

RELIGION

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK: ROMANS: CHAPTER 12

Insight From The Word The Tabernacle Of God And The New Jerusalem

by Michael Lindsey, Dean of North Portland Bible College

[The Sunday School lesson in the uniform series for November 26 will be Revelation 21.]

"I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband" (Rev. 21:2, NIV). With these words, John presents a glorious vision of heaven come down to earth, the hope of saints of all ages, all people, tongues and nations. The heart of this prophecy is the cry from the throne of God: "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them." (Verse 3, KJV).

The tabernacle was a tentlike structure created by the people of Israel, in accordance with the pattern the Lord showed Moses on Mount Sinai (Exodus 25:8). Whenever it was set up, the glory of the Lord would fill the tabernacle, and the priests could offer sacrifices to the Lord. When the Lord's glory was lifted from the tabernacle, in the form of a pillar of fire or cloud, the Levites would disassemble the tabernacle and carry it to their next stop through the wilderness. Thus the tabernacle, and the ark of the covenant within it, were visible symbols that the Lord (Jehovah), the invisible Creator of heaven and earth, actually dwelled among his people.

The tabernacle continued to be the center of worship for Israel after they entered the promised land for over four hundred years, till the time of David. That great king brought the ark of the covenant into his capital city, Jerusalem, and appointed His son Solomon, with God's permission and blessing, built a permanent temple to replace the tabernacle, a place of majesty and glory in itself. The

glory of the Lord then visibly filled the temple with smoke (read 1 Kings 6 and 8:1-21).

But the people of God rebelled against their Lord, until finally in judgment God withdrew his glory from the temple (Ezekiel 10) and left it to be destroyed by the Babylonians, and the people to be exiled and scattered.

Still, God's desire was to demonstrate his love by dwelling among his people. And so, in the fullness of time, the Lord sent his Son into the world: "And the Word became flesh and dwelled among us..." (John 1:14). The basic meaning of "dwelled" in the original is "to pitch a tent," that is, to tabernacle. Jesus Christ put on a "tent" just like our human bodies, and lived with us for a time. He performed the work which the Father sent him to do, and provided the perfect sacrifice for our sins.

And so now we eagerly await the return of Christ in glory, and the establishment of "a new heaven and a new earth" (Rev. 21:1), in all perfection and glory. There will no longer need to be a temple to contain or represent the Glory of the Lord need to be a temple to contain or represent the Glory of the Lord (verse 22), for the throne of God will be visible, and so will the Person of the Lamb of God, the Lord Jesus Christ.

I'm sure that if you love the Lord, you'll be excited at the thought of being able to worship him anywhere, without any distraction, and in all purity and righteousness (verse 27). If you aren't sure that you are prepared for Christ's return, don't put it off! The Lord is ready to be your God, but you have to give your heart to him

How Safe Is Downtown Portland At Night

Part II

This is a continuation of Mattie Ann Collier-Spears story running in the Nov. 2nd, 1989 issue of the Portland Observer

that they live so that we may approve only what is pleasing in the sight of God.

Whether the crimes are being committed in downtown Portland or in the quiet corners of our minds, we must all remember who rules and super-rules. God, in His infinite wisdom, has a master plan. We have to decide in our hearts and minds whether or not we want to be a part of this plan.

I have never seen or heard so much about Satan worship as I have heard in recent years. Scripture reveals that we should "... Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom

he may devour..." (1 Peter 5:8) Yes! He's gonna get you. But, only if you let him.

There are many, many young, unchurched, unsaved people wandering about with no direction. They make perfect prey. The devil is stockpiling with the anticipation that he is going to win and he is reaping the souls of our children. Let's face it! If you destroy the nest and its contents, you've destroyed the species (human race).

Don't stand idly by. There is so much that needs to be done.

#1.) Join the winning team. Accept Christ as your personal Savior.

#2.) Wear the whole armour of God. (Ephesians 6:11-20).

#3.) Stand steadfast in the Word.

#4.) Don't be overwhelmed by what is taking place.

CLAYTON, MO--The Executive Council of the 1.6 million member United Church of Christ, meeting on Oct. 24, elected an official of the church's racial justice commission to become executive associate to the denomination's new president. She is the first woman and the first African-American to hold that position.

