued his work at Hardesty and served as pastor until she married Emil Steffen in 1936. Two children were born to Emil and Beulah.

The family lived on a ranch south of Hardesty until 1973 when Emil retired, and he and Beulah moved to Perryton. In 1980 Emil departed this life and went to be with his Lord.

Beulah leaves to mourn her passing five children: Eula Harrel of Pryor, Oklahoma, Eldon and Wanell Bollinger of Tulsa, Okla. Harold and Wilburta Bollinger of Hardesty, Okla. Donald and Vivian Flowers of Perryton, Texas and Johnny Steffen of Hardesty, Okla.; 11 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, four sisters, Ethel Johnson Joplin, Missouri; Jo Martin of Pampa, Texas; Rose Bratton of Gruver, Texas; and Dollie Hanson of Lincoln, Nebraska. Three sisters; Elvira, Ruth and Mildred and her only brother, Charley, preceded her in death.

Many other relatives and a host of friends will miss Beulah and long remember her enjoyment of life and her confident spirit.

The faith that Beulah taught, sang and lived was severely tested in the last six years of her life, but she remained always faithful and totally confident that death on earth meant new life in heaven.

In 1980 Beulah had open heart surgery. In 1985 she had major arterial surgery on her right leg. While in the hospital she suffered a heart attack. Her leg never fully recovered and after continuous suffering, the leg was amputated on November 11. She was recovering when a massive heart attack took her life. These severe illnesses could destroy her body but they could not destroy her confident spirit for she knew that nothing of this earth could separate her from the love of God.

Beulah taught her children the ways of God. She taught them to pray, she gave them strength to face adversity with faith in God. She did her job well. Her life on earth has ended but her influence will live on.

Those who loved her will miss her almost more than they can bear, but they rejoice that she is beyond the hurts of this world. She is with the Lord she served with all her heart, mind and strength. For Beulah the brightness of a new day has dawned.

Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.

Proverbs 31:30

Stella Elizabeth Yeakel Cornell

Stella Elizabeth Yeakel Cornell, 80, of Laverne, Okla. passed from this life January 11, 1988, at Woodward Memorial Hospital at 8:15 p.m. following a short illness.

Stella was born July 7, 1907, at Fort Scott, Ks., to Eugene Olen and Alice Isabelle Boydston Yeakel. In 1910 she and the family moved to Wichita, Ks., where she resided until entering the gospel work in 1931 after accepting the Lord at age 18. At that time she helped the Jack Barker family until her marriage to the Rev. Eugene K. Cornell October 30, 1932 - in the home of the Rev. and Mrs. Jack Barker.

Mrs. Cornell had 5 brothers and sisters who died in infancy. Her father passed away when she was 13. At age 15 Stella began working as Mother Yeakel and the remaining 6 children pulled together and were able to stay together becoming a very close knit unit. Their home was open to many ministers and gospel workers during their years in Wichita.

Stella and Gene travelled in evangelistic revivals throughout Texas, Okla., Arkansas, and Kansas until the first pastorate at Galena, Ks. in the spring of 1938. Other pastorates included Waka, Tx.; Big Springs, Tx.; Guymon and Hardesty, Ok.; Kingsmill, Tx.; Cave Springs, Ark.; Wichita, Ks.; Katy, Tx.; Center Point, Tx.; Bayard, Neb.; Arnett, Ok.; and a second time at Galena, Ks. before going to Amarillo, Tx. Since 1981 they have served as fill-in ministers for area churches.

Stella was a faithful companion serving as a Sunday School teacher, youth camp teacher, and VBS director and teacher. Anytime she was needed she would serve as pianist...and always put her families' needs before her own. For a number of years she helped supplement the family income selling Stanley Home Products and was a successful unit manager

while in Guymon. Later while in Bayard, Neb., she finished a flower arranging course and had her own flower business in her home until ill health forced her retirement. No one loved their family and grandchildren or sacrificed for them more than Mother Cornell...and her love was returned to her.

