The Apostolic Faith Report

July-August 1984

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31 a fi dynadd yn

VOI. 31 NO. 6 & 7

FREEDOM

 $\rm JOHN~8:32$ - And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.

JOHN 8:36 - If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

ROMANS 6:18 - Being then made free from sin, ye become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

ROMANS 8:1-2 - There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit,

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

GALATIANS 5:1 - Stand fast therefore in the liberty where with Christ has made us free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

GALATIANS 6:8-9 *For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

Pray as though it all depended upon God, and then work as though it all depended upon you.

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT Karen Oakes Editor

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

EDITORIAL BOARD

Edwin Waterbury Box 205 Granby, Mo. 64844 417-472-6203

Doyle Wiles Rt. 1 Box 226 Decattur, Ark. 72722 501-752-3937

Ted Barker Rt. 1 Laverne, Okla. 73848 405-921-5188 Jim Arnall Rt. 2 Box 385 Ashland, Ala. 36251 205-354-2167

Ward Stanberry Box 145 Katy, Texas 77450 713-371-3464

Neil Ragan 1405 W. Lang Alvin, Texas 77511 713-331-0670

Wayne Messner Logan, Okla. 73849 405-837-5582

Published as the Lord provides; sent to you upon request on the free-will offering basis. Please send all changes of address, giving both old and new addresses, and Zip Code.

Bylaws Of the Apostolic Faith Bible College, Inc. ARTICLE VII Doctrine

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

Triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit Creation and Formation

Creation and Formatic

Man is basically sinful and in need of Salvation

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

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

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

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

Sacrament of the Lord's supper.

Washing of Feet.

Divine Healing through Jesus Christ for all believers.

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

Destruction of the Wicked.

Conditional Immortality.

Rapture of the Man Child Class.

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

A Ministry supported by tithes and offerings.

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

God's grace is free. But there is one essential requirement to receive it:

HUMILITY

"...God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble" (James 4:6).

JULY-AUGUST 1984

A.F.Report

Apostolic Faith Bible College

BOX 110 BAXTER SPRINGS, KANSAS 66713 Jack Cornell, Superintendent Phone 316-856-3283

announces its

FALL & SPRING SEMESTER August 20 - December 14, 1984 January 7 - May 9, 1985

Classes Offered for 1984-85

Bible Doctrine Old Testament History The Epistles Teacher Training Christian Ministries Music Appreciation Piano Prophecy New Testament History The Prophets Evangelism Church History Choir Organ

Entrance Requirements

- 1. In harmony with the Spirit and purpose of the school.
- 2. Be willing to accept detailed work.
- 3. Abide by school regulations.
- Each student will be required to take at least four subjects. Two of these must be Bible subjects.

ALL students are required to maintain a passing grade.

General Information

This is a Faith School, made available to all who want an opportunity to study God's word in a spiritual atmosphere.

A high academic, college level standard is maintained through 9 months of concentrated study.

Accomodations

This school is supported entirely by free will offerings and gifts, without solicitation or collections.

Meals are served to all as the Lord provides. Students furnish personal effects including linens.

Dormitories for single students provided.

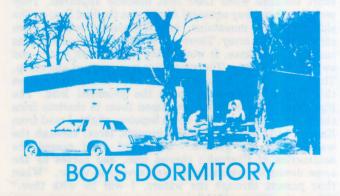
CAMPUS



NEW ALL PURPOSE BUILDING



GIRLS DORMITORY



JULY-AUGUST 1984

THROUGH — not ENGULFED

Isa. 43:1-11

Donald Dibbens

(2)"When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

I have chosen "Through-not engulfed" as a thought for this article. The word "Through I use in the meaning of continuing on; not in the meaning of finished. It has been stated that the best way to get a responsibility; or trying task behind you is to go through it. Sometimes these tasks are enormous and sometimes they seem to border on the impossible; however let us not loose sight or contact with an all powerful, an Omnipotent God.

Paul writing to the saints at Phillipi penned these words, Phil. 4:13 -"I can do all things through Christ that strengtheneth me." This seems to be taking in a lot of territory but God and one outweighs a multitude. Paul had discovered one of the greater secrets of life: he had learned to depend on God to give him ability and strength to go through. God does all things well. Failure is not associated with God. The thing that some call defeat God turns into glorious victory. This is the one I love, serve, and appreciate, Abba Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost, the Godhead triumvirate.

My text is found in Isa. 43:2. "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shall not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." This was written to God's chosen people; Israel by the prophet Isaiah and no doubt is very literal in its interpretation, however I do not feel that I am misapplying the scripture when I use this same writing as a literal promise to we, of today. We are God's chosen people: not through the literal covenant with Abram, but through the spiritual covenant honoring the faith of Abraham. We as the household of faith have the right to expect the revealing power of our heavenly Father as he makes a way for us today.

There are three definite times, in Israel's history, where this scripture can be applied. Each time God showed forth his omnipotent greatness on behalf of his people. Each time there was no way out. The only way was through, but God made a way and through they went and were not engulfed. Let us recall these three historical incidents.

