

RELIGION

ALTERNATIVES

Physical And Spiritual Healing

BY M. ISAACS

We, in America, are our own very harsh judges and our worse enemies. We suffer guilt feelings and create our own retributions, especially if we have had some religious upbringing; and it is because we judge ourselves and are our worse enemies, the Gospel of Jesus Christ should be taught, remembered and reviewed on a daily basis.

The Gospel of Christ teaches that "We believe in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, therefore, we are forgiven; washed clean in the Blood of the Lamb; through the sacrifice of the perfect Son of Man, who paid the ransom demanded for our redemption from the shackles of sin, which separated us from Him in whom we believe. The debt is paid, therefore, there is no sin, therefore, there is nothing of which to feel guilty; no retribution required for something that never was. Being human, we will continue

to err at times, but simply by asking a loving God to forgive and remove the habit of sin, our records are cleansed as we grow in the fear and grace of God.

In some ethnic cultures, certain diseases, such as hypertension, are exacerbated due to a dropping away from Church involvement and the serving of religious connections and family religious teachings; these being replaced with greed for 'things', greed for money and desire for social status. Guilt feelings brought on by methods used to acquire money, social status and things, in turn brings on severe attacks of hypertension, which in turn kills. The spiritual aspect of life, the inner person, which no one sees (unless a person chooses to reveal) needs an outlet for tensions; A Way of escape is apparent, although we may choose not to follow The Way. A belief in God offers a way of escape, a flight from ourselves, from our bad decisions, our guilt feelings and our

harsh judgements against ourselves. Some ethnic groups have had more life pressures to confront, for a much longer time, with no effective self-motivated change available and have relied on faith in God and his Son, gospel teachings and the intervention of the Holy Spirit in their lives as their only means of release of pressure, their only means of bearing their burdens; their only unchanging Godly Laws for rearing their children.

Dropping away from God, shunning a foundation in belief in God, seems to give some people an independent believable aura; but also brings about deep seated guilt feelings, violent actions and reactions, greed, anger and hopelessness.

Physical and Spiritual healing comes about when there is a return to a foundation of belief and reliance on God; a return to the teaching of children to love each other and honor parents. This would be the sure lifeline to the sure preservation of Godly

people in America. Americans must learn again to never injure another by act or by word. We must learn again to forgive ourselves and others. To forgive as soon as we are injured and to forget as soon as we forgive. Because of these teachings and beliefs a great number of people in America have refrained from taking up weapons against oppressors in this country.

Physical and Spiritual healing is imperative if our nation will survive. A turning away from ungodly council and scorn of almighty God must soon take place. A return to the God of our fathers and a great exhibition of his love among the people is long overdue. How long will God abide us as we now are? Continue as we are America will suffer a fall that will be felt and heard throughout the world. History has many examples of ungodly inner decay being the downfall of many a nation. If we would survive, we must return to God for physical and spiritual healing.

"Secret" Gospel Act

Songstress Vanessa Bell Armstrong, the musical inspiration for Mariah Carey, Luther Vandross and favorite of the queen of daytime television, Oprah Winfrey, makes an astonishing come-back with her new album, *The Secret Is Out*. Armstrong's *Secret* debuts in this week's Top 10 Billboard's "Top Gospel Albums" chart.

Armstrong's *The Secret Is Out* joins labelmate John P. Kee whose album, *The New Life Community Choir Featuring John P. Kee*, has remained in the Top 5 on Billboard's "Top Gospel Albums" chart for over 6 months. Kee, dubbed the "Prince of Gospel Music," also served as executive producer on *Secret* and recently garnered 3 Excellence awards at the GMWA, the highest

honors in black gospel music.

Both artists recently contributed to Verity Records' *A Tribute To Rosa Parks* album in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Armstrong and Kee will be featured solo artists on the all-star track "Something Inside So Strong" along with Howard Hewitt, Yolanda Adams, Shirley Caesar, Tramaine Hawkins and others.

Vanessa Bell Armstrong is currently wrapping up the national Black Family Reunion tour. She is also slated to make a special public performance in New York's World Financial Center at a charity event benefitting the United Negro College Fund.

Choral Groups Invited To Perform

The Grotto is seeking choral groups to perform between Christmas and New Year's Eve at the eighth annual "Festival of Lights," the largest choral festival in the Pacific Northwest.

The holiday event will attract 125 concert-style performances reflecting the Christmas season's special message. Four musical performances of approximately 45 minutes in length are scheduled each evening during the period.

The cathedral-quality acoustics offered by The Grotto's 500-set chapel make it one of the premier venues for choral performances in the Portland area.

Performing at the festival has become a holiday tradition for many singers and musicians. Last year, 110 music groups, representing 3,905 singers and musicians gave their gift of music during this ecumenical Christmas celebration.

The Festival of Lights is expected to welcome 45,000 visitors during its 29-evening presentation.

Interested performers are encouraged to call early, as performance schedules are filled quickly. Contact Patty Gicante, Festival of Lights music program coordinator, no later than Nov. 10, at The Grotto at 261-2442.

Catholics Admire Pope But Disagree With Him

Behind the adulation, many American Catholic scholars say that Pope John Paul has turned the hierarchy of the U.S. Catholic Church into too conservative a body — one that is in touch with him but out of touch with both its laity and priesthood, one hostile to dissent.

They say that, as a result, the American church, once in the forefront of protecting the rights of the poor and powerless, has become too passive in debates on such vital social issues as the one raging over welfare reform.

Some experts also complain the church has become so associated in the public's mind with issues such as abortion, birth control and opposition to condom use that its extraordinary work in ministering to the poor, helping

the sick and striving for social justice gets overlooked.

In his 17 years as pope, they argue, John Paul has changed the U.S.