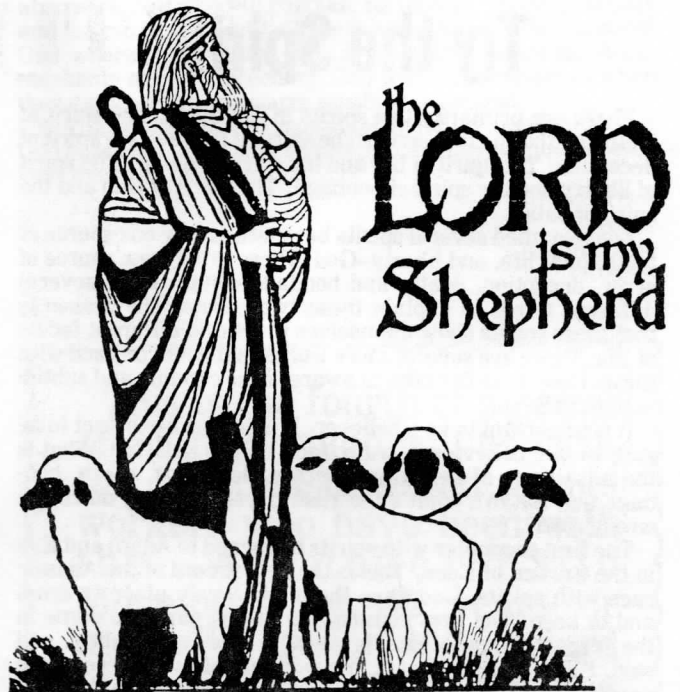
Gene and Stella celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in Oct. 1982. She cherished and talked often of the wonderful day and remembrances sent to them by their many friends.

In 1956 the Cornells purchased their present home at 722 West Jane Jayroe Blvd, Laverne. They have lived here since retiring from active ministry in the fall of 1981.

Stella's mother passed away in 1959. During the past few years her brothers Emmett and the Rev. Bill Yeakel and sister Madeline Tilma preceded her in death.

Survivors include: her husband, Eugene Cornell of the home, 1 daughter and family: Yvonna and Howard Whiteley of Baxter Springs, Ks., Lachelle of Washington DC. and Lynn Howard of Baxter Springs, Ks. 2 sons: Wm. Eugene (Bill) and Iris Cornell of Tulsa, Ok., Rhonda Wood, daughter Ashley Elizabeth of Tulsa. Jacquiline and Butch Watkins of Dumas, Texas, Lance and Presley, Yvonna and David Mallatt of Canada. Jack and Kathryn Cornell of Laverne, Ok. Tonya and Tony Weston of Woodward, Ok. Sons Chris, Shelby, and Ty. Kevin and Tena Cornell of Berryville, Ark. Sons Joshua, Jonathon and Rebekah. 2 sisters: Margaret Ellen Yeakel and Emma Belle Ashley of Baxter Springs, Ks. Nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Services were conducted at the Apostolic Faith Church in Laverne, Okla. on Jan. 15, 1988 with the Rev. Jacob Regier, Rev. Floyd LaMunyon and Rev. M.D. Methvin officiating. A quartet, Rev. Neil Ragan, Rev. Edwin Moderick, Rev. Ted Barker and Rev. Earl Malone, sang "Someday" and "I've a Longing to see Jesus". Rev. Moderick sang "How Great Thou Art". Edna Freeman was the pianist and Juanita Methvin was the organist. Pallbearers were Lynn Whiteley, Rev. Kevin Cornell, Rev. Neil Ragan, Rev. Tony Weston, Edgar Watkins, Rev. Ted Barker. Internment was in Laverne Cemetery, with Rev. Harrol Waterbury officiating.



Perfect Salvation: The Lord is my shepherd.

Perfect Satisfaction: I shall not want.

Perfect Rest: He maketh me to lay down in green pastures.

Perfect Refreshment: He leadeth me besides the still waters.

Perfect Restoration: He restoreth my soul.

Perfect Guidance: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness.

Perfect Protection: I will fear no evil.

Perfect Company: Thou are with me.

Perfect Provision: Thou preparest a Table.

Perfect Joy: My cup renneth over.

