

RELIGION

Scripture of the Week

Matthew 13:3

Spiritual Justice

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

When man was given the opportunity and the office to pass judgement, define and classify guilt, he took all kinds of liberties.

Very often, I have heard men and women say that many laws were designed to shield and protect those who created them (and not the general populous); and -- that same intelligent lot devised crafty methods whereby, within the wording, there would be phrasing called "loop-holes" that would entrap and/or against anyone who had, by chance, smelled a rat.

Man has sought remedies. Prisons, jails, correctional institutions, half-way houses and other programs in the communities have been operational for many years, decades and centuries; all in hopes--that, if the perpetrators were removed from the community, the problem would surely disappear.

Man's problem is man himself. When will man learn that the Great Problem Solver himself is simply waiting for man to come to Him? Seek Him Out? Call on His name? "Whenever I hold back the rain or send locusts to eat up the cops or send an epidemic on my people, if they pray to me and repent and turn away from the evil they have been doing, then I will hear them in heaven, forgive their sins, and make their land prosperous again."

[II Chron. 7:13-14 GNB]

If mankind could ever get itself to

Society Of St. Vincent dePaul Jancie Pelster Comments On "1000 Points Of Light" Recognition

"We are pleased that the '1000 Points of Light' program has recognized the work of thousands of our volunteers and our Society's staff, and the generosity of tens-of-thousands Portland area residents, businesses and organizations that have helped us feed needy families at Christmastime.

We accept this honor on behalf of all those people who have contributed of their time, talents and resources for so many years to help their neighbors who are in need.

For Your Information:

+Our Society has been providing emergency services in the Portland area for 123 years, and the Christmas Food Program has been a part of that effort for the past 53 years.

+Through the daily efforts of some

the point where half of this world's populous was on its knees calling on the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, God would be so pleased. I feel like, as Christian Believers, we are all named "Abraham". Remember how Abraham pleaded with God as he tried to save the people of Sodom and gomorrah from destruction? He pleaded with God, "Are you really going to destroy the innocent with the guilty? If there are fifty innocent people in the city, will you destroy the whole city?" The Lord answered, "If I find fifty innocent people in Sodom, I will spare the whole city for their sake." [Gen. 18:16-33 GNB]

Abraham continued pleading with God until he had gotten down to ten people. Then--the Lord went away and Abraham returned home. That same night, the Lord sent two angels to the city of Sodom.

Portland, Oregon is liken unto the city of Sodom. Sin is having a holiday, a festival. A good time!

Is there any justice? Is God going to destroy everyone just because of the wrong-doings of some...?

There is so much killing and sexual sins and drug abuse defiling the body and bad language and preachers in self-made pulpits who have been appointed by themselves and the list goes on and on and on.

Is history repeating itself?

Is there any spiritual Justice?

As Christians, we must get up, go

out and commit ourselves to "rescue the perishing". Everyday--people are going to hell on a greased slide while we stand idly by and utter these same words, "Don't worry. I'll pray for you."

Prayer is good but God wants us up on our feet, out there in the trenches and getting our Holy hands dirty as we reach down and pull some poor soul out of the muck and mire. And pray. Pray that God will give you the strength and the endurance to stand while you are reaching and pulling and committing. And pray that God will bind the powers of Satan, in the Holy Name of Jesus Christ, and cast him away from thy presence. "Lord just give me the strength to stand. Oh Jesus!"

The god we serve is a just God. He is faithful. He is merciful. He is good and kind. And He has enough love and understanding for everyone who seeks Him. He is an excellent listener. And He pities every groan we make.

Is there Justice? I can truly say "Yes!" There is justice to all who seek Him, turn from their wicked ways, establish a regular prayer life with the Master. Then--we must trust and obey.

"When you were the slaves (prisoners) to sin, you were free from righteousness. What did you gain from doing the things that you are now ashamed of? The result of those things is death! But now you have been set free from sin and are the slaves of God. Your gain is a life fully dedicated to him, and the

result is eternal life. For sin pays its wage--death; but God's free gift is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord." [Romans 6:20-23 GNB]

Where is Justice?

Spiritual Justice can be found in the service of the Lord. man's justice is only a bandage that has been placed on the outside. Even though the wound appears to be healed, the sore is still festering underneath. This is the reason why building more prisons is not the answer to the increase in crimes.

God's justice causes healing at the root of the problem. From the inside -- out.

The only judge, the only lawyer and the only doctor that is qualified to handle your case is God Almighty. He is able to heal, sit high, hand down sentences with compassion, and Jesus is the only one to plead your case before the Father (the Judge).

Yes. Spiritual Justice is the ultimate justice.

Man's justice system has run its course and it is full of holes, faults and injustice. Man should allow the Holy Spirit to hold him in-check, to give him utterance, to direct him, to instruct and guide him, to preserve and keep him, to fight his battles, to avenge his wrong doers.

man has hit rick bottom. But, closer to home, Portland, Oregon has to "Rise & shine & give God the Glory!" More inclusive -- the entire state of Oregon has to rise.

I warn you! Take heed! Do not give in to evil!

