



by Mattie Ann Callier-Spears

# RELIGION

Scripture of the Week

Scripture of the Week Micah 6:8

## RIVERCREST COMMUNITY CHURCH

Battling a terminal illness in your family? Stressed out beyond belief? Lost a child to disease? Single and don't know what to do? Do you have adolescent children who challenge you beyond your capacity? Struggling with a mid-life crises or an addictive problem? If any of these circumstances are yours then Rivercrest has a special interest group for you beginning May 6th and May 7th.

"If church is not relevant it is not useful" said Deb Wong Rivercrest Group Co-ordinator. "We are reaching out to needs people bring to us. Our mission is help where people hurt. Each group meets for seven weeks and is 90 minutes long. They are based on the nationally celebrated Serendipity Model which continues to be so successful. "This program is completely open to the public" said Wong, "no church connection is necessary. If you have a need or want to help someone who has, then this experience is for you."

For more information as to group times and meeting places, call Rivercrest 254-4400.

## Church Women United Sets Fellowship Day May 3, 1991

Church Women United in Portland will hold its annual May Fellowship Day Friday, May 3, at 9 a.m. at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, 5441 S.E. Belmont. Theme is "Journey Toward Jubilee," in recognition of Church Women United's 50th year. The event is open to the public.

A 12:15 p.m. luncheon will follow the morning meeting. May Fellowship Day is observed nationwide each year by local units of Church Women United. It focuses on community projects in which local units are involved.

Two of the Portland units' continuing concerns are the Teen Parent Program and the Letty Owings House, a residential facility for women in drug addiction recovery and their children.

Church Women United embraces all women of Christian faith who wish to show their unity through fellowship, study and cooperative action.

## Denise Bell



Denise Bell

Mallory Avenue Christian Church is proud to announce the Pastorate of the Reverend Denise Bell effective January 14, 1991. A celebration to honor this occasion will be the official installation of Reverend Bell on Saturday, April 27, 1991, at 4:00 P.M. at Mallory

Avenue Christian Church. Rev. Bell is the second woman pastor and first African-American to serve at Mallory.

Guest speaker will be Rev. Buster Soaries of the first Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens, Somerset, New Jersey, an international speaker, lecturer and preacher. He has done extensive work in community organizing, youth advocacy and urban evangelism. He has also worked with the Reverend Jesse Jackson as the national coordinator of Operation Push.

Rev. Bell and Mallory carry on an exciting ministry that includes all members of the North/Northeast and inner Northeast communities of Portland, knowing that together we can make a difference.

We extend an open invitation to any and all to come and join with us and become a part of an exciting ministry. Reception follows.

Please call Mallory Avenue Christian Church at 288-5173 for information and/or support.

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## What Are You Wearing?

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

While I was watching a movie on the Movie Channel, a scientist created a proto-type garment that a person could put on over his own body and this garment would give this person incredible strength and abilities. The scientist had developed this garment by watching his friend, of many years, play the game of hockey. He had designed the garment, in such a way, so each facet, of the suit, would mirror the power and skills of his friend-tripled in strength. On this suit, there was padding (that had been specially treated), flashing and twinkling lights and electronic circuitry which transferred energy to the physical body. There was a helmet, a jacket, sleeves, and leggings. They were all detachable and independent of one another.

Secretly - the scientist had envied his friend's abilities and skills. So - if he couldn't be him, which his intelligence revealed to him that he certainly couldn't do without help, he would create a way through scientific ingenuity: computers, lasers, circuits, electronic an electric configurations. All joined together to duplicate reality; but, there were unseen weaknesses.

As I sat watching this, it occurred to me this is exactly the same way man gets caught in the world's trappings. Instead of keeping his eyes on Jesus, he puts on the garments of the world which gives him a false sense of strength. This strength, that the world gives, is short lived and full of empty promises.

It is possible for us to over come it we would just have on the right equipment.

When will man realize that Christians are the strongest and the most powerful living creatures in the universe. Why? Because, as a Christian, we know that we have the power of the Living God stored within us. We know that we fight spiritual battles and in the

fight, the physical body may become tattered and torn but these houses, we call our bodies, are not forever. In our souls, we have strength that is beyond compare.

The life that we live, upon this earth, is engaged in a warfare. We not only have flesh and blood foes - but, also spiritual enemies. It is possible for us to overcome if we would just have on the right equipment. Just as that scientist created that suit to defeat his foes, Jesus has created a suit for us to wear that we may be able to stand against the wiles (stratagems - tricks, schemes, deceiving plans) of the devil. Yes! Even in this day and time, the garment which Christ designed, in Ephesians 6:11-17, is still fashionable and it really, really works.