Perfect Care: Goodness and Mercy shall follow me.

Perfect Destiny: I will dwell in the house of the lord forever.

"The Lord knoweth them that are His."

Are You Willing

If you have a warm handclasp, use it.

If you have a gift of speech, speak,

If you have energy, spend it for good.

If you have money, give it.

If you have time, share it.

If you have a generous spirit, minister to the needy.

If you love little children, or youth, lead them.

If you can sing, by all means glorify God with your voice.

If you are fond of the beautiful and the artistic, decorate God's altar.

If you have a heart of love, visit the sick, greet the stranger, sympathize with the troubled or sorrowing ones.

If you have business ability, the church and the pastor need you.

If your faith is adequate, pray without ceasing.

If your church means life to you and yours, then attend worship regularly and give thaanks.

If your church means life to you and yours, tell others about it.

You need the church, and the church needs you.

II TIMOTHY 2:19

Try the Spirits

There are primarily two spirits in the world. The spirit of truth and the spirit of error; The spirit of fact and the spirit of deception; The spirit of life and the spirit of death; The spirit of liberty and the spirit of bondage; The spirit of God and the spirit of Satan.

I have named several spirits but there is only one source of truth, fact, life, and liberty—God. There is only one source of error, deception, death, and bondage—Satan. I use several different words to explain these two spirits. The reason is that these spirits show themselves in several different facets of life. There are several more words that could be used with these. I use these to make us aware of the cunning and subtle actions of Satan.

It is important to be a believer. It is just as important to be sure we are believing in truth, fact, liberty and God. What is the advantage of believing in error, deception, death, bondage and Satan? What's the rush if you're going down the wrong road?

The first encounter with spirits happened to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. This is the first record of the Adamic race with spirits. God gave them this lovely place to dress and to keep. The first disturbance to this paradise came in the serpents temptation. He came to Eve, very subtly, and said, "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall eat of every tree of the garden?" A very simple question but loaded with seeds of doubt and deception. The answer was very open and a simple stated fact, "We may eat of every fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die." The serpent said, "Ye shall not surely die, for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as Gods, knowing good and evil." Gen. 3:1-4.

The serpent, endowed with the spirit of Satan, gave some good argument. He used truth: to a certain degree, "Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden," and created a curiosity. Would it be immediate death? What would it be like to be as Gods? The planted ideas were too much. In my mind I see the serpent standing by saying as they ate, "See you are still alive. You did not die." They were enlightened about their nakedness and aware they had disobeyed. The serpent had deceived them. God told them the truth. No human has lived one of God's days: a thousand years. Methuselah lived 969 years. So God did not lie and their awareness of being naked and disobeying separated them from God even to being kicked out of their paradise and separated from the tree of life.

Man has searched for the fountain of youth or some way to keep from growing old, all these years. The fact remains that 'We grow too soon old and too late smart'. Age takes its toll on our abilities, physically and mentally. Humans grow to maturity, on the increase, then for a while they are in the prime of life; then age begins the decline to less and less ability and death. Now I'm considering an ordinary life without accident or disease.

God wants humans to use the years of the life to prepare for a better resurrection. Satan wants humans to come to sorrow, pain, and death-defeat. He's headed that way and desires to take all the humans, he can, with him.

Paul explains this very vividly as he wrote to the Ephesians 6:10-12.

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the Devil.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high

places."

He uses the phrase, 'the wiles of the devil.' Let us apply this to some of today's major activities. First internationally. Terrorism is not of truth and God. Terrorism is to force humans into bondage. This is a wile of the devil. God does not use such tactics. God does not threaten. He doesn't have to threaten. His law is just. He rules over all. God would force humans to serve him, but he wants willing; not forced labor. He gives humans the right of choice and tells them the consequences.

The Mob or Mafia operates by deception and force. Inticement to get control of a human and then there is no way out. That is a wile of the devil.