"When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee." The Israelites had left Egyptian bondage. They were headed for the promised land. They had traveled only a short distance when their first obstacle appeared. They were in a three way squeeze! Ahead was the Red Sea; on the side were the mountains, insurmountable; behind them came Pharoah's army. There was no way out. The swim was too great a distance. It would have been foolish to try and swim across the sea. The mountains were rugged and steep. They couldn't hope to scale the cliffs and survive and besides this direction was away from the promised land. The Egyptians were bearing down upon them in chariots from the plains of Goshem. This was a hopeless plight. I read from Exodus 14:10-31. God actually brought Israel through the waters - on dry ground - unharmed and caused the destruction of Pharoah's chariot men, and horses by the same devise by which Israel was saved, ie water. "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee." "Through - not engulfed."

We go to a second scene. Joshua 3:1-17. The wilderness has been traveled. Moses was dead. Joshua was chosen to replace Moses as the leader. Israel had come to the Jordan river. Across Jordan lay the promised land. One large obstacle - Jordan was overflowing its banks all the time of harvest. There was no Golden Gate Bridge like San Francisco has. Nor a Huey P. Long bridge across the Mississippi River that Lousiana has. There were a large number of men, women and children. The success in this situation was to trust God to do the impossible. They couldn't go back into the wilderness. They had to trust Joshua. This man Joshua was in touch with God. He was given the solution. Joshua 3:4,5 and 7-

(4) Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed this way before.

(5) And Joshua said unto the people, sanctify yourselves: for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.

(7) And the Lord said unto Joshua, this day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee."

God uses more than one individual in accomplishing his plan. The priest bearing the ark stepped into the water. Immediately the waters from above rose upon a heap and stood while the multitude of Israel passed over. When the last Isralite was on the other bank the priest bearing the ark stepped out of the water and the waters of Jordan returned flowing over its banks as before. "And through the rivers they shall not overflow thee."

The setting for the third thought is Daniel 3:1-30. The account King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon and three captives from Israel - Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Known as the three Hebrew children. They were captives in Babylon but they kept their faith in God. The decree was made to worship the golden image King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. To disobey this decree was to be cast into the fiery furnace. The Hebrew children were at an impossible impasse. To worship this man made golden image meant disrespect to their God. The living God, Jehovah. Their answer was very simple yet very perilous. (16) Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the King, O, Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

(17) If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnance, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O King.

(18) But if not, be it known unto thee, O King, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou has set up."

It is a beautiful answer. I am inspired by their simple, realistic way of meeting this challenge. They were ready to lay their lives on the line for what they believed. They had contact with the living God.

The furnace was heated seven times hotter than usual. The mighty men of his army bound them in their coats, hosen, hats, and other garments. The furnace was so hot that it killed these mighty men of his army that cast them into the fiery furnace. Tell me anything that could be a greater obstacle than a fiery furnace, heated seven times hotter than usual? To the astonishment of King Nebuchadnezzar the Hebrew children fell into the fiery furnace and were walking about. Wonders of all wonders and more alarming King Nebuchadnezzar saw four men

JULY-AUGUST 1984

walking about. His own words "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God." King Nebuchadnezzar called them from the fiery furnace. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego walked out of the fiery furnace. Their bonds had been burned off. They and their clothing were unharmed. Not even the smell of smoke was on their garments. "When thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Not only did they walk in the fire unhurt; Jesus walked with them. He presented them to King Nebuchadnezzar unharmed, although only the three Hebrew children came out of the fiery furnace. "Through - not engulfed."

I want to mention one more wonderful example of "through - not engulfed." The most terrible yet most beautiful of all. Jesus, in whose mouth was no guile - without fault before the throne of God - suffered shame - reproach apparent defeat at the hands of Pilate and the Roman soldiers to purchase a plan of deliverance for us - spirit, soul and body. He made victory out of defeat. He made deliverance out of death. He glorified Calvary. He made the Cross a symbol of beauty. A cherished possession. A starting point for Heaven. A gate and road to eternal salvation. He went through it all victorously. He did it all for you and me - Through - not engulfed. This thought is beautifully illustrated in the poem by William Cullen Bryant ---To a Waterfowl

> Whither, 'midst falling dew, While flow the heavens with the last steps of day, Far, through their rosy depths, dost thou pursue Thy solitary way!

Vainly the fowler's eye Might mark thy distance flight to do thee wrong, As, darkly painted on the crimson sky Thy figure floats along.

Seek'st thou the plashy brink Of weedy lake, or marge or river wide, Or where the rocking billows rise and sink On the chafed ocean side?

There is a power whose care Teaches thy way along that pathless coast, --The desert and illimitable air,--Lone wandering, but not lost.

All day thy wings have fanned, At that far height, the cold, thin atmosphere, Yet stoop not, weary, to the

welcome land, Though the dark night is near.

