

# RELIGION

## Two Roads: Who And What Am I?

BY ART KELLER

**ARE YOU CONFUSED OVER WHICH ROAD YOU SHOULD BE ON? ARE YOU CRYING OUT FOR HELP? DO YOU NEED COUNSEL FOR YOUR PARTICULAR DILEMMA? SOMEONE IS LISTENING. TAKE COUNSEL. I HEAR YOUR CRY.**

It passes through the darkness, it filters through the clouds, mingles with starlight and finds its way to my heart on the path of a sunbeam...

I...have anguished over the cry of a hare choked in the noose of a snare. I watch a sparrow tumble from the nest of its mother. I see a child thrashing helplessly in a pool. And heard a son shedding his blood on a cross. Know my child that I hear you "also".

I hear you from the crackhouse, your street-corner office, your promoter's abusive apartment, your dysfunctional home, and your wannabee's hangout, while just kicking it. I can bring you relief from your sorrows... For I know its causes--and its cures.

You weep for all your childhood dreams that have vanished with the years. You weep for all your self-esteem that had been corrupted by

failure. You weep for the potential of a son that has been cut down by a gangland's bullet. You weep for the individuality of the child whose rights have been trampled by the mobs. You weep for the talents of those that have been wasted through misuse. You look upon yourself with disgrace, and you turn in horror from the image you see in the mirror. You ask, who is this mockery of humanity staring back at you with bloodless eyes of shame? You have no memory of that moment when first you emerged from your mother's womb and I placed my hands upon your soft brow. You cannot remember the secret I whispered into your small ears when I bestowed my blessings upon you. The passing years have destroyed your recollection, for they have filled your mind with neighborhood fear. And much doubt as to your worth. You now experience anxiety, hate, and helplessness.

There can be no room for joyful memories where these beasts daily live. If you can but weep no more, I am with you... This moment can become the dividing line of your life, for "you" and "only you" can choose the right road...

These times can be a new birthday for you. A new discovery of the real you. Let us take inventory. Let us first call a roll of your handicaps. For how can I ask you to build a new life, lest you have the proper tools!

Are you blind? Does the sun rise and set without your witness? No. You can see. And the hundred million receptors I have placed into your eyes, enable you to enjoy the magic of a leaf, a snowflake, and eagle, a child, a cloud, a star, a rose, and the look of someone who love you... count one blessing.

Are you deaf? Can a baby laugh or cry without your attention? No. You can hear. And the twenty four thousand fibers I have built into each of your ears, vibrate to the sound of wind in the trees, waves against the rocks, gunfire in the night, children at play, children in danger, and the words "I love you"... count blessing number two. Are you mute? Do your lips move an make no sound, and bring forth only spittle? No. You can speak... Like no other of my creatures can do... And your words are able, if you will, to calm the angry uplift the down

trodden, encourage the quitter, praise those who are worthy of it, encourage the defeated, teach the ignorant. And express with deep meaning the words "I love you"... Count blessing number three. Are you paralyzed? does your helpless form despoil the land? No. You can move. You are not a tree, condemned to a small plot., while the wind and world abuses you. You can stretch and run and dance and work. For within your magnificent form, I have designed five hundred muscles, two hundred bones, and seven miles of nerve fibers.. All synchronized by me to do your bidding. Count and recount this blessing. Is your heart sickened? Does it leak and strain to maintain your life? Not many. No. Your heart is strong. Tough your chest and feel its rhythm, pulsating, - - hour after hour -- day and night, thirty-six million beats each year, -- year after year, -- asleep or awake, pumping your blood through more than sixty thousand miles of veins, arteries, and tubing, -- pumping more than six hundred thousand gallons of blood each year. Man has no right to mess up this miracle machine that he cannot recreate. Pause and think-over

this blessing....

Is your blood poisoned? Is it I who dilute it with water, alcohol, drugs, Methamphetamines Etc? No. Within your five quarts of pure blood, are twenty-two trillion blood cells and within "each cell," are millions of molecules, and within "each molecule" is an atom -- oscillating at more than ten million times each second. Then each second of your life, two million of your blood cells die--to be instantly replaced by two million more brand new cells, this resurrection of your cells has continued unbroken & unnoticed by you since your birth. This miracle, prevents you or anybody from staying high on either drugs, or whatever. I am giving each person his chance to take the road out--count another blessing. Are you feeble of mind? Can you no longer think for yourself??? I think not. Your brain is my most complex of all structures in the "entire universe"... Believe me -- I know ... I put within its "three pounds" thirteen billion nerve cells -- this is more than three times as many cells as there are people upon the earth....

These special cells are placed there to help you, my special creation, to file away for your use, every perception, every sound, every taste, every smell, every action-good-or-bad, you have experienced since the day of your birth. Then I have implanted deep within these special cells, more than one thousand billion protein molecules. Every incident that has happened in your life, is in there -- waiting. Waiting only for you to recall it up for your use, your ticket to the right road... Then to assist your brain in, the control of your body, I have dispersed throughout your form, five hundred thousand touch detectors, four million pain-sensitive structures, and more than two hundred thousand temperature detectors... listen, no nation's gold is better protected than you. You are my greatest miracle... Then I gave only to you, the power to think, the power to talk, the power to will, the power to laugh, the power to pray, and the power to love!! So choose to love -- rather than hate. Choose to laugh -- rather than cry. Choose to create and build -- rather than destroy. Choose to give -- rather than steal. Choose to grow -- rather than rot. Choose to live -- rather than die.