Nation wise we are controlled by politics. We are supposed to be ruled by the people. That is what is on the surface. We are ruled by powerful groups in high positions. A person has to be a Democrat or a Republican to obtain a political office, and it takes millions of dollars to run for a national office. 'Poor Joe Blow' doesn't have a chance. These things are controlled by power seeking individuals not by righteous God fearing humans. Even, to believe God created all things is questioned by the Supreme Court. The theory of evolution and atheism has taken the right to have school prayer. Wiles of the devil.

The religious world is being invaded by deception. Spiritual wickedness in high places. TV evangelism is not controlled by righteous humans. Power, riches, and greed has seeped into its purpose and claimed its practices. What's wrong with our American people to support such activity? Where is our ability to place proper values?

The Occult Worship is growing among the youth, even to devil worship. Where are the old time spiritual values of Grandpa and Grandma—Dad and Mother? Where are the old paths? Who is presenting the Old Time Gospel or Good News to who-so-ever-will? It seems now that there must be a gimmick to attract religious worship. The old time hymns that inspire true worship are played or sung with a beat or hand clapping rhythm or contemporary music. I like to see progress but I want the true spirit of God to bring the progress. Not man worked up emotion.

One of the warnings of Jesus about the days just prior to his coming according to Matthew 24:4-5 and 11, "And Jesus answered and said unto them. Take heed that no man deceive you,

For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many."

Surely we are not far from these words. In closing I turn to 1 John 4:1-3,

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Hereby know ye the spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

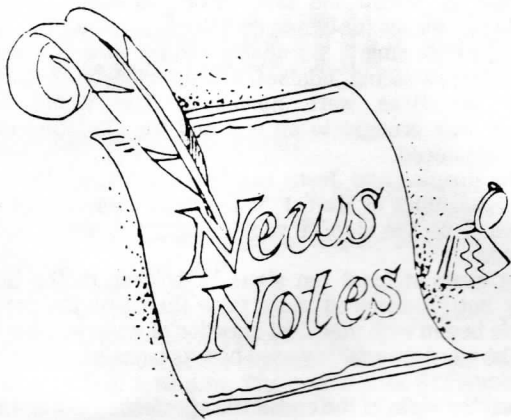
And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is the spirit of the anti-christ, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world."

Jhn 4:24, "God is a spirit and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

By: Donald D. Dibbens

Deadline!

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



Pattison, Texas

Hello from Pattison,

Lots of good things happening here. We are so thankful to the Lord for His many blessings. We are still having our old time Gospel singings. Singers from other churches come, and we have a great time. We had a hayride that was enjoyed as much by the older folk's, as the youngsters.

We had a weiner roast the same night at Bro. and Sis. Scruggs cabin. We've had weiner roasts and chili suppers since. It is such a pleasure to be able to fellowship with Christian Brother's and Sister's.

Four of us attended the camp meeting for two days in Baxter Springs. They were Bro. and Sis. Scruggs, and Charles and Ruth Ellis. It was a real blessing.

We had a Revival in September. Bro. Calvin Springer was the Evangelist. His messages were so spirit filled, and everyone enjoyed them very much. It was such a pleasure having him and Sis. Springer. We have been blessed with visits and messages from Bro. Olen Bachelor. We always enjoy him and Sis. Phylis. We've also had visits from Bro. Blythe and his family from Hempstead. We enjoyed his message.

Bro. Hap and Sis. Blythe also honored us with a visit and a message.

We were very proud to have Bro. and Sis. Boles from Dickenson with us one Sunday. We welcome them back anytime.

We pray that the Lord will keep his mighty hand upon us, and that we will always do things according to his will.

God Bless each and every one of you.

John Scruggs, Pastor
Ruth Ellis, Reporter

Vanderpool, Texas

We were blessed in our revival held here in Vanderpool, Nov. 1-5, 1987. We were blessed indeed to have Bro. and Sis. Bob Taylor to take time to come and minister to us in the name of the Lord. All of us are grateful to them for the strength and blessing received during their stay with us here in Vanderpool. Thanks Bro. and Sis. Taylor and all those who helped to make the revival a success. Blessed be the Lord that sent them.

Jack Killough -Reporting

Galena, Kansas

Proverbs 8: 11-For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

Proverbs 8: 17-I love them that love me and those that seek me early shall find me.