And soon that toil shall end; Soon shalt thou find a summer home and rest, And scream amoung thy fellows; reeds shall bend, Soon, o'er thy sheltered nest. Thou'rt gone, the abyss of heaven Hath swallowed up thy form; yet, on my heart Deeply hath sunk the lesson thou hast given.

And shall not soon depart.

He who, from zone to zone, Guides through the boundless sky thy certain flight, In the long way that I must tread alone, Will lead my steps aright.

MY OLD BIBLE

Though the cover is worn, And the pages are torn, And though places bear traces of tears, Yet more precious than gold, Is the Book, worn and old. That can shatter and scatter my fears.

When I prayerfully look In the precious old Book, Many pleasures and treasures I see, Many tokens of love From the Father above, Who is nearest and dearest to me.

This old Book is my guide, 'Tis a friend by my side, It will lighten and brighten my way; And each promise I find Soothes and gladdens my mind As I read it and heed it today.

SERVING ACCEPTABLY

Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.-Hebrews 12:28

Bolton Camp Retreat Ashland, Ala. Aug. 5-8

Chairman: JIM ARNALL R. 2 Box 385 Ashland, Ala. 36251 Ph. 205-354-2167

JULY-AUGUST 1984

A.F. Report



Hinton, Alabama

We are very happy to report the Lord has been doing great things for us in this new year and we are also exceedingly glad to see a increase in our attendance.

Through the winter months we have been studying the book of Revelation on Wednesday night, which has been very deep and inspiring. Our Pastor is endeavoring to bring deeper truths into our fellowship that is being displayed by spiritual growth and evidenced by new interest in church.

A new Youth Group was started in January under the direction of Donna Pearson. We only had 4 young teenagers but we believed they needed to be involved in a service just for them. The Junior age has become involved which has brought about numerical growth in the Youth Services and has boosted our Sunday Night Services. The Young People have been arranging special songs for our Worship Services and they are really doing a great job.

"Spiritual growth always brings material blessings." We began a renovation project in our sanctuary last October and since that time we have completely repainted, laid new wall-to-wall carpet, and purchased all new furniture. This furniture included padded pews, altar, pulpit, attendance board, and choir frontal screens. On April 29th, we held a dedication service believing our new sanctuary should be dedicated to God. This was made possible through the cooperation and sacrifice of each family in our fellowship. All bills were paid in full at this dedication and no money was ever borrowed.

We extend an invitation to all believers of the body of Christ to come and worhsip with us: "IN THE BEAUTY OF HIS HOLINESS" (I Chron. 16:29) : for this is the way we feel when we enter our sanctuary.

Myrtle Carney - Pastor Donna Pearson - Reporter

Snyder, Texas

On May 13th Rev. Esai Calderon and family conducted both morning and evening services. The Lord did bless. Bro. Esai and family are missionaries in Guatemala. He is serving over 160 churches there. There has been terrible persecution in Guatemala. One day the enemy bound and burned 25 members in their church. But Christians there are still going on for Christ.

Accompanying Rev. Calderon were his wife, daughter Rebecca, who has been attending college in Hawaii, his son and daughter in law, Mr. & Mrs. Esai Calderon, Jr. who have been attending school in Indiana. Pray for this family as they return to Guatemala and continue to work there.

Vester Clanton - Pastor Maggis Barnes - Reporter

JULY-AUGUST 1984

Galena, Kansas

Greetings from the Apostolic Faith Church in Galena, Kansas. God is still blessing our church.

We enjoyed V.B.S. June 11-15. It was a blessing from start to finish. A number of our young people also attended Youth Camp in Baxter Springs this year.

On Mother's Day, May 13, we were very happy to have Jack and Kathryn Cornell with us. They sang several special songs. Bro. & Sis. E. K. Cornell were here also. Bro. Howard brought a wonderful message combining Mother's Day and Dedication. Dennis and Debbie Hart had their son dedicated. At the evening service Bro. E. K. Cornell brought the message. Bro. & Sis. Jack Cornell sang again and we were blessed by their ministry.

June 3 we were glad to have several visitors. They were; Leonard and Clella Walker, Ellensboro, N. C., Lonnie McGuire and wife, Alice, from Texas, Edna Bettic and friend from LasVegas, Nev., and Mary Ruth Aiken of Wichita, KS.

Bro. & Sis. Whitely and Lachelle attended funeral services for Andrew (Bus) Ashley in Wichita, KS. Our deepest sympathy goes to this family.

We would like to invite all of you to come by and worship with us anythime you are in our area.

Howard Whitely - Pastor May Rowland - Reporter

Alvin, Texas

In February, 1983 we were invited to Alvin, Texas to conduct a Revival. We really enjoyed the Revival and the Fellowship of the Alvin people...Dennie and Karen Oakes came down for a few days to pick up some nursery stock for the Bible School at Baxter Springs, Kansas. It was such fun to have them to be a part of our "Gospel Party." We went back to Joplin to continue our work there in the Church . In May we turned in our resignation as we felt our work was completed there. Not knowing for sure what the Lord had in mind for us, we went back to Balko to work on our house thinking and half hoping that we may move back to Balko. We did alot of praying and indeed crying. Finally we felt the Lord would have us to go to Alvin - "But Lord, that's so far from our kids and they'll probably never get to go down there to see us!"