### Portland Resident Earns Academic Honors At Bard College

J. Martz, a resident of Portland, Oregon, earned academic honors at Bard College for the fall, 1993 semester. To receive academic honors for a given semester a student must maintain a grade point average of 3.3 or better.

### Muslims To Hold Discussion On Christ's Second Coming

Religious scholars from different persuasions will gather at the Portland Rizwan Mosque to exchange notes about prophecies regarding Jesus Christ's second coming.

Adherents of all the world's recognized religions are expecting a promised reformer to redeem them from the clutches of vicious sins. There have been claims and counter claims whether the Promised One has come or when he is going to come. At least, the two most popular religions, Islam and Christianity, have witnessed claimants to the messianic throne, but here is still sour spiritual taste about these supposed messiahs. Many such claimants have come and gone.

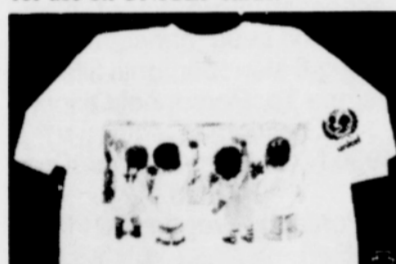
It is on this premise that the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam has put together a seminar to examine prophecies about the second appearance of the Promised One. This seminar is expected to draw followers of different faiths who are concerned about the advent of the Reformer of Later days.

The event is scheduled on Sunday, April 17th at 2:00 pm, at the Portland Rizwan Mosque, 9925 S.W. 35th Avenue, Portland. The general public is invited. Admission is free.

### Mother's Day Cards Help the World's Children

(DM)-UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) greeting cards are the oldest greeting cards printed and sold for charitable purposes. Since their introduction in 1949, the sale of UNICEF greeting cards have helped to provide health care, immunizations, basic education, clean water and sanitation, and emergency assistance to millions of children in more than 130 developing countries. In fact, more than 33 million children have been immunized against polio, measles, tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus.

In the U.S., the cards are traditionally marketed by thousands of volunteers and civic and religious organizations. Renowned artists, among them Picasso, Matisse, Miro and Dufy, as well as masters from every continent, have contributed works for use on UNICEF cards.



A UNICEF nightshirt for Mom featuring Rachel Isadora's popular design "Drawing."

The mother and child themes are constant best sellers. This Mother's Day offers a unique opportunity to show you care about your mother as well as the children of the world by choosing to send a UNICEF design.

Within the spring collection are individual Mother's Day cards as well as gift items to please Moms, including beautiful earrings and a brooch that commemorate 1994 as the International Year of the Family.

Other special gifts in the spring catalog include note cards made of handmade paper in Nepal and a hand-crafted dolls-of-the-world wreath from the highlands of Guatemala. Both products are created from UNICEF programs.

*Happy Birthday*  
Anntoinette Washington

May your birthday on April 11th be the best one so far. Best wishes, from your Dad, Grandmother, and family.

### Dad's Oil Service

heating oils

Best Cash Prices Speedy Service  
104 NE Russell Portland, OR 97212 Friendly Call for Quotel  
282-5111

### Mt Olivet Baptist Church

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  
Dr. James E. Martin, Senior Pastor

Church Office 116 NE Schuyler St. • (503) 284-1954

### 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

Denise Bell

Inter-racial Congregation  
126 NE Alberta Portland, OR 97211 (503) 288-5173

### Sharon Church First Annual Men's Day!

Come Be Apart Of The Plan That Brings All Men Together!

Where: Sharon Church, 5209 NE Sumner Street Portland, Oregon 97211 (503) 287-7649

When: April 16th, 1994, Beginning At 9:15AM  
Theme: "Every Man My Brother"  
Guest Speaker: Pastor Malcolm Taylor, From Tallahassee, Florida  
All Are Invited!  
Dinner Following Service

*Happy Anniversary*  
To My Lovely Wife Clara  
From Gary

### 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

Dr. Joe S. Hardie, Pastor

We Invite You To Come And Worship With Us. The Church Where Everybody is Somebody And Christ Is All.

### We Welcome You to The Greater Saint Stephen Missionary Baptist Church

"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: 21 9-1911

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

Pastor, Rev. James C. E. Faulkner

### Cox Funeral Home Inc.

(503)281-4891 2736 NE Rodney

Our Staff  
A. Cox, Sr. A. Cox, Jr.  
Jerome Tanner G. Quarker

We wish to thank our valued clients for their support in the past. We ask for your patience during our remodeling.

When you need wisdom, understanding and sympathy, continue to rely on us.

### The Little Chapel Of The Chimes

Funeral Home  
Cemetry - Memorial Garden

Lombard Chapel 3018 N. Lombard Portland, Oregon 97217 503-283-0525

Killingsworth Chapel 430 N. Killingsworth Portland, Oregon 97217 503-283-1976