



## Alone With God

by Myrtle Carney



Somegotochurch to take a walk. Some go there to laugh and talk. Some go there to meet a friend. Some go there their time to spend. Some go there to meet each other. Some go there a fault to cover. Some go there for observation. Some go there for speculation. Some go there to doze and nod. The wise go there to worship God.

-Selected

AF Report

Psalms 121.I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. my help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

The first and chief need of our Christian life is fellowship with God. The Divine Life within the Christian comes from God and is entirely dependent upon Him. As I need every moment afresh the air to breathe, as the sun every moment afresh sends down its light, so it is only in direct living communication with God that my soul can be strong. The manna of one day was corrupt when the next day came. I must every day have fresh grace from heaven. Take Time To Be Holy.

## N A EA N Of the

#### Trinity of the God-Head I John 5:7

#### Repentance [Act of Man;

Mark 1:14, 15 II Peter 3:9 Acts 3:19

#### Conversion [Justification] [Act of God] [First definite work of grace]

Matt. 18:3 Acts 13:38, 39 II Cor. 5:17

#### Consecration [Act of Man] Romans 12:1, 2

Sanctification [Act of God] [Second definite work of grace]

Hebrews 13:12, 13 Eph. 5:25-27 I Thess. 5:23

#### **Baptism of the Holy Ghost**

Luke 3:16 Acts 1:5 Acts 2:4 Acts 10:45, 46

#### Divine Healing

Matt. 4:23 I Peter 2:24 James 5:14-16

#### No Divorce and Remarriage

Luke 16:18 I Cor. 7:39

#### Redemption of the Saints

Matt. 24:29-31 Rev. 1:7, 12:5 Rev. 14:1-5

#### **Second Coming of Christ**

John 14:3 Acts 1:11 Matt. 24:30

#### Thousand Year reign of Christ

Rev. 20:6 Rev. 20:4

#### First and Second Resurrections

Rev. 20:4-6

#### Conditional Immortality [Life through Christ]

John 10:10 I John 5:11, 12 Romans 2:7

#### Creation and Formation

Gen. 1:26-28 [Created race] I Peter 3:19, 20; 4:6 II Peter 2:4, 5, Gen. 2:6, 7, 21-24 [Formed race]

#### **Destruction of the Wicked**

Matt. 7:13 II Thess. 1:7-9 Romans 6:23 Mal. 4:1

#### Tithes and Offerings

Mal. 3:8, 10 Luke 11:42

#### **Ordinances**

Water Baptism [by immersion]

Matt. 28:19 Romans 6:3, 4 The Lord's Supper Matt. 26:26-28

I Cor. 11:23-30 Feet Washing John 13:4, 5, 14

## The Promises of God

God has given us many rich promises in the Holy Scriptures. It is our loss if we do not take advantage of them. There are several very important facts to bear in mind about these wonderful *Promises of God:* 

FIRST, we must read the Scriptures in order to know God's Promises. There is no other way to discover what God says except to read His Word!

says except to read His Word!

SECOND, we must believe these *Promises*. This means that we must take God at His Word about what He says, regardless of how we or others may feel about it.

THIRD, we must read the *Promise* carefully to discover whether god has attached a specific condition that must first be fulfilled before the blessing can come.

FOURTH, we must bear in mind that God's promises are for those who believe in Jesus Christ. Only those who stand in this special relationship have the right to make these promises their very own, for they have been made precious to God by the Blood of the Saviour.

The wondrous part of God's Promises is that they are signed, sealed, and guaranteed to us by God through the sufferings, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. The Cross of Christ constantly testifies that we can depend upon the fulfilment of these promises.

Romans 5:8—God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 8:28—And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose.

Luke 12:31—But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Romans 8:32—He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

II Corinthians 7:1—Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Hebrews 6:15—And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.



