

RELIGION

Scripture of the Week

Matthew 13:3

Where Crows Feed

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

As the season changed, different kinds of birds began to chirp their songs in the crisp morning breeze.

In the cool spring mornings, you can see and hear the robins as they call out to one another and flutter from tree to tree. Their bright red breast and proud strut give to you a feeling of excitement. Their presence lets you know that it is spring.

Another little bird, the sparrow, which has placed its nest in the rafters of my front porch, makes its presence known by loud chirping and busily making its nest. Then, later on, you hear constant chirping signaling the arrival of the babies.

As the crisp fall air briskly blows through the fallen leaves, you can hear the very loud "caw, caw, caw" of the big, shiny black crows. And as winter approaches, you look up to see the perfect flying formation of the geese. You knew to look up because of their "honking" conversation. To be creative, you can imagine them saying, "C" mon! Let's stay together. Hey you back there...tighten-up the ranks!"

The robin's bright coloring, the sparrow's efficiency, the preciseness of the geese and then--there is the crow: loud, crude, obnoxious and nothing but a big black hooligan.

Just last week--I saw a crow flying down to the sidewalk, across the street from my house, to eat some crumbs that

my neighbor had left out for the birds. After the one crow came, soon there were three and then there were eight and then there were more than twenty, by my count. I watched as they multiplied.

It's not like I had never seen a crow before. It was something else that struck me as I watched these big birds. When the other crows had witnessed the first one as he had made a safe landing and seemed to be enjoying himself, then a couple others carefully swooped down. Sitting high and looking down were the other crows, in the tree. They, too, soon discovered that it was safe to join-in on the feast. Other birds were not allowed to join this gathering. I saw some smaller birds attempt to join the feast but were quickly put to flight.

The crows were content bickering and eating; yelling and eating; biting one another and eating. Sometimes--all piled up on top of one another, but still eating.

The feeding frenzy continued. I saw one crow pick up a large piece of crust and fly off with it in an attempt to go off somewhere and eat quietly; but, he lost his meal as he opened his big mouth to yell back at the birds on the ground.

Form this observed behavior, this is what I saw.

Instead of seeing birds, I was seeing people. Many times we, as Christian Believers, have a way of being "crowish" in behavior. We have separated our-

selves from one another supposedly to establish our own identities. But--we are still Christians. We have our own brand of worship service because the other people on the other side of town don't know how to have church. But--we are still Christians.

Billy Graham came to Portland to spread the Gospel Message; to make a gigantic altar call. I heard Christians say,

"We don't need no high-falootin' white man coming here to tell us about God. We already know about God. If you would just come to our church on Sunday, you's see how you're supposed to serve God."

"Who's idea was that anyway? I know that our pastor didn't have anything to do with him coming here." "If it was left up to me, the Indians would be the ones to lead the people because they are constantly in touch with God."

Lord, have mercy on us. Please! Segregation and discrimination among unbelievers is understandable; but, among Christians it is un-Biblical. Unbelievers don't understand the dispensation of God's saving grace.

God's grace is like a huge umbrella. Believers are sheltered beneath this umbrella while those outside this umbrella are being thoroughly soaked by whatever is coming (evil).

Some Christians, like those crows, are in the habit of fighting among themselves and with everybody else.

But--they are still Christians.

Some Christians, like the crows, gang-up on other Christians and talk about them and just beat them to the ground with their piousness. But--they are still Christians.

When will Believers act like what their names signify? To say that you are a Christian, is to say that you are "Christ-like". And being Christ-like to the Believers mentioned above, is not how The Lord God Almighty intended for us to behave. Christ would never treat anyone like the crows did.

This article is not to say that crows are bad birds and robins are good birds and so-forth. Or--that Catholics are better than the Church of God in Christ or Baptist are better than the Episcopalians or Methodist are better than the Lutherans...and the list goes on and on. We have all sinned and have come short of God's Glory.....But--let us not throw up our hands and resolve to just conform to whatever sin has beset us. Prejudice and discrimination from one Christian toward another Christian is not of God.

We must pray fervently, one for the other, that God will use us in a mighty way; that He will unite us into one strong band of Christian love and fellowship; and, that He will empower us, with His Spirit from on high, that we may have the boldness and the strength to go forth into all nations, and into the world, to preach Christ to a dying people. Satan is ever present. He can coerce

you into hating when you had not thought of hating. He can cause to do some very foul deed. He can tempt you into thinking about things that you know to be wrong.... But--don't let him.

When you received Christ into your life, you received His power right along with Him. Utilize all attributes that Christ has given to you.

Satan gives you all kinds of excuses as to the "whys"--when it comes to worshipping with other Christian brethren, such as:

"They don't look right."
"You don't expect me to attend church with anybody who smells like that do you? Be serious."

"Those people are just too loud and you can't enjoy the service. I could never..."

"Have you ever been to any of their homes? You would be surprised what they eat." (What does this have to do with anything?)

Don't let anything make you compromise your faith or God's Word or your salvation!

Christ says, "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love."