But on August 18, 1983 we headed for Alvin, Texas (the same day Hurrican Alicia headed for Alvin - she arrived there before we did) Neil in the pickup and me in the car...For fear of loosing Neil in the heavy traffic in Dallas and Houston, I stayed dangerously close behind, never allowing another vehicle to come between us for fear he's make a turn without me seeing it. Needless to say I did alot of talking to the Lord that day.

Being raised in a small farming community where you meet a car every fifteen miles or so (if you're lucky) this has been a great change for me. Joplin isn't all that small but it's a lot smaller and quieter than Houston! I still won't drive in Houston, but will occasionally brave a trip to Bay Brook Mall by myself!

We have been here eight short months and are really enjoying our work here. It has been quite an adjustment but I think we are finally getting our sea legs (we even like sea food).

A.F. Report

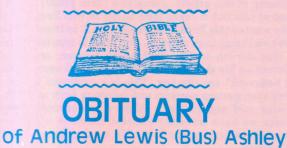
We are looking forward to a busy and rewarding Summer with Youth Camp, Camp Meeting and hopefully some Singing School! Our greatest desire is to be a blessing where ever we are -

By the way, we have had a visit from our one son, Brent, on Mother's Day. He didn't get to stay very long but we're always glad for any time we can be with our family. Are looking forward to having the rest of our family real soon.

Billie Ragan

We are so thankful the Lord sent the Ragan's our way. They have been an inspiration to our church family and we are grateful for their dedication to God's calling upon their lives.

Neil Ragan - Pastor Doneva McPhetrige - Reporter



ANDREW LEWIS (BUS) ASHLEY was born on October 13, 1902 to Anderson H. Ashley and Elizabeth V. Harman Ashley in Kansas City, Kansas, and passed from this life on June 5, 1984 in Wichita, Kansas at the age of 81 years, 7 months and 23 days.

He was the youngest of 5 children, who have all preceeded him in death.

Bus grew in Kansas City, Kansas and one of his fondest memories of his childhood was going to town on Saturday with his wonderful mother to buy groceries for the family. This was always a big event for him.

Bus moved to Wichita in 1924 and on December 31, 1929 he went to work for the Kansas Gas and Electric Company where he was employed until his retirement in 1967 after 38 years of active service to the company. For several years before his retirement, he was meter foreman for K.G. & E. In 1978, he received special recognition for having been associated with the company for 50 years.

On June 21, 1947, Bus was united in marriage to Emma Belle Yeakley of Wichita and on May 30, 1949, a son, Ralph Eugene was born to this union, but passed away in infancy.

Bus loved sports. As a young man he especially enjoyed baseball and played in the First National League Tournaments in Wichita. In later years he enjoyed golfing, bowling, and other sports. He loved the quietness of the out-of-doors and was an avid fisherman as long as his health permitted.

As a young man, Bus accepted Jesus as his saviour and was active in the First Baptist Church in Wichita.

In 1970 he made a rededication of his life to the Lord and began to attend Faith Chapel, where he was a member until his passing.

He is survived by his wife, Emma Belle, of the home; one son, Bob G. Ashley, of Kansas City, Kansas; two nephews, Charles Canfield, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Don Canfield, of Kansas City, Kansas; one grandson, and a host of loyal friends who mourn his passing.

JULY-AUGUST 1984

Mrs. Ashley is the sister of Mrs. Stella Cornell of Laverne, Okla. and Margaret Yeakel of Wichita, Kansas. Neices and nephews include Bobby and Winona Wagner and family of Elkins, AR., Yvonna and Howard Whitely and family of Baxter Springs, KS., Bill and Iris Cornell and family of Perryton, Texas and Jack and Kathryn Cornell of Baxter Springs, KS.

Services were conducted at the DeVorss Funeral Chapel, Wichita, KS. with the Rev. Earl Pruitt and Rev. Howard Whitely officiating. "What a Day That Will Be" and "He Touched Me" were sang by Bill and Jack Cornell and Howard and Lachelle Whitely. Mrs. Yvonna Whitely was organist. At the close of the services Rev. Whitely led the congregation in singing "Amazing Grace".

DEDICATION TO JACK

Jack Barker, whose passing, April 24, reminded many of us of the complete dedication toward God and toward humanity that is possible. Rev. Barker practiced what he preached, trusted the Lord completely and showed love and compassion for people. He was always concerned that his words and life would uplift and direct people toward a vital relationship with the Lord. His life was spent in service to God and man.

HE LAID HIS LIFE ON THE LINE

I have heard the phrase, given in part, "You should practice what you preach." Now, often I think of that phrase with a start As I recall a man I heard teach.