Praise God for his wonderful understanding and if we lack wisdom he said to ask. He also gives us a pattern to follow, and wants in all of our ways to acknowledge him. The works and the ways of the Lord are precious and most marvelous. Our church family wants to extend our sympathies to the families of Wayne Collins and Stella Cornell. May God bless them and keep them in our daily prayer.

God is still blessing our church. Our attendance has been down some this winter because of weather but it won't be long until the weather will be warmer and we will all be able to be out again.

Sis. Goldie Myers celebrated her 92nd birthday on Jan. 16th. She has spent many years working in our church and is a very important pillar of the church.

We welcome all visitors to come and worship with us at anytime. The precious Holy Spirit is still doing his work, stirring hearts of the unsaved.

Howard Whitely -Pastor
May Rowland -Reporter



WILKERSON

Dwayne and Tammie (Hall) Wilkerson of Portales, New Mexico are the parents of a daughter born Sept. 8, 1987. She weighed 6lbs. 8oz. and was named Autumn Danielle. She has one sister and one brother, Heather Diane, 5, and Dane Traviz, 1. Her grandparents are Jake and Joan (Blackman) Hall and Wilma Wilkerson, all of Roswell, N.M. and Daniel Hall of Gladehill, W.Va. Her great-grandparents are Floyd and Mildred Blackman of Rockdale, Tx. and Gladys Hall of Gladehill W.Va.

Murrell

Travis Eugene Murrell was born Oct. 29th at 4:12 A.M. He weighed 7lbs. 13oz. and was 21 in. long. Travis was welcomed by his sister April Annette. His parents are Chet and Debbie Murrell of Hempstead, Grandparents, Rev. and Sis. John Scruggs of Hempstead, and Bro. and Sis. Jimmy Murrell of Magnolia.

89th Birthday

Pearlie Clanton celebrated her 89th birthday on October 20, 1987 at the home of her daughter, Pearlie Mae Stringfellow. Her other daughters Dorothy Stall of Torrance, California and Dorcas Bishop were there to help her celebrate. Sis. Clanton is in a rest home and would enjoy hearing from her friends. Her address is Pearlie Clanton, 370 Old Shackled Is, Rd., Hendersonville, Tennessee 37075.

Jesus Second Coming

By Dora Beydler

This subject has a great number of important prophecies—some of which we can not fully understand—but God gave much information on this subject to the prophets of the Old Testament and Jesus brought several of these prophecies to the disciples and this was recorded in Matthew 24 also Mark 13. Luke also records this incident in chapter 21. While Luke recorded the same events and prophecies there are a few differences in the chronological order of these recordings. This evidence leads to the necessity of dividing these verses in these scriptures to fit them together to make them tell the same message of the other prophecies. Matthew being a favorite writer I shall refer to his work.

Paul wrote in II Timothy 2:15, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." And I shall endeavor to divide this chapter of Matthew 24 to present a complete picture of the latter days and the second coming of Christ.

The chapter opens when Jesus and His disciples had been in the temple and had observed the money cast into the treasury (Luke 21:1-4). As they were leaving the temple some of the disciples called Jesus attention to the temple and the buildings around it.

The temple used at that time has sometimes been referred to as the one Herod built but actually it was the one built when the Jews returned from captivity in Babylon and was being remodeled by Herod. It was originally built in the time of the prophet Haggai and was not as elaborate as the one built by Solomon. Herod, wishing to gain some favor with the Jews, did some elaborate and expensive remodeling. He made the temple itself taller and enlarged the grounds around it. Some think the building project may have continued even after the death of Herod and a possibility that it could have still been under construction at the time of Christ. This could account for the comments of the disciples in calling attention to its beauty. This temple building was acknowledged as one of the wonders of the world. Luke says it was adorned with goodly stones. It was built of huge marble stones and some think those large stones were decorated with the costly precious stones to enhance its beauty.

