



RELIGION

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK: **Scripture of the Week: St. John Chapter 6**

Lovest Thou Me?

By Mattie Ann Callier-Spears

This is October of 1989. How many Octobers must pass before mankind will decide to make up its minds to really know in their hearts who the SAVIOR is?

For many, many decades, man has sought to change the words of the MASTER TEACHER. He (man) has shed the blood of the innocent, he has imprisoned those who have attempted to preach out for what is right, in the sight of the Almighty God. All kinds of movements, both spiritual and emotional, have plagued our nation with its varied doctrines. Some have taken some parts of their text from the Holy Scriptures, while others have completely changed, rewritten, or just plain misconstrued the whole meaning of the Holy Bible. Religious movements have come and gone, but the Christian Religion has existed since its conception. The Gospel will be continually taught and preached regardless of whether or not mankind wants to go with the flow or whether he chooses to rebel and take it upon himself to create another following to suit him. My question is: "Why re-invent the wheel?" "If it's not broken, why fix it?"

Christ's 'word-of-mouth' concept caught on like wildfire. The twenty-eighth chapter of Matthews, in the eighteenth through the twentieth verses, we read that Jesus Christ has been crucified, has risen from the dead and is now appearing before his disciples before He ascends to His Father in Heaven. He gives them the final commandment, "...Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

The steadfast Christians have been carrying the Holy Light and passing it on by letting their Light shine, by teaching the WORD, by preaching the powerful Gospel message that Christ came to save all who are lost. Salvation is full and Free! In the eighth chapter of St. John, we find Jesus Christ speaking to an adulteress. When her accusers had fled the scene, Jesus Christ asked her, "...Women, where are those thine accusers? Hath no man condemned thee?" The woman replied, "No man, Lord." Jesus then said, "Neither do I condemn thee; go, and sin no more."

With compassion and so much LOVE—Christ always approached the unsaved in such a manner.

Yes! Man has attempted to stamp the name of Jesus Christ from the very face of the earth; but man shall never be successful in such a quest. The WORD shall stand, the name of Jesus Christ shall be forever spoken from the lips of man. For my scripture attests me, that if man doesn't

chose to praise my Lord, the rocks are going to cry out—"Glory and Honor".

Nostalgia has gripped many people during these changing Times. They relive certain periods of the past and glorify conditions and situations which marked those periods. If, when we think of the past, we remember the blessings, the inspiring growth in ourselves and in our world, that is fine. But what a waste it is to dwell on the past and fail to make the present moment the rewarding time of growth it can be.

Right now, opportunity holds out its friendly hand. Let us grasp it. Right now, avenues of success unparalleled in history are begging to be opened. Right now—not in the thirties, forties, fifties, sixties, or the seventies—there is the creative Spirit readying our new world.

God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into this wicked world to bring to us eternal life through his death. In this act we see what real love is; it is not our love for God, but his love for us when he sent his son to satisfy God's anger against our sins. We know how much God loves us because we have felt his love and because we believe him when he tells us that he loves us dearly.

For God is LOVE, and anyone who lives in love is living with God and God is living in him. And as we live with Christ, our love grows more perfect and complete; so we will not be shamed and embarrassed at the day of judgment, but can face him with confidence and joy, because he loves us and we love him too.

If you were to stand before Christ, TODAY, could you answer the question that Jesus Christ put before Simon Peter, son of Jonas, "Lovest thou me more than these?"

There are many of God's sheep who must be fed. We, the Saints of today, must "GO" into all the world and continue to feed the sheep which are lost in this world. Lost to crack. Lost to prostitution. Lost to fornication. Lost to adultery. Lost to hate, jealousy, fear, envy, lies....lost to sin. There are those who are lost right here in our own backyards, homes, and on our jobs. Tell them that Jesus Christ loves them and so do you. For we must love one another as Christ loves us.

The past certainly contributed to take present, but we are now living in the present. Certainly it is the will of our loving Father-God, that we allow this present moment to unfold all the glories that have been prepared for it. Right now we invite the living, loving Lord to use us as a channel for the good of this marvelous moment!