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

## What is the preacher's place today?

There never has been a day when the minister has been held in such low esteem as today. Recent surveys taken at random on city streets and in colleges and universities show the position of a clergyman to be almost derogaroty. There was a time when people considered him with greater esteem than the local lawyer, doctor, councilman, artist, or actor, but today even the fireman, the policeman or teacher is given a much higher rating. Today, many a preacher couldn't get a higher rating than the local boot-legger, dog catcher, or gambling vender. Why? For one thing, too many preachers have forsaken their vocation and calling as preachers of the gospel to become chasers of the almighty dollar, dabblers in charity, labor arbitrators, civil rights demonstrators, agitators for world peace, poverty program workers, denominational machine flunkies, sports enthusiast and religious mugwuffs in general. Can you imagine the disciples of Jesus Christ spending their time thusly:

Even in the ranks of the conservative and fundamental ministry many have lost the vision of a true New Testament ministry. We find among the brethren those who spend so much time in "side-lines" as bond-brokers, auto salesmen, real estate agents, book store owners, agents of building projects for the retired, insurance brokers, etc., that they have no real time for the ministry. In many cases the church which they pastor becomes the "side-line" while they use their pastorate as a means for material gain. Instead of saying like Paul, "This one thing I do", many modern preachers might well say, "These many things I dabble in." So many of our churches are being closed because there are not enough of the ministry willing to sacrifice fleshly comforts to fill these small churches. Apostolic Faith believers are being forced to worship with other denominations because of a lack of vision for the establishing and developing of new churches in various areas.

Sad but true, there are innumerable cases in the ministry where the ethics and morals of clergymen are much in question. There used to be a time when "a bishop must be blameless, the husband of one wife" but many high stepping preachers in these days have divorced the wife and love of their youth to remarry a flouncing young worldly filly in their congregation. Sometimes one wonders what in the world they have been preaching relative to honor, chasity and decency. Do they figure there is one standard for them and another for their church people? Do they believe that God has become a senile old divine who grins out of half blind eyes at their wickedness?

There is no man in your community that God will require so much from as the clergyman. If he is a blind leader of the blind; God help him! If he's a little, effimenate, gut-less wonder that refuses to stand for truth revealed; God help him! If he's a back-slidden Demas with worldly aspirations or a hireling greedy for filthy lucre like Baalam; God help him! Brethren, if "judgement must begin at the house of God" there will be a fearful day of reckoning coming for a faithless clergy. To whom much responsibility is given much will be required in the day of Judgment. Someone has well said, "the wheels of God's justice grind slow, but they grind exceedingly fine."

Paul's charge to Timothy is still the guiding light of the ministry in the 20th century: (II Timothy 4:1-5), "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his apprearing and his kingdon; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season: reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine;. . .For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry."

Let us not cast all the blame of the falling away upon the members of the church. Let's face the truth! let's face the facts! Then fall upon our faces in repentence and public restitution! Let us earn a respected place in the modern society!

Rev. Bob G. Taylor

#### Example

**Author Unknown** 

'Twas a sheep, not a lamb, that strayed away In the parable Jesus told; A grown-up sheep that had gone astray From the ninety and nine in the fold.

Out on the hillside, out in the cold, 'Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd sought; And back to the flock, safe to the fold, 'Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd brought.

And why for the sheep should we earnestly long And as earnestly hope and pray? Because there is danger—if they go wrong They will lead the lambs astray.

For the lambs will follow the sheep you know, Where ever the sheep may stray.
When the sheep go wrong, it will not be long Till the lambs are as wrong as they.

And so with the sheep we earnestly plead For the sake of the lambs today; If the sheep are lost—what a terrible cost Some of the lambs will have to pay

#### Please Remember

To send us your change of address when you move. We also need your old address included. We pay 25 cents per copy when returned by the postal department. Please help us out in this matter.

Thank your

Thank you, Karen Oakes

#### ADMONISHMENT TO PRAYER

The Bible has a lot to say concerning prayer. We are constantly admonished to pray to our Lord. Several scriptures of admonishment that come to my mind are found in: I Chronicles 16:11 which says to seek the Lord and his strength continually. Another is in Matthew 7:7 which says "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." Matthew 26:41 says, "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation:" And finally Ephesians 6:18 says that we should pray always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and in I Thessalonians 5:17, it says to pray without ceasing.