Jesus used the occasion to tell the disciples about some of the prophecies which would come to pass. He told them of a time, soon to come, when all these stones would be torn down, Micah 3:12 gives a prophecy that for the Jew's sake, Zion shall be plowed like a field and Jerusalem shall become heaps. Jeremiah remembers this prophecy (Jeremiah 26:18). Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the temple and much of the city but it was not plowed like a field. Jerusalem has been plundered at other times in history but in 70 A.D. the Romans under Titus, took the city. They destroyed the temple and much of the city. Titus left enough though to house a Roman garrison. It was not totally destroyed.

Jesus told the disciples there would not be one stone left upon another. In 132 A.D. at the close of the Jews war for freedom, the city was totally destroyed and the prophecy in Micah was fulfilled when the ground where the city of Jerusalem had stood was plowed as a field. The temple stones were indeed in a heap.

Later the Romans built a Roman city upon the same ground and it was called the capitol of the Latin Kingdom and all Jews were banned from this city under penalty of death if

they entered. Micah had said, "For you sake", and there were three reasons for this to be "For their sake." 1. Justly—because of their sins. 2. Mercifully—to take away the occasion to continue practicing judaism. 3. Mysteriously—to show that ancient sacrifices were abolished. The whole Jewish economy was brought to an end and the Christian dispensation introduced.

As the disciples and Jesus reached the Mt. of Olives they asked 3 questions of Him. 1. When shall these things be? 2. What shall be the sign of your coming? 3. When will this world end?

Jesus gave at least ten signs in answer to the disciples inquiry but He covered more time than just the very last days. He began with their last question of when will the world end? The word "world" so used here is translated else where to say "age".

Among the signs of the end of the age Jesus gave a warning against being deceived. Even in the Old Testament times the people were troubled by false prophets, Jeremiah 14:14, and sometimes even the prophets of God were deceived. I Kings 13:7-32.

The next sign Jesus talks about is wars and rumors of wars. Just about every generation since the time of the flood in Noah's day has been plagued with this problem but it will get worse as the end of the age draws nearer. God has prophesied it and it will come to pass. But God still rules in the affairs of the nations of the world. "That the living may know that the most High ruleth in the Kingdom of men." Daniel 4:17. At the time when the ten tribes of Israel left Rehoboam and made Jeroboam their King, the Judahites would have forcefully caused them to return to Rehoboam but God said, "...Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren, the children of Israel...for this thing is from Me..." II Kings 12:21-24. Jesus told the disciples, and the same words are for us today: "See that ye be not troubled." The troubling circumstances from one corner of the globe to the other naturally disturb us but Jesus wants us to know the end is approaching. It is not in the signs He just mentioned; But it is still to come.

Jesus continues with general catastrophies of the world population naming famines, pestilences, and earthquakes. Then He finishes this portion of His answer to the disciples with "All these are the beginning of sorrows." Matthew 24:8. Jesus choice of the word "sorrows" is the same as Pauls choice in I Thessalonians 5:3 where its translation means "birth pangs". He is leading into another phase of the sign of His second coming. This same period is described by John in Revelation 12:2.

We must keep in mind that He is talking to His disciples, but He is projecting the view point into the end of time. Revelation 12:4-5 give an insight into the rest of the picture of that period of time. When the antichrist and his regime take over there will be a general persecution to the Christian people. Often, even since the time of Elijah the people who trust in God have been blamed for the calamities and judgements sent upon the earth. Remember, in the time of Elijah he was blamed for the long drought? I Kings 18-17-18. many of the prophets suffered persecutions and even death by the hands of those who wanted to silence them. The time will come again when all Christians shall suffer afflictions and persecution. It was those claiming to be the religious leaders who caused Jesus to be put to death then persecuted His followers. Again Jesus warns, there will be not only false saviors but also false prophets, because of the rough road for the Christians, Jesus said, "The love of many shall wax cold." Matthew 24:12. John wrote in Revelation 12:4 the dragon's (satan) tail "drew the third part of the stars of heaven (the Christians) and cast them to the earth." A part

of Daniel 8:10 reads, "And it cast them some of the host of the stars (of heaven) to the ground and stamped upon them."