Bernice F. Powell, New York City, leaves her post as deputy director of the Commission for Racial Justice to become executive associate to the Rev. Dr. Paul H. Sherry, who took office as president Oct. 1.

As executive associate, Ms. Powell, 40, will serve as chief of operations for the denomination's executive offices and as Dr. Sherry's principal representative. Ms. Powell, Dr. Sherry and other officers of the church will move from New York City to Cleveland when space is ready at the church's new headquarters there, probably in January.

In 1988, Ms. Powell became deputy director of the Commission for Racial Justice, which is charged with mobilizing members of the church to work for justice and reconciliation among people of all races in the church and the wider society. Previously, in 1984 and 1985, she had been director of the commission's "Forgotten Woman Project," focusing on the church's work with women in prison.

In between, from 1985 to 1988, she worked for The Phelps-Stokes Fund, New York City, as director of the Bishop Desmond Tutu Southern African Refugee Scholarship Fund, with primary responsibility for raising more than 41 million a year to help bring South African and Namibian refugees to the U.S. to attend college.

Ms. Powell also has worked as a freelance consultant in public relations, women's issues and minority relations (1982-1984); as public information officer of the women's division in the office of New York Governor

Hugh Carey (1979-1982); as associate manager of public relations for The Equitable Life Assurance Society, New York City (1977-1979), and as a communications specialist for the National Urban League (1975-1977).

A resident of Harlem, Ms. Powell has served as president of the New York Coalition of 100 Black Women (1981-1985) and on numerous boards of directors, including

those of Associated Black Charities, the Carver Federal Savings Bank and the Frederick Douglass Creative Arts Center.

She has been a member of The Riverside Church, New York City, since 1977 and has served on its board of deacons (1979-1981) and its communications committee (1980-1982).

Born and reared in Washington, D.C.,

Ms. Powell graduated from Theodore Roosevelt High School there in 1967. She received a B.A. degree in 1971 from Wilson College, Chambersburg, PA, and an M.S. degree in 1975 from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, New York City. She expects to complete her work toward an M.Div. degree at Union Theological Seminary, New York City, in May 1990.

United Church President's Associate, Elect First Woman, First African-American In That Position

See What God Can Do!

by Mattie Ann Callier-Spears

Today we ask ourselves many, many questions, such as: Why is all this happening to me? Why do I have to go through all of this? Is my life ever going to change--for the better? Oh, what's the use anyway?

Some of us go through life with so much bitterness inside and so many unsolved problems. We allow our trouble to actually burn a hole in the very fabric of our being. There are some who never have allowed themselves to know what FAITH WAS.

This is a story about a man and his wife who went on a journey with FAITH. The man's name is Kevin and his wife's name is Joyce.

If you were to run into either of these persons on the street, you would see joy. And to speak to them, you would hear overwhelming happiness. Now, mind you, it was not always peaches and cream, in their lives. Only a short time, ago, Kevin was wrestling with an addiction to cocaine. Due to this addiction, he received treatment from the "STAY Clean" program. Kevin has nothing but "good" to say about the program, the personnel and the wonderful Savior he met while in the STAY CLEAN facilities.

"I was a drug addict for 27 years. I had an awful problem dealing with my addiction," confesses Kevin. "I entered the STAY CLEAN program because of what it was doing to my life and to my body!... he continues. "The program has a two-fold purpose. It's a spiritual program based on the saving power of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The program directs you to the Lord. For now, I know that I am to look solely to God for my help, instead of just relying on just 'gut level' or just trying to work it out for myself. The program deals with family concepts. Everyone in the program is able to talk openly about their problems, how the drugs have affected them, how their problem has affected their families and so on."

I can remember, several months back, when I covered the story on the STAY CLEAN,



Kevin Howard

INC. program, Kevin was one of those young men I mentioned in my article. At that time, he was very thin. Face drawn and struggling to be 'free' from this monster that he was carrying on his back. He mentioned his wife and told me that he was trying so very hard to get his life back in order--because he wanted to do right by his wife. "Ms. Spears" he said, "I am going to stay in here as long as it takes. I love my wife and I am not acting like much-of-a-man if I can't take care of her and get my life back in order."