We have been admonished to pray, asking God for his strength continually. We need the Lord's strength to serve Him to the best of our ability. Next we are told that if we ask in faith believing, He will answer our prayer, and give us our needs. We should always watch and pray that we might not be tempted of the devil and that we might not fall to the devil's temptation. If we pray and believe, the Lord will give us strength to rebuke the devil, and he will flee from us. We should always have a prayer in our hearts for someone or something that we need from God. It could be a burden or just our physical needs.

Lastly, we are admonished to pray without ceasing. Prayer is one of the most powerful weapons against Satan that a person possesses. As long as we always have a prayer in our hearts, we will be drawn closer to God. One of the most important jobs a person has is to be a prayer warrior for God. It is a very high responsibility. Today, we need to pray more than ever because we are so close to the end times and we need the Lord's help even more now.

Let us always remember the scriptures in the Bible that admonish us to be constant in prayer. There is an old saying that says, Prayer changes things, or Prayer moves mountains, and truly when our faith is strong enough we can pray through the largest or hardest obstacles in our paths. Prayer has been known to change a lot of things in people's lives. I've found that in my life, when I neglect my prayer life, things start going wrong, and I'm not as close to the Lord as I am when I am constant in my prayer life. I've seen the vilest sinner saved by the Lord because of someone else's prayers. So, truly, prayer does change things.

If your prayer life has been lacking, I would admonish each of you again, be constant in your prayer life, and you'll be surprised at what you can accomplish!

-Marty Haney



\*Are we truly united today?

Read and examine these scriptures:
Philippians 1:27
I Corinthians 1:10
Romans 12:5
I Peter 3:8
II Corinthians 13:11

"Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity". Psalms 133:11

#### THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

#### **Karen Oakes Editor**

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

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#### WHO NEEDS A LICENSE?

Not everything the experts call progress is.

One expert, Dr. Harold Greenwald, a psychotherapist from New York, proposed that non-legal voluntary association be accepted as an alternative form of marriage.

Dr. Greenwald suggested that consenting adults could enter a marriage on a voluntary basis without a license, official approval, or registration with any governmental body. And they could dissolve the marriage just as readily without legal intervention. Mutual desire, rather than a legal decree, is the important thing, he said.

I've had college youth, and even some from high school, suggest the same thing. "Who needs a piece of paper?" they ask. "If marriage does not depend on a license, why have all the bother? A marriage could be truer and more beautiful if it were not propped up by legal involvements and guarantees; one could then be free to love in the name of love alone." That's their argument.

But there is usually a considerable amount of bunk—deliberate or otherwise—involved here. It isn't deep commitment that finds the idea of licensing an insult. Rather, it is shallow commitment—so shallow there is instincitve fear that legal safeguards might hinder its easy dissolution.

The essence of marriage is a commitment, a commitment that leads to wider commitments. This means that marriage, though highly personal, is not a purely private affair. Society has a real stake in it and so is entitled to know who is married to whom, who is responsible for supporting who is obligated to take care of any babies which may come.

This sort of announced intention is what licensing represents. There would seem to be very few valid reasons why a couple desiring true marriage should want to evade this responsibility to each other and to their fellowmen.

Think big about marriage. Think long-term commitment—because true marriage is for keeps. Real love has staying power.

-M.P. Horban



#### KINGMAN KANSAS

The Lord does answer prayer. We have a pastor, Mike Brening, his lovely wife, Peggy, and their cute and cuddley son, Jacob. It's a blessing to have them. A special thanks to everyone in our church who shared the load and the responsibility of preparing for our services. A special thanks to Bro. John Wimer, Jr. for filling the pulpit when it was needed. After sharing the load it makes us realize how much preparation a pastor does and what a heavy load it can be.

The church needs your prayers that it can be a blessing and reach out to help meet the needs of our community.

Phyllis Wimer, reporter Mike Brening, pastor

#### PAMPA, TEXAS

On May 20, 1981 the Pampa Chapel People met and had the regular yearly meeting. We re-elected our Pastor, Ralph Denton. We have been very happy with them for two years and we expect this to continue in the next year.

