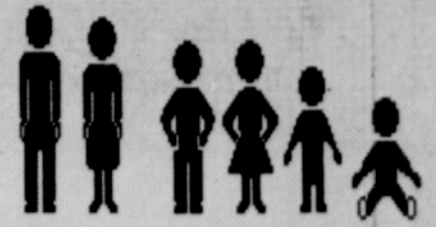




# RELIGION

Strengthen Your Faith Through Prayer And Regular Church Worship

Scripture of the Week  
Amos: Chapter 3



## Why Did He Have To Die?

by Mattie Ann Callier-Spears  
(based on the text found in I Peter 3 & 4 THE LIVING BIBLE)

Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God, was born of the virgin Mary and became flesh.

As Christ stood speaking to His disciples, he said "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, for who I am, then you would have known who my Father is. From now on you know him—and have seen him!" "Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say are not my own but are from my Father who lives in me. And he does his work through me. Just believe it—that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or else believe it because of the mighty miracles you have seen me do." [JOHN 14]

Yes! Christ lived among us and He suffered human pains. He came to this earth so that he could better understand the human side of man. In doing so, he also found out the difficulty that man was having with sin. The Cross was a planned destiny. Christ had to make that supreme sacrifice; if he had not... we would all be lost. Christ had to die.

Can you imagine dying for your friends? That is what Christ did! Christ suffered for YOU! He died once for the sins of all us guilty sinners, although he himself was innocent of any sin at any time, that he might bring us safely home to God. But though his body died, his spirit lived on, and it was in the spirit that he visited the spirits in prison, and preached to them—spirits of those who, long before in the days of Noah, waited patiently for them while Noah was building the Ark. Yet, only eight persons were saved from drowning in that terrible flood. (That, by the way, is what baptism pictures for us: In baptism we show that we have been saved from death and doom by the resurrection of Christ; not because our bodies are washed clean by the water, but because in being baptized we are turning to God and asking him to cleanse our hearts from sin.)

Now, Christ is in heaven, sitting in the place of honor next to God the Father, with all the angels and powers of heaven bowing before him and obeying him.

Since Christ suffered and underwent pain, you must have the same attitude he did; you must be ready to suffer, too. For remember, when your body sutters, sin loses its power, and you won't be spending

the rest of your life chasing after evil desires, but will be anxious to do the will of God. You have had enough in the past of the evil things the godless enjoy: sex sin, lust, getting drunk, wild parties, drinking bouts, and the worship of idols, and other terrible sins.

Of course, your former friends will be very surprised when you don't eagerly join them any more in the wicked things they do, and they will laugh at you in that they must face the Judge of all, living and dead; they will be punished for the way they have lived. That is why the GOOD NEWS was preached even to those who were dead—killed by the flood—so that although their bodies were punished with death, they could still live in their spirits as God lives.

The end of the world is coming soon. Therefore be earnest, thoughtful men of prayer. Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love makes up for many of your faults. Cheerfully share you have with those who need a meal or a place to stay for the night.

God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings.

This suffering is all part of the work God has given you. Christ, who suffered for you, is your example. Follow in his steps: He never sinned, never told a lie, never answered back when insulted; when he suffered he did not threaten to get even; he left his case in the hands of God who always judges fairly. He personally carried the load of our sins in his own body when he died on the cross, so that we can be finished with sin and live a good life from now on. For his wounds have healed ours! PRAISE THE LORD!!

We are all like sheep who have gone astray; but Christ came to die, so that we could all be rescued. There is just one catch, though. God gave to man—the ability to choose. Yes, God created us; but he does not force any of us to serve him. He has shown us, by His life's example, that we can make it—only if we want to. Everyone must decide whether or not they want Christ to dwell within.

My dear sisters and brothers, we are only visitors here. Since our real home is in heaven I beg you to keep away from the evil pleasures of this world; they are not for you, for they fight against your very souls.

Pray for the Lord's work to be done around the world.

## Black History Month Observance

You are invited to join the Sharon Seventh-day Adventist Church for a free program celebration of Black History Month, Saturday, February 24th at 4:00 p.m. The Church is located at 5209 N.E. 22nd Ave.

