



by Mattie Ann Callier-Spears

RELIGION

Scripture of the Week

Psalms 23

PORTLAND! Are You Ready?



STATE OF MIND

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

COMMISSIONED has been described as one of the best bands in gospel music today, and without ever compromising the gospel of Jesus Christ, they have reached heights that have surprised almost everyone but them.

For almost a decade the strongly soul-oriented, R&B band known as COMMISSIONED has been dazzling the gospel market with hits, such as: "I'm goin' On", "Go Tell Somebody", "So Good to Know The Savior", and "If My People". In fact, besides having been named Contemporary Group of the Year for two years running by the Gospel Music Workshop of America, they have also garnered attention by their appearances on the 700 Club, The Bobby Jones Gospel Hour, and a Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., which aired on national television twice since its production.

All members-Michael Brooks, Fred Hammond, Michael Williams, Mitchell Jones, Keith Staten and Karl Reid, are

quite excited as the band looks forward to really making a positive impact on today's youth, especially the young black male. COMMISSIONED resides in Detroit, Michigan. Michael Brooks says, "We want to give back to God's people some of what God has given us, and it's time for young men and boys to have some positive role models. Especially in the black community...there are not enough young black role models."

COMMISSIONED has made it a point to tour each year and to touch bases with those persons whose lives they have touched in previous concerts. I can remember them being here several years ago. They made an unscheduled appearance on the Portland Sickle Cell Program and Keith touched the hearts of everyone listening with his rendition of "Precious Lord".

Radio stations KBOO and KPQD will be announcing ticket giveaways all through the days preceding the concert. Get your tickets as soon as possible because seating is limited. The concert,

which is scheduled to take place on the 21st of December at 7 PM, in the evening, at the MARANATHA CHURCH, will be a spiritual and an informative concert. Come expecting a blessing. It is safe to say that the rich, expressive styling and soulful, tight harmonies that have come to be COMMISSIONED's very trademark, will be exhibited during Friday the 21st of December's evening of worship. And...if you didn't get enough, you can always run up the freeway to Tacoma, Washington the next day and COMMISSIONED will appear at the Temple Theatre located on 49 St. Helens.

Go out today and purchase your tickets from the following locations: Maranatha Church Office, One-Stop Records and House of Sound.

"Although many issues have been addressed the main thing is getting more and more people to know the Lord Jesus Christ. Making an impact in this area is the biggest thing we're looking at", shares Brooks.

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

These passages of scripture, taken from the book of 1 Timothy, should serve as a guideline on "How a Good Christian Should Act in Everyday Circumstances".

Never speak sharply to an older man or woman, but plead with him respectfully just as though he/she were your own father or mother. Talk to the younger men as you would to much loved brothers. Treat the older women as mothers, and the girls as your sisters, thinking only pure thoughts about them.

The church should take loving care of women whose husbands have died, if they don't have anyone else to help them. But if they have children, these are the ones who should take the responsibility, for kindness should begin at home, supporting needy parents. This is something that pleases God very much.

The church should care for widows who are poor and alone in the world, if they are looking to God for his help and spending much time in prayer; but not if they are spending their time running around gossiping, seeking only pleasure and thus ruining their souls. This should be your church rule so that the Christians will know and do what is right.

But anyone who won't care for their own relatives when they need help, especially those living in his own family, has no right to say he is a Christian. Such a person is worse than the heathen.

A widow who wants to become one of the special church workers should be at least sixty years old and have been married only once. She must be well

thought of by everyone because of the good she has done. Has she brought up her children well? Has she been kind to strangers as well as to other Christians? Has she helped those who are sick and hurt? Is she always ready to show kindness?

The younger widows should not become members of this special group because after awhile they are likely to disregard their vow to Christ and marry again. And so they will stand condemned because they broke their first promise. Besides, they are likely to be lazy and spend their time gossiping around from house to house, getting into other people's business. So I think it is better for these younger widows to marry again and have children, and take care of their own homes; then no one will be able to say anything against them. For I am afraid that some of them have already turned away from the church and been led astray by Satan.

Let me remind you again that a widow's relatives must take care of her, and not leave this to the church to do. Then the church can spend its money for the care of widows who are all alone and have nowhere else to turn.

Pastors who do their work well should be paid well and should be highly appreciated, especially those who work hard at both preaching and teaching. For the Scriptures say, "Never tie up the mouth of an ox when it is treading out the grain - let him eat as he goes along!" And in another place, "Those who work deserve their pay!"

Don't listen to complaints against the pastor unless there are two or three

witnesses to accuse him. If he has really sinned, then he should be rebuked in front of the whole church so that no one else will follow his example.

I (Paul) solemnly command you in the presence of God and the Lord Jesus Christ and of the holy angels to do this whether the pastor is a special friend of yours or not. All must be treated exactly the same. Never be in a hurry about choosing a pastor; you may overlook his sins and it will look as if you approve of them. Be sure that you yourself stay away from all sin.

Remember that some men, even pastors, lead sinful lives and everyone knows it. In such situations you can do something about it. But in other cases only the judgment day will reveal the terrible truth. In the same way, everyone knows how much good some pastors do, but sometimes their good deeds aren't known until long afterward.

Christian employees should work hard for their employers and respect them; never let it be said that Christ's people are poor workers. Don't let the name of God or his teaching be laughed at because of this. If their employers is a Christian, that is no excuse for slowing down; rather they should work all the harder because a brother in the faith is being helped by their efforts.

Teach these truths and encourage all to obey them. Some may deny these things, but they are the sound, wholesome teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ and are the foundation for a godly life. Anyone who says anything different is both proud and stupid.

(Finale' in next week's issue)

From The Pulpit to The Pews

Bike Helmets A Must For Youngsters



BY ULLYSESSE TUCKER, JR.

Officer George Weatheroy, of the Portland Police Bureau, presents Martin Luther King Elementary student Derrick Beerbohm with a safety helmet for bike riding. Recently, Beerbohm was a victim of a hit and run driver near the school. Students observing the accident quickly captured the plate number/car descrip-

tion and reported it to the office. Shortly afterwards, the driver was arrested and charged. He was driving with a suspended license. His girlfriend, who allowed him to drive the car, was also charged in the accident. Beerbohm said that he was glad to receive the helmet. He plans to wear it whenever he rides his bike and advises other kids to do the same. Beerbohm received minor injuries.

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Theme: Whatever you're going to do for the Lord, do it now.
I PETER iv.11

Pastor, Rev. James C.E. Faulkner

Jesus Loves You!
Allen Temple CME Church

Psalm 34:3

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