Brother Denton has been giving some good lessons and his sermons are very thought provoking and we are enjoying them. Since the Revival with Brother & Sister Sparks we have seen some growth in the Church and pray with us that we shall see more.

On Sunday May 24th we honored our High School Graduating Students by presenting them with Bibles. We had four who finished high school this year.

We are expecting a very busy summer. There is so much to do and the time is running out as we can plainly see.

We invite Ministers to come by and see us anytime.

#### ENID, OKLAHOMA

Rejoice in the Lord and be glad. The Apostolic Faith Report came and I started to read a few articles but could not put it down. It was so very encouraging to our mental and spiritual health. I enjoy the Report very much.

Summer is here, school is out, vacations are coming. Let us pray that we don't take time from worship, service and fellowship with God and others. This is no time to lower our standards but we must increase our prayer life and faith with love, hope, joy, peace and happiness toward God and our fellowman.

The youth camps were a blessing to all. We had a girl attend the first week and a boy who attended the last week. I'm glad for the youth camps. I well remember the ones I attended as a child.

Our church recently had a revival with Johnnie Arnall, his wife, Kathy, and daughters, Theresa and Johanna. The preaching was very good and we had lovely singing. The Arnall girls sing so beautiful. The Lord is using their talents for Him.

Our good pastor is doing a lovely job. The trials may press us and burdens distress us but God will never leave us alone. If God be for us who can be against us? Camp meeting is just around the corner. We do hope lots of folks will plan to attend the good services, enjoy the blessings of God and fellowship of the saints. It would be wonderful to see all the families of our church there. Till we meet in the paper or in person, God bless everyone of you in Christ.

Dorothy Cook, pastor Mary Branham, reporter

#### MIDWAY, OKLAHOMA

Just a few lines from the little white church MIDWAY in the Oklahoma panhandle. We are Rejoicing in the presence of the Lord even in a very trying time. The last of April, Sis. Hazel was injured in a car wreck and our car totaled out but we have so much to be thankful for that she was not hurt worse or even killed. Praise the Lord!

May 3-10 was glorious days as we feasted upon the good word of God that was brought to by Sis. Myrtle Carney. It was heaven on earth to sit together in heavenly places with Christ Jesus and God's people. We were priviledged to have Bro. and Sis. Marvin Boyd from the hill country of Texas with us for part of the meeting. Sis. Boyd had defied death and the word of all doctors thru faith in God and was able to come and be with us as we enjoyed God's blessings.

The last week of May again was a blessed time, both among our children and the adults alike as we enbarked upon vacation Bible School. This school was conducted quite different from traditional schools and it proved a great blessing. Sis. Hazel conducted the school and she chose 5 ladies of the church to bring one lesson each day to all the students instead of dividing into classes. God Blessed them as they all dealt with subjects on the problems that kids of our day encounter. After the program on Sunday night, all the adults agreed that it was a super success for which we thank God.

We are looking forward to Camp Meeting and also a bus tour by a group from our church to the Ozarks to see the Passion Play. There will be 29 from our church making the tour with Bro. Adair and we are expecting a glorious time together.

We extend a cordial invitation to all ministers and believers to visit us as they vacation this sumer. We have been blessed by having Bro. and Sis. Gene Cornell as well as Sis Whiteley and children recently in our services.

We, of the church and community, are looking forward to July 19th. as we help Bro. and Sis. Glen Howard celebrate their 50th. wedding anniversary. Congratulations to the Howards!

**Bob and Hazel Taylor**, pastor



We are overcomers through the blood of Jesus Christ.

#### JOPLIN, MISSOURI

June proved to be a wonderful month for us here at Joplin. We held our Vacation Bible School June 1-5. It ended with a wonderful program and an ice cream social. Everyone had a really good time. There were 61 enrolled in the V.B.S.

June 7 we had a picnic at the park for our 2 graduating seniors. Tyrone Suman and Charles Wilson. After that we had a baptismal service with 8 of our young People baptised. The Lord really blessed in it.

We enjoyed going to youth camp at Baxter Springs, Ks. We had 18 of our young people go as students, and also 10 helpers. God blessed each one of them!

