

# RELIGION

Scripture of the Week

Luke 22:64

## It's In The Mix



Karla Steinhauser  
BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

I know that oil and water don't mix. A black chiffon dress worn with a brown pair of alligator shoes is a "no-go" and the like poles of magnets will repel one another. There are also certain races, of people, who should never be combined -- for any reason. Such a combination is the Jewish race and the African American race. Ordinarily these two races repel one another rather than attract -- so I've been told.

So often, we find that life allows a breach in its processing, of individual behaviors, and discloses a totally different area in its infinite wisdom. This story is born out of such an eruption. In this article, you will see the lives of two very different people meet, find com-

mon ground, and finally make a perfect mix.

It all began when the parents of Amelia, an African American, retired and moved to the coast in 1964. When they got there, they enjoyed the area and the people. Amelia's father was a minister. So -- what do ministers do? They reach out to others and minister to them. And -- what do the children of ministers generally do? They emulate. They follow their parent's lead by imitating their actions, their love, their concern and their empathy.

After living on the Oregon coast, for several years, Amelia's parents converted her grandmother's cabin into a chapel in 1975. As soon as the doors of the chapel, St. Peters Community Church at Rockaway Beach, Oregon,

were opened, the people from around and about came. One of those in attendance was a young Jewish lady named Karla. Karla came to the chapel with a heavy heart.

She sought the Lord's Word to inspire and rejuvenate her. But, in her seeking, she not only got a piece of that spiritual pie but she found herself eating a seven course meal. A failing business venture, some not-so-nice employees and being a chronic alcoholic with serious family problems--this was Karla's life story. But the Lord, in His infinite

wisdom, had some totally different plans on the drafting board.

In the meantime, Amelia's whom she had been married to since 1950, husband, died in 1976 and left her with four little children. Amelia and her brood went home. There she was greeted with open, sympathetic arms. And God's Love. This proved to be a soothing balm to Amelia's emotional wounds.

Amelia, while attending service at her father's church, met Karla. They became friends and Amelia's family became Karla's family. Karla told Amelia about her situation. Amelia mentioned Karla's situation to her family. She shared that it was a shame that Karla had to lose her business all over a bunch of foolishness.

Amelia and her family had a family conference; and following much prayer, Karla and her business became a major family venture. Yes! A family affair.

This was the beginning of a new life for these two women, of strength, who were going against the odds. Both were struggling for the right to simply exist.

Karla had almost lost her business, but the customers would continue to return because of the product.

It was excellent and continues to soar. People would wait in lines for hours just to get into Karla's place.

Karla found that her artistic ability and cooking skills were in need of reliable, honest and supportive staff. Karla said that she was ready to throw in the towel until Amelia and her family members came to the rescue.

"Amelia and her good business management skills have turned my life completely around" says Karla.

Since they joined their talents, they have received a lot of flack from some who felt that a Jew and an African American would not be able to succeed together. "It's hard for whites to understand how a black person could be the cause of such an effectual change in a business venture with a white Jew" Amelia shared. "We owe the success of the business to the good Lord up above," Amelia continues, "and some very meaningful friends who gave so much of themselves." Many gave money, moral support, media recognition and royalties that money cannot buy.

Amelia and Karla have a 50/50 partnership. Amelia does all the PR, hiring, firing, banking, marketing and is the general CEO for KARLA'S KRABS & QUICHE DELIGHTS. Karla does all the cooking and art work.

*"It is hard for whites to understand how a black person could be the cause of such an effectual change in a business venture with a white Jew."*

Amelia has approximately twenty years of experience under her belt, which includes positions such as Planner with the Department of Transportation, Civil Rights Field Representative, Center Coordinator for Loaves and Fishes, Northeast Business Boosters Office Manager and more. Amelia

resigned her position with Northeast Business Boosters to take on the position and responsibilities with

Karla.

Karla was very pleased to know that she had this amount of support in her business. Her own family had abandoned her. There was money, time and effort that turned the business around. Why? The Lanier family stepped in and became the foundation. And the foundation was laid by God himself. "This wasn't just a chance meeting" says Amelia. "All good things come from God. And this was and is good!"

Karla refers to Rev. and Mrs. Lanier as her mom and dad. She now has a Christian family who stands behind her wholeheartedly.

This "Family" togetherness thing is serious business. So much so that Eric, Amelia's son, who is a firefighter for the city of Seattle, Washington, comes down to help out in the restaur-

ant occasionally as a chef.

People have come from, literally, all over the world to visit KARLA'S. Recently, a couple from England, visiting the state of Oregon, came in to the restaurant and said, "We have friends in England who came here. They told us to make sure that we visit you."

In addition to the Rockaway Beach location, KARLA'S KRABS & QUICHE DELIGHTS opened their doors at a new Portland location, SE Division and 22nd Avenue, on the thirteenth day of November, 1990. There was a grand celebration and lots of good eating.

Karla Steinhauser and Amelia Lanier have appeared in such publications as: Glamour Magazine, West Coast Cuisine, Washington D.C. Post, Vogue, Northwest Best places and the National Physicians Excellence Report. In late 1989, KARLA'S KRABS opened a concession stand in the Portland Coliseum. You can find them at each Blazer game function and other large events held at the coliseum. Even a Japanese company recently contacted them about the possibilities of exporting and/or opening a store there. WOW!

Karla & Amelia proclaim their gratitude to everyone who thought enough of them and their product, everyone who came by, everyone who hung in there with moral support. "Thank You!"

Amelia says "Just cast your bread on the water and it will come back with some butter and jam on it."