Multnomah Commissioner, Gladys McCoy will be special guest speaker. A musical program will be provided by the Sharon Seventh-day Adventist Church Choir, and the Junior Choir from the Fellowship Baptist Church. For further information call 287-7649.

## GIFTS THAT ENDURE

The Red Cross is all about volunteers. Our service to the community would be impossible without them.

Members of the Heritage Club take volunteer service one step further. By pledging a monetary commitment to the Heritage Fund, you can join Heritage Club members in assuring the financial future of the Oregon Trail Chapter. call our Financial Development office for more information at 284-1234. •

"All progress is precarious, and the solution of one problem brings us face to face with another."

— Martin Luther King Jr.

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Psalm 34:3

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**ONE DAY**

One day as heaven was filled with His praises,  
One day when sin was as black as could be,  
Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin,  
Dwelt among men—my example is He!  
One day they led Him up Calvary's mountain,  
One day they nailed Him to die on the tree;  
Suffering anguish, despised and rejected,  
Bearing our sins, my Redeemer is He!  
One day the grave could conceal Him no longer,  
One day the stone rolled away from the door;  
Then He arose, over death He had conquered,  
Now is ascended, my Lord evermore!  
One day the trumpet will sound for His coming,  
One day the skies with His glory will shine;  
Wonderful day, my beloved ones bringing!  
Glorious Savior, this Jesus is mine!  
Living—He loved me,  
Dying—He saved me,  
Buried—He carried my sins away;  
Rising—He justified freely, forever;  
One day He's coming—O glorious day!



## Culturally Speaking

Nyenusi Askari at the Cultural Awareness Workshop in October 1989. Askari and Ruby Reuben focused on the importance of cultural communication in the workplace and in the community.

## The Cry of Freedom

We lived for it,  
We died for it.  
The pain, the anguish, the fear,  
The fear lives.  
It is strong, so very strong.  
The sounds pierce our minds.  
They never go away,  
But we try to forget.

Freedom—it lives in our hearts.  
Stronger than life itself.  
Death for freedom—  
Pain, frustration, anguish,  
The cry is real.

Freedom! Why?  
To fight, to always fight.  
To never forget.  
Head held high!  
Thank God for the cry of freedom!

"Glory" M. PARRIS

**MEN!** If you have had a male sexual contact you may be at risk for AIDS. Call the Oregon AIDS Hotline at 223-AIDS for confidential information on how to avoid getting AIDS. The Hotline can also answer any other questions you might have about AIDS. No one will ask for your name. Call now and ask for information about the "Safety Plan" (we will know you are calling because of this ad.) You'll get information you can use to avoid getting AIDS.

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10:30 A.M. - 12 NOON - WEDNESDAY  
6:30 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. - WEDNESDAY

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Mid-Week Services - Wednesday  
7:30 P.M.

Rev. Wendell H. Wallace  
Senior Pastor

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## GOSPEL FEST

Saturday, February 17, 1990  
7 p.m.  
PSU Smith Center Ballroom

### THOMAS WHITFIELD

A name recognized as one of the premiere forces in today's music industry has now become a name synonymous with "excellence" in the world of gospel music. In 1984, he proved his name by capturing seven Excellence Awards at the Gospel Music Workshop.



### YOLANDA ADAMS

The Houston Gospel Music Awards voted her Female Vocalist of the Year in 1980 and 1981 as well as Most Promising Vocalist for 1987. Miss Adams has performed in many other cities as well as in Europe. She is the first artist featured in the Thomas Whitfield Presents Series.

### GOSPEL EXTRAORDINAIRE

Thomas Whitfield ...  
"Oh, How I Love Jesus"  
"Hold Me"

Yolanda Adams ...  
"Just as I am"  
"Deliverance"  
"Wash Me"

### Ticket Information

Tickets for this gala event may be purchased at the PSU Box Office, 120 Smith Memorial Center, 1825 SW Broadway. Tickets are \$12.50 in advance, \$13.50 day of the event. The PSU Box Office is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays.  
For more information call the Black Cultural Affairs Board, (503) 725-4452.

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