We were also glad to hear that our pastor and his wife-Neil and Billie Ragan will be staying with us for another year. We really appreciate the work they are doing in our church and we really love them alot.

Pray for us at Joplin that we will keep on growing in the Lord.

God Bless you all!

Vanessa Oakes, reporter



Youth being baptized by Neil Ragan, pastor of Apostolic Faith Church, Joplin, Mo.

#### **VBS-81**

VBS of 81 holds memories that are dear. We all will cherish them until we come next year. Yes, it holds memories for everyone But especially for our class We had so many good times It all went by too fast. We studied of our Saviour And the good things He has done He gives so many blessings And we don't deserve a one. Some times it's tough being a teenager You don't feel like you belong And so many of the grown-ups Always think you're wrong. It's hard to be a Christian in this world today It's hard to know what you should do Or what you're supposed to say. But I know that if I really want to serve the Lord He'll feed me with his word And give when I want more. Some people aren't really living They really just exist. It's sort of like a puzzle The pieces never fit. And even tho I'M just a teen My life means so very much Because I've heard music playing Vanessa Oakes And I've felt the Savior's touch.

#### **Wedding Vows**

#### Keith-Cornell

Kevin Cornell and Tena Keith were united in marriage on May 21, 1981 in the Antioch Church of God of the Apostolic Faith, Berryville, Arkansas.

Both Kevin and Tena attended the Apostolic Faith Bible College in Baxter Springs, Ks. during the past term. They are traveling with the gospel team for the summer and are planning to return to Baxter in the fall for another term of school.

Kevin is the son of Rev, & Mrs. Jack Cornell, Alvin, Tx. and the grandson of Rev & Mrs. E.K. Cornell, Laverne, Ok. and Mrs. Faye Booth, Hardesty, Ok.

Tena is the daughter of Rev. & Mrs. David Keith, Berryville, Arkansas. Her grandparents are, Mr. & Mrs. Lee Ledford, Tiff City, Mo. and Mr. & Mrs. Al Keith of Anderson, Mo.

#### Oakes-Johnson

Miss Anita Koleen Oakes and Andrew Joseph Johnson were united in marriage on May 22, 1981 at the Original Apostolic Faith Church in Joplin, Mo. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Neil Ragan. Parents of the couple are Mr. & Mrs. Forrest L. Oakes of Neosho, Mo. and Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Johnson of Granby, Mo.

#### Pennington-Davis

Wedding bells rang for Jeanna Carol Pennington and Monty Davis of Wichita, Kansas on June 12, 1981. Jeanie is the youngest daughter of Max and Dorothy Pennington. Grandparents are Maxine Long, Taneyville, Mo., Earnest E. Daughterty, Leakey, Texas, and Ennis R. Penningtion Canon City, Colorado. The happy couple will reside in Wichita, Kansas.

#### **Births**

#### Manning

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Manning, Duronda and J.J. announce the birth of their son and brother, Daniel Lee, born Sunday, May 31 at the Harper County Community Hospital in Buffalo, Okla. Daniel weighed 8 lbs. and 6½ oz.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Jim Arnold of Guymon. Maternal grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Deal of Laverne, Okla. Maternal great grandparents are Audrey Baker and Freda Deal of May, Okla.

#### Barnes

We believe in miracles and our new miracle is named: Nathan Brant Barnes. His birthdate is May 11, 1981, 4:52 a.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 1/2 oz. and was  $22^{1/2}$  in. long. The proud parents are Mike and Lou Ann Barnes.

#### "GIVE YOURSELF TO PRAYER"

Prayer is a pouring out, a supplication, petition, or an entreating. 1 Webster defines prayer as communing with God. It is a time of the out-pouring of God's spirit and our spirit alike, intermingling and communing with one another.

Prayer is a necessity to man because he is incurably religious.2 It is most real in Christianity because the Christian life is a life of fellowship with God. In no other religion do we find such prayers as uttered by men like Moses, David, and Paul. In the Bible, the relationship between God and man is genuine and interpersonal. Moses, for example was in a constant attitude of prayer. He realized his need for God's continual guidance and direction in his life, and that only with the wisdom and power of God could he lead the children of Israel.

