

RELIGION

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 do without help, he would create a way through scientific ingenuity: computers, lasers, circuits, electronic and electric configurations. All joined together to duplicate reality; but, there were unseen weaknesses.

As I sat watching this, it occurred to me that this is exactly the same way man gets caught in the world's trappings. Instead of keeping his eyes on Jesus and wearing the equipment for spiritual warfare, he puts on the gar-

ments 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 overcome if 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 tents, 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, our Heavenly Father 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. Yea! 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?

"Out -- 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 individual 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. Ask 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 your city, or in your church, or in your state, but in the entire

world. For God made this world for all to enjoy. He told man to "...be fruitful and multiply, and 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. Satan says, "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, if you've got on the whole armor of God, if 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 victors. 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!
 He who goes through life unprepared
 Shall find himself undone
 when Christ returns.

Current Events From A Christian's Perspective

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS
THERE SEEMS TO BE A TURN IN THE TIDES OF LIFE -- TODAY. EVERYWHERE YOU TURN, YOU HEAR INDIVIDUALS EXCLAIMING THE SAME, IDENTICAL STATEMENT, "I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD RIGHT NOW!" AND -- THESE WORDS ARE UTTERED WITH SUCH AN AIR OF AMAZEMENT.

Sin is what's happening in the world. Mankind has become obsessed and fascinated by sin. It is not hidden. Satan has waged and out and out campaign. He has pulled out all of the stops. He feels that there is nothing to stop him now.

This incident with the President and his wife is just another one of Satan's ploys.

We are not to profess a belief in the President. We are not to worship President Clinton. He is a man just like everyone else. So -- that means he and his wife are prone to sin just like any other.

"...How much more meaner and partisan and much more negative the national arena is."

--- President Clinton (3/10/94)

Folks! This country did not just yesterday get into the condition that we presently find ourselves. It took a lot of time across the centuries and millenniums. It took a lot of people committing a lot of sins -- over and over and over again.

One of the newscasters said,

"There are more people to be subpoenaed than the six originally listed."

Have you ever gone fishing and you needed bait? When you dug for the worms, you found that there were maybe one or two worms seen but that there was evidence of many, many other worms by the presence of the hundreds of holes and trails. Well -- that is the same way it is in any situation. A person may feel that he or she is in this thing all by themselves; however, their wrong-doing has inadvertently involved others.

Next -- the media has decided to poll the public to determine the degree of guilt or the degree of involvement of Mr. & Mrs. Clinton (because that's who they were before the White House). What difference does it make how the people think? Bill and Hillary know what they did and so does God. If I was going to worry about anything, I'd worry about what God thought. Not the people.

There is trouble in israel, Palestine, South Africa, Russia, England, Cuba, the United States and all over the world. We look with distress at the news when we see the carnage and the grief and the mayhem each and every day.

However, the scripture tells us not to be overwhelmed or amazed by these happenings for it is the signs of the end of time.

Everything that we see is happening for a specific reason.

Just remember -- no matter what man thinks -- God is in charge.

I Remember Momma

This is dedicated in memory of my late grandmother, Mrs. Heneritta Mitchell because without her presence on this earth I would not be here today for she was my mother's mother.

When I remember Momma words such as courageous, daring, thrifty, caring, kind, loving, dedicated, a hard worker, a good singer and many, many more come to mind. Momma was very courageous that Memorial day in 1948 as she put on her shield of courage and with her faith in God stood in front of that us as the raging water was destroying the city of Vanport and made the driver stop so we could get on board. She didn't know at that time but that bus was the last one to get out. I remember so clearly as the flood water slammed against the back of that bus.

Momma was very thrifty. She could make anything. She was very creative in her cooking. She used every part of the pig, the ears, feet, nose, tail, intestines, parts that most people didn't use she used. She also did a lot of canning, beets, pears, plums, peaches, cherries, greens, jellies, jams, syrups, beans, strawberries, anything that could be canned she canned.

She even made soap, lye soap. I remember eating a lot of chicken feet

that first year that we moved into our house that year following the flood.

Momma could sew. She had a sewing machine that she had to use her feet on the pedals in order for it to work. Many people thought that my sister Eleanor and I were twins because Momma made all of our dresses alike. She also put big bows and ribbons in our hair and if she had enough material left, she would make my cousin laws a shirt. Boy could she sew. As Momma grew older and didn't feel like sewing and you asked her to make you something she never said no. The finished product was such that you would wait until she sewed for you voluntarily.