These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you." [St. John 15:10-12 KJV]

Happy Birthday
Ashleigh Elizabeth Callier-Wells



November 6, 1986
from your grandparents
Edward & Olivia Callier



HeavenBound Gospel Music Ministries is proud to announce the

2ND ANNUAL
"HOLD-ON HELP IS ON THE WAY"
1992 WORKSHOP

November 17 thru November 20 • 6 p.m. each night
MT. OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH
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116 NE SCHUYLER • PORTLAND, OR

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**** CONCERT ****
SATURDAY, November 21 at 7:00 pm

please call Min. Lonnie Hosley for additional information at 283-1524

US Bank/KXL Newsradio 750
Radiothon To Benefit Ecumenical
Ministries Of Oregon In Its 75th
Anniversary Year

Saturday, November 21, 1992 marks a very important time for Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. Thanks to generous support from US Bank and KXL Newsradio 750, we will broadcast a "live" fundraising "radiothon;" from 9:00 a.m. until 12:20 p.m.

Called "A Time for Thanksgiving", this fundraiser will support Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon programs in the critical areas of health care, joblessness, drug and alcohol recovery and emergency food, particularly to small children in need.

The radiothon will feature on-air personalities of KXL Newsradio 750, including Bill Gallagher and Steve Leader as hosts. It will also highlight on-air profiles of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon programs such as the Old Town Medical Clinic, Hopewell House, Sponsors Organized to Assist Refugees, (SOAR), the HIV Day Center, Addictions Recovery Association, the Portland Housing Center, Job Opportunity Bank and others.

KXL has generously donated major prizes that will be auctioned off during the week preceding the radiothon, to build listener interest in the event, and to establish funding prior to the radiothon.

For its part, US Bank is contributing both a lead gift of \$7,500.00 and providing promotional materials in 140 of its branches.

November 21, is also the day of the KXL broadcast of the Oregon-Oregon State Football "Civil War" game, and the radiothon will serve as the lead-in to this broadcast.


"We are thrilled that US Bank and KXL have taken a leadership role in this fundraising effort; said the Reverend Rodney I. Page, Executive Director of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. "It is said that Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon squeezes 25 cents out of every dime contributed, to directly support our programs of care and compassion, and donors can be assured the money raised will be put to good use!"

**Mallory Avenue
Christian Church**
Disciples of Christ

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

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Morning Worship
7:30pm Tuesday Bible Study and Prayer

Inter-racial Congregation



126 N.E. Alberta † Portland, OR 97211 † (503) 288-5173

**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 7:00pm



Pastor, Rev. James C.E. Faulkner
I Peter iv.11
Theme: Whatever you're going to do for the Lord, do it now

Gospel Choir Presents
When All
God's Children
Get To Heaven!

Friday, November 13, 1992
7:00 p.m.
First A.M.E. Zion Church
109 N. Skidmore St.
Portland, Oregon
Rev. Willie B. Smith, Pastor

**Prince Hall
Grand Chapter
O.E.S.**

I want to say thanks for your support your time, presence and kindness to our Prince hall Grand Chapter Tea and Fashion Show, Oct. 18, 1992. "You made our day" God Bless each of you. Rubie Franklin Prince Grand Chapter chairperson Frances Odum Prince Hall Grand Chapter Co-Chairperson.

Jesus Loves You!
Allen Temple CME Church
Psalms 34:3

4236 NE Eighth Avenue
(corner of 8th & Skidmore)
Portland, Oregon 97211
(503) 287-0261
Phillip S. Nelson Pastor


**HOLY REDEEMER
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
& TURKEY DINNER**

Where: Holy Redeemer School In Large Hall
When: Sunday Nov. 15 1992
9 AM to 6 PM
What: Breakfast Available - Home Made Goodies
Turkey Dinner (Home Made)
Adult \$4:50 Child: 3:00
Christmas Treasures
Plants, Ornaments, Floral Arrangements, Stuffed Animals, Aprons, Raffles & Much, Much, More

**MALLORY AVENUE
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
ANNOUNCEMENT

Free? What?
Clothes and Food Only
When?
Tuesday: Clothes • Friday: Food
1:00 to 3:00pm
Where?
Mallory Avenue Church of Christ
3908 NE Mallory Ave. • Portland, OR 97211
for further information contact: Pat at 503-288-1092

Crusade for Christ Come!
Everyone Welcome
14th Annual
Thanksgiving Crusade
Theme:
"Cultivating A Spirit Of Thanksgiving"
Psalms 107:1,2
New Testament C.O.G.I.C.
1237 N.E. Failing St.
(Corner of 13th)
November 26-29
7:45 pm nightly/3:30 pm Sunday
(conducted by Elder Leon Brewer Jr.)
O give thanks unto the Lord,
for he is good...

 **MT. OLIVET
BAPTIST CHURCH**
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Worship Services 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Church School 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study, Wednesdays, 116 N.E. Schuyler
10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Radio Ministry each Sunday, 8:00 a.m. on KBMS

A Teaching Church With A Reaching Ministry
Dr. James E. Martin, Senior Pastor
Church Office 116 N.E. Schuyler St. • (503) 284-1954