We can also see through the example of Moses that neglect of prayer is sin. In Numbers 20:1-12, we find an incident where Moses not only neglected to pray through each step he took, but he also disobeyed God. As the people complained of their thirst in the desert, God commanded Moses to speak to a rock, and water would come forth. Instead of speaking to the rock, Moses smote it with his rod, because the people complained constantly. Thus, because he didn't pray through his human nature's actions (responses) to those of God, he wasn't allowed to lead the children of Israel to the promised land. His neglect of prayer led him to disobedience and punishment.

Samuel wrote in I Samuel 12:23 . . . "Ceasing or neglecting to pray for others and ourselves is "out and out sin." The Lord doesn't forsake us; why should we forsake Him?"

Prayer avails when it's by a humble-asking person, (supplicant), who has confessed and renounced his sin, David was the best example of this in the Bible. In Psalms 66:18-20, he said, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me." The Lord God will have nothing to do with sin, so our hearts must be right with Him, and sin must be dealth with from the very beginning. Because David's sin was dealt with, God heard his prayer.

Prayer is adoration and thanksgiving unto God. Throughout the Psalms, we read of prayers of praise. God desires man's fellowship, and man needs the friendship of God. Prayer includes all the elements: communion, adoration, thanksgiving, confession, petition, intercession, and submission.

Prayer avails only as it is made in faith, as shown in Matthew 17:20-21 and Hebrews 11:6. God isn't pleased unless we have faith; unless we come to Him believing that He is!

Prayer also only avails as it is made in the name of Jesus, for He is our intercessor. In the Old Testament, the priests made intercession for the people, but in the New Testament, Christ, our great High Priest, came to make intercession for us. Thus, we pray in His name.

It is vital that we pray in order to keep in the will of God. We must ask "according to His will." (I John 5:14-15) We can rest assured that if we ask to work His will in our lives, He will do just that. Prayer remains strong under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

In I Corinthians 7:5, Paul instructs us to give ourselves to prayer, and to come together, so that Satan won't tempt us for our inconsistency. How often do we grow lazy in our prayer life, neglecting to pray for even our dearest loved ones? The church needs to come together, as Paul said, but this unity can only be accomplished through prayer. The church must remain strong in order to withstand the temptations of Satan, but this strength can only come through prayer. Let's remember how vital prayer is. Let's take time, no matter where or when, to pray to our Master and Friend!

-Sandy Danley

1. Smith's Bible Dictionary 2. Hand Dictionary of the Bible



BE STRONG IN THE LORD We are not here to play, and dream or to drift. Let's work hard to do God's will, because the days are evil. Stand up, speak out be brave.

One arm around thee and one around the Lord Jesus Christ, will keep us day by day.

Put, not our trust in man or in the son's of man in whom there is no help.

Are we working for **God** alone? In faith and love. The word "Love" is mentioned one hundred and five times in the New Testament. God has surely given us all His Love. We love Him because He first loved us. Be Strong. Let's win the battle. It will be worth it all.

He that walketh upright will be safe. But he that despises God's ways shall not be known.

We must take heed to the Master's voice. He bids us to work. That will be our choice and the reward He will give, if we meet His goal by winning some lost soul.

What, have we done to help complete His work that He entrusted us to do? Or have we shirked, while there is still time to work. With a will to complete the task that remains for us still. I wonder when we cross that great divide, what we'll find on the other side? Or, shall we be found with empty hands, as we live for self and shunned God's commands.

Our life here is given as a testing place. Eternity is a reward after we finish the race.

Shall the Master say to me, "Well done" you have finished my course. Come, ye, enter in and receive your final reward.

(Written by: Avis R. Yoakum, Rockdale, Tx.)

### A vailable for Youth Revivals

#### Dear Karen,

Greetings in the name of Jesus. I am writing to inform you and the movement that as of July 1, 1981 I will be available for Youth Revivals, I feel the call of the Lord on my life for this purpose. The subject matter of these Revivals will be day to day subjects that young people encounter. The Lord has blessed me in this manner and I feel His anointing on my life for the young people. The present subjects I plan to include in a three service Revival are:

1st night—The influence and satanic involvment of rock music.