Catholic hierarchy from a moderate and progressive one into a deeply conservative group that has to agree with his views.

Many wish that this very conservative pope could find a way to bend on such questions as allowing women into the priesthood and priests to marry because they fear for the future of the church if he does not.

Polls of Catholics echo those sentiments — finding that a large majority admire and approve of the Polish-born pontiff even as they disagree with his stands on abortion, birth control, divorce, ordination of

women and the need to maintain a celibate priesthood. University of Wisconsin Catholic scholar Richard Schoenherr, author of "Full Pews and Empty Altars," a widely praised study of the priesthood, says that unless the rules on priestly celibacy are abandoned, there will be hardly any priests in the 21st century to minister to Catholics.

"We will see a 40 percent decline in the number of priests from 1966 to the year 2005 while the lay population will grow by 65 percent in that same period. And in all the studies I have done, the main reason people are leaving the priesthood is male celibate exclusivity," he said.

"I see this papal administration as the last hurrah for a male celibate priesthood," Schoenherr added. "This current pope is appointing only

conservative bishops who agree with him and with his strategy. He wants a restoration of the church as it was before the Second Vatican Council. Many in the church think he is beating a dead horse."

Catholic writer and editor Thomas Cahill, author of "How the Irish Saved Civilization," agrees.

"There's a real division in the American Catholic mind: people like this man personally but they simply disagree with his policies. There is also a power struggle between a clerical elite and a laity who have no voice but whose power is that it supports the church," he said. "The pope has great courage and cuts a great figure but the whole focus has to change from a focus on the church and the Pope to a focus on the people in the church," he added.

In Loving Memory Of Devota Norman Sunrise

Born, August 12, 1971
Sunset, October 1, 1995

For Those Who Love Me:

When I am gone, release me, let me go. I have so many things to see and do. You mustn't tie yourself to me in tears, be happy that we had so many years. I gave you my love. You can only guess, how much you gave me in happiness. I thank you for the love you each have shown, but, now it is time I travel on alone.

So grieve for me a little while if you must, then let grief be comforted by trust. It's only for a while that we must part. So bless the memories within your heart. I won't be far away for life goes on. So if you need me, call and I will come... though you can't see or touch me I'll be near...

And if you listen with your heart you'll hear all my love around you soft and clear and then, when you must come this way alone, I'll greet you with a smile and say

"Welcome Home"



Obituary

Portie White of North Portland

October 6, 1995 at her home in Portland, Age 73

Born: January 24, in Bosco, Louisiana

She married Armster White, Jr. 55 years ago on March 16, 1940. Her maiden name was Wilson. She came to Portland in 1944 from Monroe, Louisiana. She was a homemaker all of her life. She had worked at the shipyards during the World War II. Longtime member of The Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church where she had served as the President of the Ushers Board, had been the Treasurer, and was one of the Church Mother's.

Funeral services will be held today, Wednesday, October 11, 1995 at 1:00 p.m. at Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, 106 N. E. Ivy St. Portland. Interment at Willamette National Cemetery, Portland, Oregon. Family Contact: Portia Moye, 331-0859

The October Bible Drive

The October Bible Drive is again underway. The need for Bibles is very great so everyone is encouraged to participate and tell their friends. The collection centers this year are:

- Christian Supply Center Stores in Portland, Oregon City, Beaverton, Wilsonville
 - The Christian Marketplace in Tigard
 - Emmanuel Gospel Supply in Vancouver
 - Higher Ground Christian Resource Center in Newberg.
- Contact Bible Foundation, 538-4897, for questions or assistance.

Grief Recovery

Dealing with the loss of a loved one can be devastating, especially if you are going through it alone.

Portland First Church of the Nazarene is offering a Grief Recovery Workshop

6 Tuesday evenings, Oct. 3 - Nov. 14, (No session Oct 31)

Cost: \$15

Additional costs for childcare

Portland First Church of the Nazarene

6100 SW Raab Road

(Sunset Hwy at Sylvan)

Phone 297-6100 to register

New Jerusalem Baptist Church

IS HAVING AN OCTOBER FEST 10/28/95
FROM 11:00 AM TO 9:00 PM.

DINNERS WILL BE SOLD AT \$6.00
AND THERE WILL BE ARTS AND CRAFTS.

LOCATION 1625, NE KILLINGSWORTH, PORTLAND, OR
(503) 284-8705

REV. LEE ARTHUR J. MADISON, PASTOR

SPONSORED BY SISTER BETTY ARCHER

FAITH TEMPLE CHURCH

4224 S.E. 62nd Avenue
(between Powell & Foster)
Portland, Oregon 97206

SUNDAY

Sunday School 9:30am

Morning Worship 10:45am

Evangelistic Service 7:30pm

Tuesday Pastoral Teaching 7:00pm

FRIDAY

Evangelistic Service 7:00pm

DAILY

Prayer 12:00pm & 6:00pm

(503) 774-5470

PASTORS: Bishop Robert Simpson, Jr. • Dr. Ida M. Simpson



Mt Olivet Baptist Church

8501 N. Chautauqua Blvd.,
at Willis Blvd.

Worship Services 8:00am & 11:00am,
Church School 9:30 to 10:30am,
Bible Study, Wednesdays, 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
(503) 240-PRAY



Jerome G. Tanner
A. Funeral Director

A.A. COX, SR.
Mortician & Funeral Director

CHARLENE COX TANNER
Manager

JEROME G. TANNER
A. Funeral Director

The Loss of a loved one is always a traumatic experience. But it can be made easier if you contact a facility that has your interest at heart.

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

We Invite You To Come And Worship With Us.
The Church Where Everybody is Somebody And Christ Is All.
Dr. Joe S. Hardie, Pastor