Trust in the Lord - But, Sir, what does it mean? Perhaps different things to each. But this man, who trusted in his Lord Did not just teach and preach.

He proved his trust, whether sick or well. I saw it time after time. How did he prove it? Let me tell-He laid his life on the line.

Some people have placed at risk, this life, Because it might bring them acclaim. Some faced great danger and some faced strife. They were compelled to suffer pain.

But when you lay your life on the line, Not through force but by your choice, For a view, many say is out of time, You have practiced what you said with your voice.

Your understanding of trusting God's grace May or may not be the same As convictions this man did fondly embrace. -But wouldn't you say that man's genuine WHEN HE LAYS HIS LIFE ON THE LINE?

By Alvin L. Barker

A.F.Report

THE BREAD OF LIFE

by Dora Beydler

'And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

Earlier in this chapter Jesus had fed five thousand from a lad's lunch of five barley loaves and two small fish. When the people had finished eating Jesus had the disciples to gather the left over bread that nothing be wasted. They gathered twelve baskets full of bread. This was a miracle that so many could be fed and still have so much left. These people who had been fed had followed Jesus into the mountains. Some of them were perhaps desirous to learn more of His doctrine; others needing healing; some probably just wanted to watch and still others often watched to try to find something against Him. But the multitudes came, no matter where He went. It seems many who followed were of the poor who often sought Him for the material benefits they wished to receive.

Jesus had compassion for the people who were there with nothing to eat and it was getting late in the day, but after they had eaten, Jesus preceived they would take Him by force and make Him a king so He departed alone. A little later the disciples took a ship to the other side of the sea and after dark Jesus joined them. The following day when the people saw neither the disciples nor Jesus were there they, also, too took a ship to the other side, seeking Jesus.

These people were hungry again and though they tried to make their finding of Him seem just a casual interest, they wanted to be fed again. They were seeking material gains for themselves. We often need to take time to search our motives for following Christ. Do we follow for a monetary gain? Do we give of our resources because He promised to pour out a blessing upon us? It is true He promised us a blessing if we obey Him and He did tell us to pay our tithe and give our offerings to Him but we are not to do it for a blessing. We are to obey because we love Him. Paul sid in II Corinthians 9:7 God loveth a cheerful giver." Another question we need to search our souls to answer is why do we attend church? Do we go on Sunday morning just because it seems the proper thing to do? Do we attend this certain church because of its fashionable number or because all my friends go to it? Or do we go for the food for our souls that we might go forth to serve Him in a better way? To believe on the Christ will bring more than just the satisfaction for the day but it will give the strength needed to labor in His service.

Now back to our story in John chapter 6. This benefit seeking multitude wanted nothing to do with a commitment that would cost them any change in their way of life. All they wanted was to receive something to satisfy their physical hunger. Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled." (verse 26). Then Jesus went on to tell them, This is the work (will) of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent." (verse 27) This apparently was too much. Their answer was something like this, You must show us more miracles if you want us to believe you are sent from God. Yesterday you fed us so give us free bread every day, like our fathers had when they journeyed in the wilderness." It was as though they were comparing Moses to Jesus and if we were to carry the comparison farther we could compare them to the willful people who died as they wondered for forty years in the

wilderness. All they had to do in the wilderness was to follow the cloud when it moved and to gather fresh manna each morning. Now, here was Jesus who could just take a meager small lunch and break it into enough pieces to feed the whole multitude. They had come to be fed again and all He was giving them was talk about faith. This all reminds us of Jesus talking to the woman at the well but she seemed more receptive, John 4:5-26. Reading from the Living Bible for verses 32 and 33 Jesus said, Moses didn't give it to them. My Father did. And now He offers you the true bread from heaven. The true Bread is a Person - the One sent by God from heaven, and He gives life to the world." Without faith or even understanding they asked Him to give them this bread that they never need to feel this physical hunger again, verse 34.

This brings us to verse 35 which we copied in the beginning of this article. Jesus told them plainly He is the Bread of Life but it takes faith to eat of this Bread. If they really wanted this Bread He would give it to them but there were two things they must do. The same is true for us today. He that cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst." The two verbs bometh" and believeth" are the key. This is a continous action. No eating then getting careless and following from afar off; not growing cold and giving a dilatory, unconcerned service because we have let other interest crowd in where Jesus was one time Lord of our lives. We must continue to follow and believe.

Again in verse 47 Jesus says we must belive. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me hath eternal life." Jesus told Martha, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." He has eternal life and when He dwells in us we become His temple and eternal life is ours.But don't try to turn that coin over. If we fail to continue to follow God as we er values we leave Jesus at the crossroads and eternal life stays with Him. To keep a possession of eternal life we must walk with Jesus every step of the way. In case we do lose our way through carelessness or false values, Jesus is always waiting where we left Him and a true repentance on on part will win another generous portion of the Bread of Life.