*She sought the Lord's Word to inspire and rejuvenate her.*

## Opening The Doors of The Church

BY MICHAEL LINDSEY  
Academic Dean,  
North Portland Bible College

As will be our plan each week, this commentary is based on the Sunday School lessons of the International Series for next Sunday. The Bible text for Sept. 8 is Acts 9:26-30; 11:19-26, 29, 30.

It's not always easy to fit into a new group. Saul (better known to us as Paul the Apostle) understood that. And it didn't help that he had been one of the most violent persecutors of this group, the followers of Jesus of Nazareth (Acts 8:3; 9:1-2). But he had really come to know the Lord, and he had experienced some of that same persecution himself (9:20-25).

At least the believers there in Damascus accepted him, and helped him escape the threat of murder. But in Jerusalem, the disciples of Jesus had strong memories of Saul's threats, his violence, apparently his torture of church leaders. They feared him, wondering if

he could be a spy, planning to round them all up at once.

What Saul needed was someone who believed in him, someone to turn to in trouble, someone who cared about him enough to take a chance. What a blessing--for him and for the whole church to this day--that God brought Barnabas into Saul's life. We've already met Barnabas in the history of Acts: his Hebrew name was Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus (4:36), who had a reputation for generosity in the Jerusalem church.

Like Saul, Barnabas was a Jew of the Dispersion; that is, their families had migrated far from Judea, but they still kept their allegiance to the God of Israel. These Dispersion Jews had been prominent in the crowd which witnessed the birth of the church on the day of Pentecost (2:5-11), and it is possible that Barnabas was one of the first converts to repent and receive Jesus as the Christ.

Then, later on, Barnabas came into a leadership position in the church of Antioch, in the midst of a great revival (11:21-24). This Antioch was the capital of the Roman province of Syria, a city of 500,000 people, third largest in the Empire behind Rome and Alexandria, Egypt. Antioch was founded by the Selucid kings, descended from one of Alexander's generals, long before Roman control reached that far. Like most large Roman cities at this time, it was full of debauchery and sexual immorality.

It was here that the believers first actively "preached the Lord Jesus" to Gentiles. Most of the people of this city would have spoken Greek, even though they were of many various ethnic groups, and so here they are called "Grecians," to differentiate them from the Jews (compare 11:19 and 20). These various people responded well to Barnabas' teaching, and he could easily have taken credit for a great advance

of the gospel.

Instead, Barnabas remembered a man of great gifts, whom he had befriended years before. Saul of Tarsus had gone home (9:30) and for all intents and purposes he was hiding out, perhaps stung by repeated rejection among the Jews. There is no record that Saul/Paul ever established a church in his home town, or returned there later. But Barnabas did not forget him, and he took time out from a busy schedule of ministry, to go to Tarsus, "for to seek Saul" (11:25).

With Barnabas' encouragement, Saul joined him in Antioch, and became a skilled teacher of the Word (11:26). Later, when the Antioch church heard of an impending famine in Jerusalem, Saul was chosen to go with Barnabas to deliver their gifts of aid to that sister church (11:29,30). Later yet, Saul was counted among the church leadership, and the Holy Spirit chose Barnabas and Saul to head up the first mis-

sionary team (13:1-2). And during this journey Saul/Paul gradually took the leadership as his own gifts developed, under the evident blessing of the Lord (13:13).

Barnabas was a leader, too, and he could easily have chosen to protect his God-given leadership position. Instead, he concerned himself with the best interests of Christ's church, and helped develop a leader who eventually replaced him.

Barnabas sets all Christians a great example both of humility and commitment to other believers. Are we looking for new Christians who need encouragement, or training, or opportunities for service? Are we eager to see others succeed, and be recognized for it, instead of ourselves?

To be honest, most of our churches are getting older and grayer. The growth of the church in our community depends on reaching out to young people who know the Lord, and giving them

opportunities for ministry and leadership. Some of them will have gifts for evangelism and teaching which will surpass our own. And the Lord will be glorified in our churches as a result.

One final note: Luke tells us that "the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch" (11:26). Previously the Christian faith had been called "the Way" (9:2), its followers "the disciples" (6:1), "the saints" (9:13), "brothers" (9:30), even "Nazarenes" (24:5). The believers, mostly Jews at this time, knew "Christ" was the title of Jesus, meaning "Messiah," the long-awaited king. But it was natural for Greek people in Antioch to hear the gospel message and think of "Christ" as a name of a new teacher, and so call his followers "Christians." This development indicated that the Mission of Christ had reached a new phase, as people of all races and cultures were hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Free TRI-MET  
Sponsored Meeting on  
"Doing Business  
on the Westside Light  
Rail Project"

As a continuation of Tri-Met's efforts to provide information on the Westside Light Rail Project for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, a meeting was held on September 3, in the auditorium at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus at 705 N Killingsworth Street in Portland.

The key presenters were Denny Porter from Tri-Met's System Engineering and Clifford L. Freeman, the State of Oregon's Minority, Women and Emerging Small Business Advocate. Mr. Porter discussed the Westside Project Management Plan. Mr. Freeman discussed the State's involvement in the project. Also in attendance from Tri-Met was Julius Evans who is responsible for goal-setting and the enforcement of Tri-Met's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise participation goals.

PDC  
PORTLAND  
DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION

Commission Meeting

Date: September 11, 1991  
Place: Portland Building  
1120 SW Fifth Ave., 11th Fl.  
Portland, OR  
Time: 9:30 a.m.

Commission meetings are open to the public. A complete agenda is available at PDC. Call 823-3200.

PDC is the City of Portland's urban renewal, housing and economic development agency.

## Fall Savings Are Here!



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MAGAZINE

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