"We are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood but against persons without bodies - the evil rulers of the unseen world, those mighty Satanic beings and great evil princes of darkness who rule this world; and against huge numbers of wicked spirits in the spirit world." [Eph. 6:12 TLB]

We have to use every piece of the armor, that God has designed for us, to resist the enemy whenever he attacks. That word "whenever" signifies that we must wear this armor constantly. Not just when we feel like wearing it - but, at all times. And when the Battle is all over, you will still be standing up. Praise the Lord!

How can we adorn ourselves with this armor and make it work?

"But - to do this, you will need the strong belt of truth and the breastplate of God's approval. Wear shoes (preparation of the Gospel of Peace) that are able to speed you on as you preach the 'Good News' of peace. In every battle, you will need the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan. and you will need the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit - which is the Word of God." [Eph. 6:14-17]

TLB]

As you have read, there are six components - all serving as one of the parts of the whole suit of armor, each having it's own distinct function. But - how should this armor be used? How can we adorn ourselves with this armor and make it work? By - praying all the time. Without ceasing. Having a right relationship with God. As God anything that is in line with the Holy Spirit's wishes. Plead with him, remind him of your needs, and keep praying earnestly for all Christians - everywhere. Not just in Portland, or in your church, or in Oregon, but in the entire world. For God made this world for all to enjoy. He told man to "...be fruitful and multiply, an replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea and the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." [Gen. 1:28 KJV]

Satan, however, tells us subtly to "disregard", "misuse", "abuse", "Everybody else is doing it. Why don't you try it? You might like it. And if you do , no problem, I'll be right there to show you the ropes." This is nothing but "Hog-wash". Don't you feel stupid and foolish when you allow yourself to get sucked into some feeble minded situation. But - if you're prepared, you've got on the whole armor of God, you're studied-up and prayed-up, there is no power on this earth that can knock you down. Hallelujah!

Suit up! Stand fast! Be assured that God will have the last Word. My pastor, Dr. James E. Martin, in one of his sermons, said "If you want to know who's going to win, go to the end of the book." Yes! Be assured that you are the victor. Jesus claimed the victory when he went to the cross, was buried and arose on the third day.

Oh, by the way, the scientist's friend was his brother whom he envied. But - that's a whole 'nother story. Praise God!

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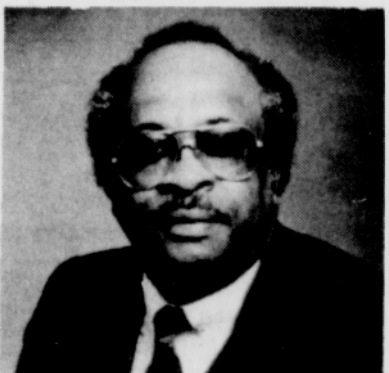
### St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church

8101 N. Fiske Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97203

Church Phone: 289-0147

Study Phone:289-1911

- Sunday Service 10:45
- Sunday School 9:30
- Bible Study 6:00
- Evening Service 7:00 P.M.



Pastor, Rev. James C.E. Faulkner

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

I Peter iv.11

### Black Educators To Honor Top Students

Oregon Alliance of Black School Educators Wednesday (April 24) honors 40 top students of Portland's middle and high schools during annual achievement -awards ceremonies.

The students, African-Americans and other minorities in Portland Public Schools, will be saluted during a 6:30-10 p.m. banquet at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1625 N.E. Hancock St.

(Contact: Nate Jones, OABSE president, 280-5783.

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### St. Mark Baptist Church

103 N.E. Morris Street  
Portland, Oregon 97212  
Church Phone: 287-7457

Rev. Dr. Joe S. Hardie, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 AM.  
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM.  
Bible Study, Wednesday 5:30 PM.  
Prayer Service, Wednesday 6:00 PM.

He That Loveth Not, Knoweth Not God;  
For God Is love I John 4:8

## Maranatha Church

4222 N.E. 12 th Avenue, Portland, Oregon

Sunday Services

- sunday School 9:00 A.M.
- Morning Worship 10:30 A.M.
- Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
- Midweek Service - Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
- Saturday - BASIC Youth Service 7:00 P.M.

Rev. Wendall H. Wallace  
Senior Pastor

"Maranatha Live" Radio Program/Talk Show KPDQ 93.7 FM 800 AM  
11:00 P.M. to 12:00 midnight (Each Sunday)

### MT OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH

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Church School 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.  
Bible Study, Wednesdays, 116 N.E. Schuyler  
10:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.

Radio Ministry each Sunday, 8:00 A.M.-KBMS

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Dr. James E. Martin, Senior Pastor

Church Office 116 N.E. Schuyler,

Jesus Loves You!

### Allen Temple CME Church

Psalm 34:3

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Phillip S. Nelson, Pastor

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