Matthew 24:13 says, "But he that shall endure unto end, the same shall be saved." Luke 21:19 is saying the same thing where it reads, "In your patience possess ye your souls." The noun "patience" is from the same root word in Greek as "endure". So Luke has actually written exactly the same thing as Matthew and Mark. All three have said here what Paul was saying when he wrote to the Galatians, "Let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Galatians 6:9.

We serve a just God who wants all people from everywhere to hear the Good News. When Jesus gave the Great Commission to the disciples just after the resurrection He said, "Go ye into all the World, and preach the Gospel to every creature." The preaching of the Gospel is one of the signs of the times in which we live and the fulfillment of this command must come before the Lord's return.

Verse 15 in Matthew 24 gives another sign and it brings a prophecy from Daniel into the discussion Jesus had with His disciples. Daniel 9:26-27 tells us a leader (the antichrist) shall come and he shall make a covenant with many; apparently for a religious freedom in Judea but in the middle of the seven years specified under the covenant; he (the antichrist) will cause the sacrifices to cease. The place of worship will be made desolate through the overspreading of abominations. Overspreading means to scatter. If we read about Antiochus Epiphanes who was a pre-figure of the antichrist, he caused a desolation by bringing unclean offerings to the sacrificial altar of the temple and placing other altars around the city which caused the Jews to forsake their place of worship until it was thoroughly cleansed several years later. Luke 21:20 gives a parallel scripture to Matthew 24:15 and Mark 13:14 but Luke does not refer to the prophecy in Daniel. Luke says, "And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh." This would definitely be in keeping with the prophecy of "overspreading".

According to Revelation 12:5 where it reads, "And she (the church) brought forth a man child (the 144,000 elect of God) who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne." The redemption of God's elect will be at about the same time the antichrist confirms his covenant. The covenant will no doubt allow a freedom in Judea for the Christians as well as to the Jewish people and many will enjoy a three and a half year period of respite from the persecutions of the antichrist regime. It is possible these persecutions may come through the false church. This is implied in Revelation 13 where it brings the false prophet as well as the antichrist into view and they will eventually be shown through the false church.

I Thessalonians 2:4 gives an idea that satan will show his power through the antichrist, Revelation 13:4, and sit (or stand) in the Jewish Holy Place (a part of their place of worship.) This will bring the desolation prophesied and the covenant will be automatically broken.

The Jews will have been caring for these multitudes of sanctified Christians who fled to Jewery to escape persecution when the covenant was made. The Christians will have been cared for in the Judean wilderness (a wilderness area just west of the dead sea which some maps show to extend from the dead sea westward into the mountains of that region). Some say this mountainous region was David's favorite place to care for his fathers sheep and this is the area David was recalling when he wrote the 23rd. Psalm—often called the Shepherds Psalm. This will be home for the church—the sanctified Christians. Revelation 12:6, "And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and

threescore days."

Then Matthew 24:16,21; Mark 13:15,20; Luke 21-22 and Revelation 12:13-14 all tell of the second flight for the church. This time she will flee to a wilderness where God will protect and keep her for the last half of the antichrist's reign or for three and one half years, Revelation 12:14. This will be a very difficult flight. John says in Revelation the dragon (satan) will send an army (water as a flood) after them. Luke says, "For these be the days of vengeance." Matthew and Mark both say there will be great tribulation at that time. Matthew 24:22 continues with Jesus words, "And except those days should be shortened, there should be no flesh saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." And though this follows other verses concerning the middle of that seven years, this verse seems to fit best to use it just after verse 12 because it is before the covenant made by the antichrist that the persecutions to Christians will be so great. This tribulation will be to all Christian people and the time parallels with the time John wrote about in Revelation 12:4. These people called "the Elect" are to be those who will be Redeemed from the earth and "caught up unto God and unto His throne." Since God knows we are dust, He will not allow more than we are able to bear. Psalm 103:14 and I Corinthians 10:13. He has not promised to remove trials from us but He will give strength and grace to conquer them. God will give more grace (James 4:6) and shorten this persecution.

Then Jesus warns again to not be led away from the truth by every or any substitute doctrine or false leaders no matter how big their following. Some may, and will, show mighty works but we must wait upon the Lord to lead us from day to day.