2nd night—Immorality and the effects of pornography on the young mind.

3rd night—The victorious and soon coming Christ.

Each service I plan to present the scriptures and the facts that pertain to our young people and I hope and believe that the Holy Spirit will annoint and that souls will be won and our christian young people encouraged that they can fight the good fight of faith. Satan is bidding high for our young people and we need to reach them so we can help the be the Davids' of tomorrow.

My present address is:

Brent Blythe 1946 9th St.

Hempstead Tx. 77445

I also will be available for revivals. May God bless you is our prayers. I really appreciate the Report and your life for running it.

Brent and Elva Lu Blythe



**HUMILITY** - Our Example is Christ

The ultimate example of humility was when Christ so completely humbled himself. He became obedient to what? Philippians 2:8.

We must humble ourselves to the point where we can be obedient to the Spirit as He leads us, otherwise the Lord cannot use us. I Peter 5:5.

We must be humble to the point of realizing we are nothing without Christ. Then, realizing we are unworthy, undeserving - the Lord can use us and He will then "Lift us up" in His way and in His time.

Read John 15:5, James 4:10, Romans 12:3, Matthew 18:4, and I Peter 5:6.



## Upon This Rock

#### by Dora Beydler

Nebuchadnezzar, in the second year of his reign, had a dream which proved to be a vision beginning with his reign and reaching into the end time. Daniel interprets this dream by saying Nebuchadnezzar and his kingdom are represented by the head of gold. Although Daniel (in chapter 2) does not name the succeeding kingdoms, history declares them for us. The Persians became the kingdom of silver while Greece fulfilled the prophecies of the kingdom of brass. In time, after the death of Alexander, his great empire was divided and one of his leading Generals, Ptolemy, became the ruler in Egypt. Seleucus, who had helped Alexander with his conquests in Asia, became the founder of the Selucid Dynasty. Syria became a part of this Dynasty. Palestine, which lay between Syria and Egypt, was first controlled by Syria then by Egypt and later was again under Syrian rule until freed by the Maccabees. The Jews then enjoyed about an hundred years of freedom before being conquered by the Romans in 63 B.C. The Roman Empire, or the fourth kingdom of Nebuchadnezzar's dream was as strong as iron and subdued all the then known world. This Empire contained some of the characteristics of all the kingdoms before; in that it had the splendor of the Chaldeans, the riches of the Persians, the discipline of the Greeks and the strength of the Egyptian and Syrian governments. The

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vision continues with the feet and toes being mixed with iron and clay. Though the Romans, the legs of iron in the beginning, had absorbed the characteristics of the kingdoms before them, they continued to swallow up the barbarous northern nations which added a great instability and as Daniel said, the Empire was one mixed with iron and clay. Even though Rome was the highest authority in the government, most (if not all) of these smaller nations were allowed to maintain their own government as long as they stayed in agreeance with Rome and paid their tribute money to them. An example of this in the scriptures is found in Matthew 2:1 and Luke 1:5 where both references speak of King Herod.

During the days of the kings of this collection of kingdoms and nations which made up the Roman Empire, Nebuchadnezzar's dream saw a stone cut out of the mountain-without hands. This was not just a mountain but it was THE mountain which was not in the hands of men. "Thou sawest till that a stone was cut without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces, then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors, and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that carried them away, that no place was found for them; and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth." Daniel 2:34,35. Then in verses 44 and 45 of this same chapter we read the interpretation: "And in the days of these kings (the kings of the vast Roman Empire) shall the God of heaven set up a kingdon, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. For as much as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: the dream is certain, and the interpretation is sure."