Momma was very kind, caring and loving. She always greeted her grands, great grands and great, great grandchildren with a hug and a kiss. She had to be a caring and loving person because as a child growing up in that house on NE Lawrence, I thought that every family that came from Louisiana had to live with us for awhile. Momma even had a trailer on the side of the house where people lived. We also had many fun times with Momma. Once a month we'd pack a big picnic lunch and drive to Seaside. We also went to many Portland Beavers baseball games. One of



Mrs. Heneritta Mitchell

the favorite things that I enjoyed was when we would board the train which was then called the S.P.S. and ride from Portland to Spokane and Seattle. Those were good times, good, good, good times.

Momma worked real hard. Day work and janitorial work was about the only kin of work that was available for Momma then. Momma taught me the value of work. I remember going with her in the summer on her day work jobs and in the evenings at her janitorial job. Boy, Momma was a hard worker.

Momma was a real good singer.

She loved to go to church and sing in church. When Momma moved from Vanport to Portland after the flood, she went to and sang in every black church in the city. Not only did she sing but we (my sister and cousin) and I had to sing. We didn't just stand still and sing, Momma taught us gestures to go along with the songs. I also had to memorize long, long speeches that I recited at various church events. Not only did we have to bless the food when we ate but we also had to recite bible verses. I would always try to be the first one to recite the shortest bible verse, "Jesus Wept." Momma would always make me recite another verse with that one.

Momma was Momma to all of my friends and to everyone who knew her. I As "Womens History Month" draws to a close, I think about all the black women and how they struggled down through the years and what great contributions that they made to the making of this United States Of America. (I call them the old soldiers) I add the name, Mrs. Heneritta Mitchell, a soldier who also fought the battles of racism and discrimination until one day she stepped on that "Oid Ship Of Zion." Momma's name won't make the history books, but I'll always remember Momma.

"...The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. Luke 24:34"

St. Mark Baptist Church

103 NE Morris St., Portland, OR 97212

- Sunday School - 9:30am
- Sunday Morning Worship Service - 11:00am
- Sunday School Teacher's Meeting Tues - 6:30pm
- Bible Study Wednesday - 6:00pm
- Prayer Meeting Wednesday - 7:00pm

Church Phone Number 287-7457



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"Serving The Lord With Gladness" Psalm 100:2

- Sunday School 10am
- Morning Worship 11:05
- Wednesday
- Prayer & Bible Study 7pm
- Rev. G.L. Black I Pastor
- 3605 N.E. Mallory Ave.
- (503) 281-8117 Portland, OR 97212

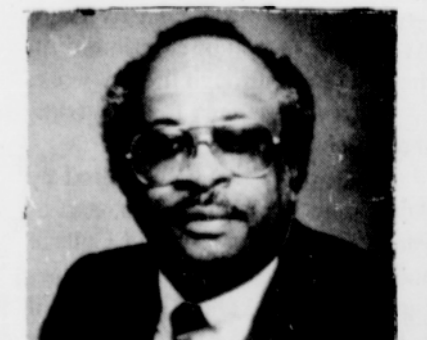


Rev. and Mrs. G.L. Black I

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church

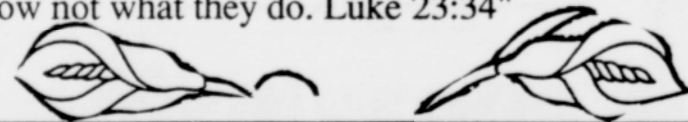
8101 N. Fiske Avenue • Portland Oregon 97203
 Church Phone: 289-0147 Study Phone: 28-1911

- Sunday Service 10:45
- Sunday School 9:30
- Bible Study 6:00
- Evening Service 7:00pm



Pastor, Rev. James C. E. Faulkner

"Then said Jesus, Father forgive them: for they know not what they do. Luke 23:34"



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Has moved Sunday services to

Family Life Center, 8725 N. Chautauqua Blvd., at Willis Blvd.

Worship Services 8:00am & 11:00am, Church School 9:30 to 10:30 am, Bible Study, Wednesdays, 116 NE Schuyler, 10:30am & 7:00pm Radio Ministry each Sunday, 8:00am on KBMS

A Teaching Church With A Reaching Ministry
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Mallory Avenue Christian Church

"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 NE Alberta Portland, OR 97211 (503) 288-5173



Denise Bell