Let us read verses 49-51, "Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." This brought severe contention among the Jews and they were divided in their opinions. They were ready to leave Him because He was not giving them what they were seeking. They reasoned among themselves, How can this man give us His flesh to eat?"

"Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you. Who so eateth My flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. He that eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, dwelleth in Me, and I in him." Verses 53-56. When we think of eating Jesus flesh and drinking His blood we usually remember the scripture of when He and His disciples were gathered at Jerusalem for that last passover. "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is My blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26:26-28. Every time we partake of the communion we are eating and drinking the symbols which represent the Lord's body and blood. Paul was talking of the communion and quoted Jesus in I Corinthians 11:24,25 where he said, "And when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, Take, eat: this is My body, which is broken for you: this do in rememberance of Me.

But there is another way we must eat of this Bread of Life. Jesus said in John 1:1. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Let us look again at John 6:56, "He that eateth My flesh and drinketh My blood, dwelleth in Me, and I in him." Jesus was not promoting the idea of literally eating His body and literally drinking His blood but since He is the Word of God we must study God's Word until we can digest it, figuratively speaking. We have an example of eating God's Word in Ezekiel 2:8-3:2, "But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee. And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and lo, a roll of a book was therin; and he spread it before me; and it was written within and without; and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe. Moreover He said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Isreal. So I opened my mouth, and He caused me to eat that roll. And He said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness. And He said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Isreal, and speak with My words unto them." This was a vision given to Ezekiel. The roll was visionary and in the vision Ezekiel ate the roll and as he digested the words on the scroll God told him to speak those words to the house of Israel. Another example is foud in Revelation 10:8-11, "And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter, and he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings." The first verse of this chapter tells us this was one of John's visions and in this vision he ate the visionary book. No doubt it also contained things John was to preach because verse 11 says he shall "prophesy again before many peoples.'

When we eat a meal and it is digested it becomes a part of the body. The strength we need for daily living comes from the things we eat. So it is with our spiritual life. When Jesus said we are to eat His flesh and drink His blood He was telling us if we want to reap the benefits of a Christian life we must feed upon the Word of God.

John 15:1-7 tells us of the vine and the branches. The branch must feed continously upon the vine just as we must continously abide in Christ and His word abide in us. "If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." John 15:7.

Let us do as Mary the sister of Lazarus (Luke 10:38-42) and spend enough time at the feet of Jesus to be well fed by the Word of God.

THANK YOU, LORD. .

...for loving us even when we have despised You; ...for giving us worth even when we find ourselves worthless and empty;

... for seeking us even when we have not looked for You;

... for freeing us when we clamor for security.

... for guiding us, perhaps most carefully, when we think we are quite ably finding our own way;

... for speaking to us, perhaps most poignantly, in the distress and evil we encounter;

... for forgiving us of even our own righteousness;

... for giving us tasks that we neither want nor can do;

...for giving us critics and those who disagree with us when we would rather have approval and agreement;

...for using those who are unaware and perhaps even unbelieving when we who are "faithful" cry to be used;

...for seeing us as children when we see ourselves as controllers of the universe.

These are all blessings that remind us that we are men - and not gods.

If A Man Lives According To God's Plan

His desire will be granted (Proverbs 10:24). He stands firm forever (10:25). Length is added to his life (10:27). His prospect is joy (10:28) The way of the Lord is his refuge (10:29). He will never be uprooted (10:30). He is rescued from trouble (10:11:8). He reaps a sure reward (11:18). He attains life (11:19).

What It Takes To Make A Great Church

Not soft seats and subdued light, but courageous leadership.

Not just sweet tones from an organ, but sweet Christian living.

Not lofty towers, but lofty vision.

Not a big budget, but big hearts.

Not just money received, but service rendered.

Not just a large membership, but God's presence.

Not what the church has done in the past, but what it is doing for Christ now and will do in the future.

We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy is when men are afraid of the light.

Fire or Fear

The fire shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out. (Lev. 6:13)

John the Baptist was a voice crying in the wilderness. John preached in a literal wilderness but, abounding all around was a greater spiritual wilderness. For four hundred years there had been no open vision, no word from God. Humanism, liberalism, and many different religious sects had sprung up. As darkness covered the land, gross darkness covered the hearts of the people.

Suddenly! Into the arena, God placed a man. Totally unorthodox in appearance and mode of living but like Elijah, a prophet of fire. John's message cut to the very core of mens souls. No one was exempt, rich or poor, religious or decadent, rulers or slaves. The message ripped away the false masks of religion and science. It showed men for what they are. That message was, REPENT!

...Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight...And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not; John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose; He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire... (Luke 3:4b/Luke 3:15-16)

John the Baptist was a voice for the present, not an echo fanning the words of Isaiah. John had a direct word from God, he had a word for the hour that he lived.

Many times today we preachers speak as echos out of the past. We speak true, sincere words of God, but from men who served their generation and died of faith. Nothing is wrong with quoting, paraphrasing, or using the thoughts of men, but the fire, the anointing must come from God. The Word must be God's, flowing through usable vessels; relevant for this hour.