This Mountain from which the Stone was cut represents the Dominion of God. He has always been eternally supreme and in control of the affairs of this world. Nebuchadnezzar spent seven years insane and eating grass with the cattle but when he was restored to his right mind he said, "And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praise and honored Him that liveth forever, whose dominion is everlasting dominion and His kingdom is from generation to generation." When Darius discovered that God had stopped the mouths of the lions and Daniel was still alive, Darius said, "I make a decree. That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for He is the living God, and steadfast forever, and His kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and His dominion shall be even unto the end." The Stone, cut from the dominion of God in the days of the kings under Roman rule, represents Christ and His governing influence and Daniel 2:35 says that Stone became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. This kingdom which began in and under the Roman Empire shall never be destroyed because it is founded upon the everlasting gospel and is the work of the eternal God. In John 18:33-36 we read, "Then Pilate entered into the judgement hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews? Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of

thyself, or did others tell it thee of me? Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not of this world." We also read in Luke 17:20-21 "And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you." This kingdom set up by God did break the Roman Empire in pieces. The Romans were feared because of their cruelty but with every political excellence it contains the principals of its own destruction and the persecution of the Christians accelerated its ruin. Though these persecutions lasted many years the Stone began to strike the image when the apostles went out into every part of the Roman Empire. The great blow to the Empire was given with the conversion of Constantine. This conversion took place when he was in Gaul in A.D.312 and saw a vision of a luminous cross in the sky a little after noon day with the inscription, "By this conquer." Christianity accomplished that which the warfare of armies could not. Similar words were spoken in a message to be delivered to Zerrubabel in Zechariah 4:6 when God said, "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." This Christian influence grew until not only that Empire was subdued but we read in Revelation 6:2 "And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer." The rider on this white horse is Jesus. The crown given to Him declares Him to be the King and is used to be the emblem of His kingdom. The bow suggests the weapons of His warfare, shooting the darts of conviction into hearts of men. Surely, Jesus is still conquering and the mountain of His Kingdom is still growing.

The dictionary says a rock is a large mass of stony matter; a firm immovable support; a refuge or defense. A stone is a small piece of rock. I Corinthians 10:4, in referring to the Children of Israel, reads "And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." It tells us in Psalms 62:6, "he only is my Rock and my salvation: He is my defense; I shall not be moved."

Jesus, who is the author of our salvation, our Rock and our defence is also the chief corner stone. Ephesians 2:19-22 "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit." The corner stone is that which is placed to unite the two walls from right angles but the chief corner stone is the one which bears the name of the building. Some believe the corner stone symbolizes the gospel being given to the Gentiles as well as to the Jews. If this is right it could also be the reason for the use of the stumbling stone because while the Gentiles accepted the Gospel the Jews took offence having to share God with them. I Peter 2:7-8 "Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed the same is made the head of the corner, and a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed." Also Isaiah 8:14.

Matthew 7:24-27 "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it." These verses are from a parable but they show the necessity of our building upon the solid foundation of Jesus Christ. Then in Matthew 16:13-18 we read where Jesus asked His disciples ".... Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." When Peter said "Thou art the Christ" He was convinced of the diety of Christ and his declaration points out this divinity and that He was of God the living one. Then when Jesus told him "Flesh and blood hath not revealed this unto thee," He was saying man has not revealed this to you but the Holy Spirit has removed the darkness from your heart and made this revelation to you. "Thou art Peter". . . this was the name given by Jesus when he was first called to the Apostleship and that name signifies a stone or a fragment of rock. Jesus was acknowledging him to be one of His disciples. Peter was not the Rock but only a stone, only one believer in the building of the spiritual house. Jesus did not say, Upon thee, Peter, will I build my church" but he was saying "Upon this truth, that I am the Christ, will I build my Church." Jesus really referred to the declaration of Peter, that Jesus, Himself, was the true Rock upon which He would build His Church. The name Cephas, or Peter, always signifies a stone, never a rock and the Greek translated "rock" as Jesus used it here cannot signify anything of less magnitude and importance than a rock, or strong mountain of defense.

We read in Luke 20:17-18 "And He beheld them, and said, what is this then that is written, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner? Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder." Isaiah wrote "Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste." 28:16. Then in I Peter 2:4 he echoes Isaiah and adds that we, too,". . . as lively stones are built into a spiritual house." These lively building stones must first have surrendered to Christ and His will that we might willingly fill the place He has for us. Ephesians 3:14-16 "Fo. this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man." Then and only then can we be a part of that Church built upon Christ, the Rock.

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