Kevin and Joyce were married four years ago. Kevin's first marriage and Joyce's second. Well, Joyce was just about through with the entire situation. She was patient and kind and long suffering... she thought. But God Almighty had an entirely different outcome planned for these two individuals.

January, 1989, Kevin and Joyce talked about divorce. Even though they were both against it. They felt this was the best way to deal with the problem. In April, they got their divorce. All during this time, Joyce was talking to the Lord and wondering whether or not she was doing the right thing. She talked to one of her good friends, from church, and her friend told her "Your marriage has to be torn apart. Otherwise, how can something be restored if it has never been torn apart." Joyce thought about what her friend had said to her. During the period of divorce Kevin and Joyce state that they never felt that they were divorced. "Joyce is my wife" says Kevin. "In my heart and deep down in my soul" said Joyce, "I knew that Kevin and I were still husband and wife." So, they took their dilemma to their pastor, Rev. Wendell Wallace, senior pastor of the Maranatha Church. Rev. Wallace advised them, prayed with them and counseled them. He instructed them on the reason and the true meaning behind marriage. He told them about God's love for his children and the love that a man should have for his wife and the kind of love a woman should have for her husband. He told them about the glue that was needed to hold their marriage together forever and ever. Then, four years later and on the very same day, Kevin and Joyce repeated their vows. On the second day of November, 1989, Kevin and Joyce Howard became man and wife for a second time--but this time their marriage had a different meaning. The words had a different meaning. To them, life, now has a different meaning.

AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE BIBLICAL HEBREWS (JEWS)

Who are the Biblical
Descendants of the tribes of Israel Today

Are there 30 Million in America

Are they Descendants of African American Slaves
Taken into Every Corner of the Earth
During European Slave Trade from West and
Northwestern Africa

Did Biblical Prophecy Predict African Americans
Becoming Mayors of Every Major City in America;
Governors of States, and Presidents of
the United States

Did Biblical Prophecy Predict Europe Uniting
as one People under one Idea called Democracy

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1989 - 12:45 PM

St. Paul Church of God In Christ
2859 NE Rodney
Portland, Oregon

COME - YOU ARE ABOUT TO
LEARN SOMETHING GOOD AND
NEW !!!

T. West, who is the Editor/Publisher of the Gospel Echo Informant Publication will be speaking on all of the above topics. He will also be available to answer questions. History is good to know, but it is better to know how to apply the lessons of history to right now. If we were to consider, we would conclude that nothing is really new. Therefore, there is a great prophetic message which we, as a people, have not considered.

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WITH A REACHING MINISTRY."

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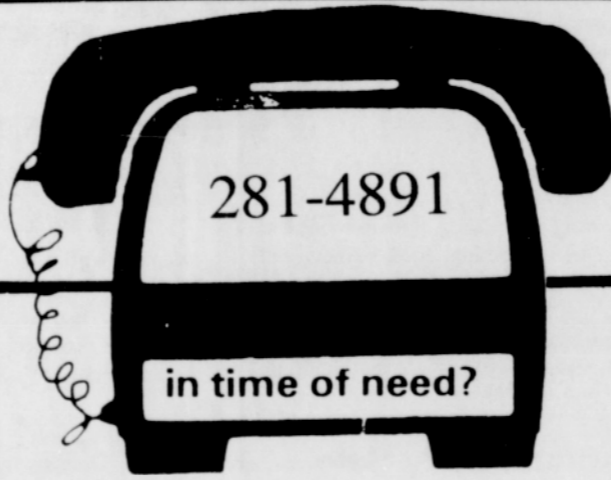
Dr. James E. Martin, Senior Pastor

116 NE. Schuyler

7:45 A.M. - Worship Service
9:30 A.M. - Sunday School
10:45 A.M. - Worship Service
6:30 P.M. - Worship Service
Bible Study:

10:30 A.M. - 12 Noon - Wednesday
6:30 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. - Wednesday

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Senior Pastor



Sunday Services

Sunday School 9:00 A.M.

Morning Workshop 10:30 A.M.

Maranatha School of Ministry 6:30P.M.

Mid-week services - wednesday 7:30 P.M.

The Albina Church of God 5522 N.Albina/283-1635

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Going Back when He comes

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Service morning 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Service evening 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday Teaching 7:30 p.m.

Thursday Moments of Deliverance 7:30

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Psalm 34:3