Evil will come to you holding out a gloved hand; and underneath is a sponge full of caustic acid just waiting for you to yield and squeeze. Evil fools you into believing that every thing you see with your physical eyes is true. Evil allures. Evil deceives. Evil compels. Evil can and will embrace you if you let it. Evil kills, tortures, maims and is just down-right unhealthy--spiritually and physically.

Learn how to recognize evil when it presents itself to you. The only way you can do this is with the help of the Holy Spirit. That third part of the God-Head. That omni-present deity.

This city, this state, this country, and this world are all experiencing the wide-spread effects of the presence of evil.

We are living in the last days of this world's existence. What we do now is all inclusive and important. If you have not made a commitment to God before, you had better make it now.

The justice system which tries cases in and out of the courts, which govern this land, have no power over spiritual Justice.

od laid down the laws to govern our every life's need.

And He gave man dominion over the land. He entrusted everything to man's care and maintenance. And man has messed up severely.

I say to you today, "Preach without

ceasing! Glorify God and stand against the hypocrites. Teach according to the precepts of Our Father who sent you to this earth. And sinners shall be converted unto the God of our Salvation."

We must be about Our Father's business.

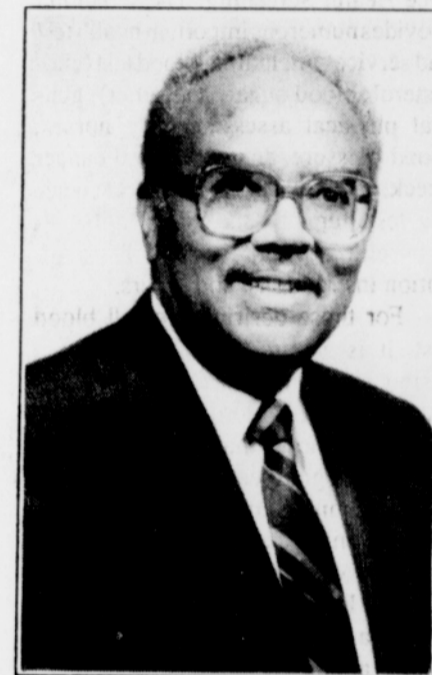
Crime is on the up-swing because man has lost sight of god. Everyone born into existence was sent her purposefully, a purpose that God had intended for him/her; but, each person must come freely to fulfill his/her purpose in life. Not kicking and screaming. God allows us to make the choice.

You decide to do right or to do wrong.

One day, in the sweet bye and bye, we will all stand before the Supreme Judge as He hands down one sentence after another. Will you be among those who will be told, "Depart from me ye workers of iniquity!" or will you be in that heavenly band all dressed in white, singing praises to the King of Kings. To you He will say, "You have fought a good fight, you have finished the course and you have kept the faith. Now move on up a little higher and receive your reward, your name has been written in the Lambs Book of Life.

You have been judged "righteous" and you are sentenced to spend eternity with the Creator of us all, the God of my Salvation, the Prince of Peace, the Everlasting Father, the Great Comforter---God.

Dedication And Open House



Dr. Robert H. King

Lutheran Inner City Ministries will dedicate its ministry center on Sunday, September 27th at 3:00 P.M. The

center is located at 4206 N. E. Garfield Avenue.

Rev. Rozell Gilmore, Director and Pastor of the center stated that all citizens of the community are invited to attend the event and see the facility that will serve as a temporary meeting and activity center until a new building is erected. The center will be open for children, youth and adult activities, as well as a place for Sunday worship and Sunday School.

"Our guest speaker for the dedication will be Dr. Robert H. King, second Vice-President of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. Dr. King is an African American with a distinguish profile as an educator and Churchman. He served as Professor of Education at Lincoln University from 1970 to 1987. He was re-elected as second vice-president of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod this past July, during the Church Body's National convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania."

LARRY HILTON

Larry Hilton is an impressive young man with an unusual and unforgettable voice. He is one among the generation of bright and talented gospel music artists to emerge from the Baltimore/Washington area.


Hilton is not exactly a newcomer to the gospel music scene. He appeared as one of the soloists on the Manna Bible Mass Choir's album The Lord Will See You Through, produced and directed by Julius E. Brockington. In addition, Hilton has made numerous guest appearances on local radio and television programs since the recording of the Manna Mass Choir's album.

Driven to pursue his interest in music, Hilton attended Catonsville Community College where he studied music and received his certificate. He is inspired by such legends as Sam Cooke,

Donnie Hathaway, Marvin Gaye, James Ingram, Stevie Wonder and James Cleveland.

Very sincere and confident about his gospel music career, Hilton gives all the glory and honor to God. With the release of his A&M Gospel debut album A Change Is Gonna Come. Hilton is looking forward to performing live, and making television appearances outside the Baltimore/Washington area.

Due to his personal and profound relationship with Jesus Christ, Hilton asserts, "I want to witness to people in song that Heaven is the best choice." Hilton will have this chance with the release of A Change Is Gonna Come. The Lord has blessed Hilton in a way where he can touch lives all over the world.




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Pastor, Rev. James C.E. Faulkner


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

I Peter 4:11

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Power through Jesus Christ In
Good Times and Bad Times
Matthew 11:28

"Come to me all you who are
weary and heavy laden and I
will give you rest"



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Psalms 34:3

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