A man may be filled with the Holy Ghost and speak with tongues but that alone is no calling card for the manifested power of God. (I Cor. 4:19-20)

Brothers, it takes broken men to break men. We have lots of equipment in these days but little enduement, much comotion but little creation, action but no unction, rattle but no true revival, we become dogmatic but not dynamic.

Where is the Holy Ghost fire in our lives and in our churches? Judgement fire or hellfire will one day be ours. There was no way that Moses could mistake the sight of the burning bush on Horeb. Neither can this generation mistake the sight of a burning man, fired by the Holy Ghost.

On the day of Pentecost a great and mighty awakening took place in the lives of the Apostles. Just as wind and fire are two of God's mightiest forces in the natural, they were wedded on that great day. This fearful, unlettered, undisciplined group, armed with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the power of the Living God, after the upper-room experience, turned the world of their day upside down. The fire of the Holy Spirit that burned and impassioned them started missionary fires, it quenched the violence of fire, lit martyr fire, and started revival fire. These Godly men were unpredictable, uncontrollable, and totally irresistable.

Preachers, is it because of our own coldness and carelessness that many of our churches are cold and careless? Are we in need of revival fire on the altars of our temples? Sermons and preachers can be avoided, but Christ can never be avoided. Saul, on the Damascus road, met Jesus. He had an experience that cost something. Any man that has ever had an experience with God is never at the mercy of any argument. Any experience that costs something is worth something and does something. (Acts Chap. 9)

We must seek for a fresh anointing. If we're not presenting Christ Jesus and His Gospel, we are missing the purpose of our calling. Paul's soul's honor was pledged to erase from debt. He was debtor to the Greeks and the barbarians, the wise and unwise, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. What is our soul's honor pledged to? (Rom. 1:14-20)

Why do we get so carried away with homiletical exactitude and forget the prophets, "Thus saith the Lord," or our Saviour's, "Verily, Verily, I say unto you?" Jesus taught with authority, not as the scribes. Why was this? They both taught out of the Prophets and the Law. Jesus commanded the people to do as these men taught but not to do according to their works. Our Saviour testified that the word being spoken was true. What made the difference between the teaching of Jesus and that of the Jewish religious order? Lets look at the two. The religious order was teaching a dead word picked from dead men out of dead souls from a dead altar. Jesus taught a living word from a living God out of an impassioned soul from a burning altar. The fire of the Holy Spirit made all the difference. (Matt. 7:28-29/Matt. 23/John 6:32-71)

I Kings 18th chapter gives us a beautiful illustration concerning fire and rain. A drought of 3 1/2 years was upon the land of Israel. A greater spiritual drought and darkeness covered the people, much like today. Elijah was the only prophet who remained. The others, one hundred, had been hidden by Obadiah in caves. At God's command, Elijah called for all of Israel and all the baal priests to assemble on Mt. Carmel. The true God, baal or Jehovah, would answer by fire.

Fire made the difference between the living and the dead. ...The God that answers by fire, let Him be God. (I Kings 18:24) God is a consuming fire. (Heb. 12:29) Baptize with the Holy Ghost and fire. (Luke 3:16) Fire came down and consumed them. (II Kings 1:9-11) He maketh His ministers a flame of fire. (Heb. 1:7)

God's answer to the spiritual darkness of that day was by fire through the travail of Elijah. Only after the fire came, was there an abundance of rain. These weren't mercy drops. The heavens were black with clouds and wind.

We find a spiritual lesson here. After this greatawakening, Ahab goes down to eat and drink, but Elijah goes up to pray. This says something tome concerning the carnal and spiritual appetites of man.

Seven thousand was the number that had not bowed down nor kissed baal, and seven thousand was the number God used to deliver Israel from their enemies. God didn't use the wicked, only the righteous. Evil has no place with God. (I Kings 2:15)

Brothers, we must conclude that Apostolic manifestion must begin with Apostolic Precedent, praise, worship, Godly righteousness, and travailing prayer.

We find that the Holy Trinity is made up by the Holy Father, God;His Son, our Saviour; Jesus, and the precious Holy Ghost. There are also three distinct realms in our relationsip with Christ Jesus; the cross, the tomb, and the Holy Ghost and fire or upper-room experience. (Matt. chap.