When the Messiah comes, everyone will know, Matthew 24:27 says His coming will be as the lightning shines from the east to the west and Revelation 1:7 says (...and every eye shall see Him). Then Jesus goes on to say He shall come with the clouds of heaven then He will send His angels to gather His elect from all directions. This will be when He gathers the one hundred forty four thousand to be caught up to God and His throne, Revelation 12:5. These people will be further described in Revelation 14:1-5.

Verse 32 in Matthew 24; Mark 13:28 and Luke 21:29-30 all record an object lesson in the signs to watch as knowing summer is near when the trees put out new leaves. When we see the signs begin to come to pass we can know His coming is near, Matthew 24:32-36. Jesus does further say though that, "No man, no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father only." knows the day nor the hour.

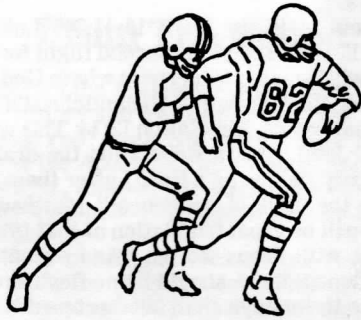
Though, many people, look at the prophecies of Jesus coming in the clouds as the time of His second coming and it will be the beginning of the events connected with His second coming it will not complete those events. Before Jesus can set up the Millennial kingdom of His reigning for one thousand years there needs to be other appearances which are a part of the events called the second coming of Christ.

I shall mention some of these events though they may not be especially in order in which they will happen.

1. Jesus will come with the armies of heaven, Revelation 19:11:16.
2. Jesus will tread the winepress, Isaiah 63:1-4; Revelation 14:20.
3. Jesus feet will touch the Mt. of Olives, Zechariah 14:3-4.

After Jesus comes to the Mt. of Olives and He ends the battle of Armageddon He will set up the government for the millennium which will fulfill two more prophecies.

1. The marriage supper of the Lamb, Revelation 19:6-9.
2. The sanctified and those of the one hundred forty thousand will be made kings and priests at the marriage supper, Revelation 1:6. All of these events will be different phases of the second coming of our Lord but we cannot but look at the trees and "know" His coming is getting closer.



THE SUPER BOWL

Well, the Super Bowl is history...it lasted for a day!
 The excitement-and the fanfare-and the noise soon died away.
 And who can say which team is best, regardless of the score...
 The "breaks" and "luck" must enter in...and "skill"...and so much more!
 And who can say if officials were fair and right on every play?
 Who can say which team would win on any other given day?
 The glory lasts for a little while...and people soon forget...
HAS IT OCCURRED TO YOU THAT THE GAME OF LIFE IS THE GREATEST SUPER BOWL YET??

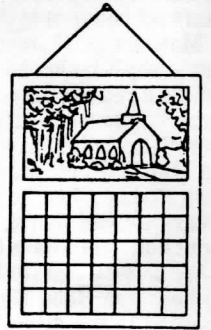
The stakes are higher...the rules don't change...the officials make no mistakes,
 and whether we WIN in the Game of Life has nothing to do with "breaks"!
 You must play your game by the Coach's rules...you can't make up your own;
 You must follow His "game plan" for your life till the final whistle is blown!
 The Coach knows where and who you are...He wants to help you win...
 His name is Christ! He loves you...and He wants to forgive your sin.
 Will you discard your own "game plan", let Him coach YOUR "Super Bowl"?
THE STAKES ARE SALVATION AND ETERNAL LIFE: THE WINNING TOUCHDOWN OR FIELD GOAL!

Barbara Waterbury

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Thirty cents a time is what the Post Office charges us whenever a copy of the Report is returned with a reader's new address. If you are moving, won't you tell us at once, allowing at least 4 weeks for the change? Send the mailing label from the back page so we will know your old address.

Mark Your Calendars



Apostolic Faith Bible College Closing - May 11 and 12

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- SOUTH TEXAS YOUTH CAMP June 5-10**
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- CAMP MEETING Laverne, Ok. July 25-31**

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