Prayer: I AM A NEW ME, LORD. USE ME FOR THY GLORY. MAY THE LIFE I LIVE SHINE WITH YOUR LOVE. AMEN!

In Loving Memory Of Estrada Luchica Glover

On Friday, October 6, 1989, funeral services were held for Estrada Glover, daughter of Mrs. Lenora C. Morris, at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church. Services began at 11 a.m. with Rev. Milton Green, officiating.

Estrada L. Glover was born April 10, 1955 in Cleveland, Ohio, the fifth child of the late Oddie Glover and Mrs. Lenora Glover Morris.

The family moved to Portland, Oregon in November, 1955. Estrada attended Emaculate Heart and St. Andrews Elementary Schools and later attended St. Mary's of the Valley High School. She was apart of the first class to graduate from Adams High School. She later attended Portland State University.

The family joined Bethel A.M.E. church in 1965. Estrada was a member of Bethel's Youth Choir and Young People's Department.

Estrada worked for the Telephone Company and later for the Oregonian as an Administrative Secretary. Estrada and Kenny Jessie are the parents of Angel Lavonne and Janae Ilana.

On the first day of October, at the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Angel walked

down the aisle and extended her hand to receive Christ as her personal Savior. That same evening she was baptized. She had died to the world and had become a new creature in Christ Jesus. Little did she know that on the very next day she would lose her mother. At 14 years old, she needs her mother's love. She needs her mother's conversation. She needs to just know that her mother is there when she needs her.

The Mt. Olivet Family and the Bethel Family will join together to help support the convictions of this lovely young lady and to help her up in times of trouble.

Rev. Dr. James E. Martin, along with the congregation of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, attended and participated in the funeral services of Estrada Glover.

Estrada leaves to mourn her passing, two daughters; Angel Lavonne and Janae Ilana; her mother, Mrs. Lenora C. Morris; two sisters; Kassandra Bernadette and Millicent Tonya; three brothers, Oddie Lee, Arnold Dewayne, and Lance Ondreal; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Riverview Cemetery became her final resting place.

Insight From The Word

by Michael Lindsey, Dean of North Portland Bible College

The Bible lesson on many of our Sunday Schools on October 15, will be Daniel 12. Here are some remarkable prophecies from that text: "Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt" (verse 2). "As for you [Daniel], go your way till the end. You will rest, and then at the end of the day you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance" (verse 13, N.I.V.)

Reincarnation has become a prevalent belief in the United States, even among those who would call themselves Christians. In a 1982 Gallup Poll, 23% of those Americans surveyed believed they had lived past lives in other bodies. Well known Hollywood stars, including Sylvester Stallone, Loretta Lynn, and Shirley MacLaine, have "discovered" previous lives and popularized a very ancient belief, common to Hinduism, Buddhism and other religions. MacLaine has written six best-selling books on reincarnation, channeling, and so forth.

People have every right to believe in reincarnation, and even to pay big money to specialists in "past-life regression", who induce trances in order to bring suppressed memories to the surface. But people who take the Bible seriously, as God's WORD, must reject reincarnation and the related New Age precepts. "It is appointed [destined] unto man once to die, and after that the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). The Bible reveals that God has a plan in human history and history is purposeful, moving toward the goal of the establishment of the KINGDOM of GOD. Reincarnation has no place in such a world view, for it is essentially an endless cycle with no transcendent purpose.

God's messengers gave Daniel two words of hope in the scriptures cited above. First, everyone who has died will rise in the judgement. No one has been lost in the dust, nor has anyone been recycled into various lives. Second, those who are righteous will receive eternal life, and a particular reward for your faithful work in this life. If you know Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior, you can rejoice in this life and look forward expectantly to the future.

TO MOMMY:

"Hearts Of Gold"

Wonderful sweetness wrapped up with love, You are ready to enter God's castle above. Your embrace was warm your love so sweet, We all know your life is now complete. I also know you're my mother and

friend, Your warmth has filled me again and again.

We're put everyday through a trial or a test. Those were the times you've acted the best.

Whenever the cause you tried to be bold, Because you've got a heavy heart made of gold.

Angel

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Psalms 34:3

For I am Not Ashamed of the Gospel of Christ...Romans 1:16

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