JULY-AUGUST 1984

27/Mark chap. 15/Luke chaps. 23-24/John chaps. 19-20/Acts chaps 1-7) (I John 5:7)

We find in the experience of the cross, pardon for our sins, salvation. This is the initial step, our names written in God's book of life. Unfortunately, this is where most christians want to abide without going any further. Many come to know the Word of God but nore the God of the Word. They feel saved, are saved, but still preoccupied with the things of this world. (John 3:14/12:32)

In the empty tomb experience, we come to the realization of the resurrection power of our Holy God and Father. There is great joy among the believers and thirst for knowledge, but very little consecration to go out into the highways and hedges. Many, even though they have had an experience in the Holy Ghost, find themselves without any real desire to "win the lost at any cost." Consecration and sanctification become mere words without meaning. Spiritual understanding declines and carnal reasonings develope. Peter and John raced to the tomb on the resurrection morning. Zeal and love racing together, yet neither of these men understood the fulness of what they saw till they were endued with the power of the Holy Spirit. (John chap. 20/Luke chap. 24)

The Holy Ghost or upper-room experience is where the power of God is made manifest to the world through the believers. This is a place of understanding, of enduement of power. This is where the Wesleys, Luthers, Knox, Moodys, Stubbs, Howells, Parhams, and Finneys received the flame that burned and impassioned their souls. Their message of repentance, framed in fire, changed the course of nations, and it will do the same today.

There is something very disturbing and unbiblical about the man or woman who claims the Holy Ghost experience yet has no desire to reach souls, anywhere and everywhere, with the gospel, and with what ever means is at his or her disposal. (Acts 1:8/Acts 2:1-3)

...Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of His grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands...(Acts 14:3)

The fire of God's most Holy Spirit makes all the difference.

...Afterward He appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen Him after He was risen.

And He said unto the, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, He was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen...(Mark 16:14-20)

If we desire Apostolic Manifestation we must follow Apostolic Precedent. Fire makes the difference!

God Bless You. James R. Routh

JULY-AUGUST 1984

NOTICE

A quarter 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.

A Home Town Witness

Desiring to witness, I volunteered to preach, But Jesus said to me, "Go witness on your street." "I seek a larger place," I pled in bold self-pity; "Then go," He whispered low, "Go witness in your city." "I mean elsewhere," I begged, "Like some far distant place; Lord, here in my home-town they'd laugh right in my face."

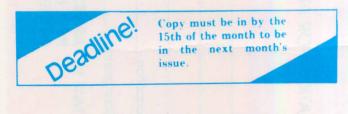
He wept, "But Judea mocked; Galilee turned me down; Jerusalem spit on me; they laughed in My home-town." Deeply touched, I went forth to witness to my neighbor Who welcomed me and made me glad I dared to go and labor. And I, surprised, soon learned there are no distant places with needs more deeply etched than on familiar faces.

Author unknown

Good Principle to Observe

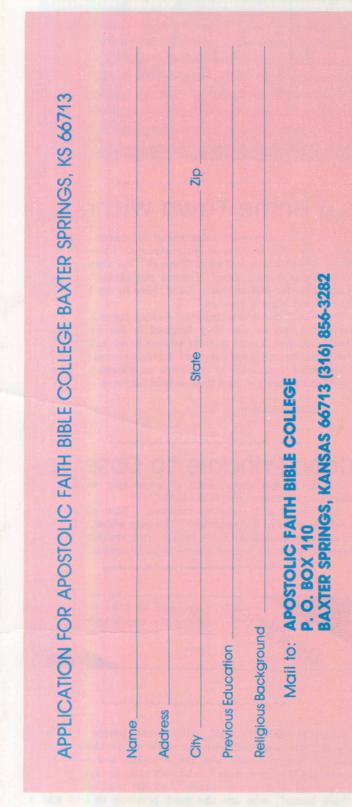
A lady in Minnesota heard of a teenager who stated, "Smoking isn't forbidden in the Bible!"

"Oh yes it is!" someone retorted. "How about Love worketh no ill to it's neighbor?" The lady added, "It works no air pollution (smoke laden breath from another person is harmful) works no danger, works no bad example."



WHICH "BONE" ARE YOU? Some people are "wish bones", who wish and wish but never do anything. Others are the "funny bones," who are so touchy and easily hurt. Some are the "jaw bones", who only talk, always prim and proper but dead as a doorknob. And last (and best) are the "back bones", who are the most precious to God and a delight to any pastor.

A.F. Report



Camp Meeting 1984

Camp Meeting will begin July 23, Monday night with a Service at 8 P.M. and go through July 29.

Reservations for motels will need to be made as soon as possible and each person will need to make their own reservations.

K & M Motel, Highway 283 south. Room rate: single-\$20.. double-\$28., 3 beds-\$32. Phone number 405-921-3351. Deluxe Motel, 422 S. Broadway. Two people-\$24. Phone

number 405-921-3314.

Laverne Motel, north of city on Highway 283. One bed-\$15., two beds-\$22., three beds-\$28. Phone number 405-921-3325.

There are several hook-ups at the camp grounds. Dorms are available first come basis. Ladies and girls - teenage girls dorm and single women. Men and boys - teenage boys dorm and single men. (There will be dorms for fathers and young boys...dorms for teenagers and men with no small children...same for the females.)

Chairman: Danny E. Robinson Rt. 2 Box 32 Balko, Ok. 73931 405-646-3377

Committee: Ollie Kinser **Box 133** Hardesty, Ok. 73944 405-888-4555

Bob Taylor Logan, Ok. 73849 405-837-5595

