

# RELIGION

## Alternatives: A Sense Of Urgency

BY M. ISAACS

There is a strangeness that invades your mind when you read the secular magazines today, and the reason seems to be that now even they are reporting that something is happening to and in America, that causes a tense strong feeling of anxiety and fear. People, like ants are rushing frantically to and fro, collecting more of what they already have plenty of, hoping to ease the anxious feelings of hopelessness. These urgent feelings seem to pervade every lifestyle, every type of job, every household, every Church family, every race of people, every organization, every minority. Some people are able to define these feelings; some are able to rationalize and offer reason for these feelings; but none offer solutions (that are acceptable to all people) to circumstances which cause these feelings of gloom and doom. None offer a philosophy to both live and die by. So...they frantically acquire things to enhance daily living; realizing that things cannot deter death. Newly acquired things only add to the fear that someone...out there...will kill for these very things.

We hear so much talk about the "generation gap"; it is discussed and smiled about, watched and identified while it actually happens; we never lift a hand to put a finger in the dike. To late, we now reap the consequences. Reflections and remorse are not enough to satisfy the hunger for what we've lost; lives of children, runaways, alienation of grandparents, dishonor of parents; gone is a sense of continuity of family heritage.

Our wars were so vicious that we lost the ability to value life; thus we kept quiet, even decided that there was some merit in the demands made by some women to choose to give birth or abort a fetus. We did not realize then, that so many babies would be aborted by women seeking to keep a certain lifestyle, or seeking to keep a man not ready to accept fatherhood; seeking to hide from an accusing family, a domineering boss, or from society. Regardless of whom these aborted babies would have grown up to become, reflection and remorse, even regret will not bring to life again the thousands and thousands slain nor will it ease the pain suffered by some of these women

who were surely intended to be mothers. We watched quietly as the courts made decisions against prayer in schools. We are still keeping quiet as a certain man travels through the states assisting people to die. You will hear no mention of Jesus Christ on regular news channels; we do hear

seems to be the pervading emotion among Christians; but remorse does not heal a gunshot wound nor does it halt a serial killer nor does it stop a teen from emulating the horrors he sees on T.V. We regret, but we cannot change what is a "done deed". Most of us have the urgent feeling

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'God' on occasion. Why is this? Because "God" can be anything a man perceives as his god; But the name of Jesus separates believers in the Trinity from non-believers; either you believe in Jesus Christ as the Redeemer of mankind or you do not believe; there is no middle road.

We might reflect on where America went wrong, why a violent thread pervades all walks of life. Reasons might be found for the abuse of women, children, parents; but these reasons offer no solutions. Remorse

that something must be done to return America to a sense of well being; to a respect and love for each other; a return to Godly concepts and precepts. The godless element among us wish to see Jesus' name eliminated from public communications, although this country was built on a belief in God. Let me ask this question: Would you take someone into your home, help them, save their lives and then allow them to rewrite your house rules, instruct your children, and disrespect your household

by usurping your authority? Why, then, do God's people bury Jesus Christ to satisfy the godless people in America; Going against the very foundation of this country? The God loving people of America must renew their minds (Romans 12:3), firm up their belief in God and realize that this country was not built on non-offensive actions, but on a desire to worship and serve God in peace. Witnesses are cropping up everywhere, agreeing that changes must be made, before we become fully to resemble the evil elements of Asia, Europe and Africa and the Orient.

Christian people can endure with patience, (while boldly witnessing) the decline of our society; keep our own faith in God intact. "Wherefore, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of Witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience trace that is set before us", "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. Who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God". Hebrews

12:1-2. "And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect Will of God." Romans 12:2. Romans 13:1-2, "Let every soul be subject unto the higher power. For there is not power but God; the powers that be are ordained of God." "Whoever resisteth that power, resisteth the ordinances of God; and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation". Romans 13:13-14, "Let us walk honestly, as in the day, not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provisions for the flesh, to fulfill the lust thereof". considering all these things, let us in America, who believe in God, the Father, God, the Son and God, the Holy Spirit, put aside our anxious fears; "Build up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost. Keep yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost. Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord, Jesus Christ unto eternal life. Jude 1:20-21.

### In Loving Memory of Anthony Branch, Sr.

October 19, 1958 - September 18, 1995

Anthony Branch, Sr. was born on October 19, 1958 in Portland, Oregon to Richard Branch and Bernice Gibson. He was the last of eight children and within the Branch family, there were a few problems as usual coming from a large family. Anthony was a somewhat rebellious youngster. As a small child, Anthony went to stay with his Aunt Ralphleen on NE Rodney. Anthony found his Aunties' home to be of great fun and spoiling, being the only child around. His Auntie showed Anthony much love, humor, laughter and discipline. Anthony soon began school at Highland Elementary, Woodlawn Elementary and on to Thomas Jefferson High School where he graduated in 1976. While attending High School, Anthony gained employment with a janitorial service owned by Mr. Booker, who took Anthony under his wing as his own son. Between Aunt Ralphleen, Mr. Booker and a host of relatives, Anthony was brought up right, instilling good values, good morals and a good sense of direction. While still in school and a young man, Anthony met Monica Preston and from this union



came a little Cheese which is Anthony Branch, Jr. Again, Aunt Ralphleen stepped in and raised Anthony's son. All was well with Aunt Ralphleen, Uncle Ralph, Anthony and Anthony Jr. After high school and a few years of employment, Anthony began exploring the streets of Portland. Things he had heard about, he was soon caught up in and hanging out for several years. In the hanging out, he picked up a drug habit. After several years, Cheese came to himself remembering what Aunt Ralphleen, Mr. Booker, Uncle Ralph and others had taught him. Remembering all of that,

Cheese realized that his life was unmanageable. That was his first step in his recovery. From there, he took inventory of himself and came up out of the pit that he was in and sought help for himself. Begging for recovery with his addiction, Anthony, known as Cheese had made a big change in his life. He was clean from drugs, sober from alcohol, positive, proud, strong, brave and sure of himself. Anthony was a caring and giving person who will be missed very much by those who loved and knew him.

Anthony leaves behind his son, Anthony Jr. of Portland; mother of his son, Monica Alexander of Portland; stepdaughter, Gabrielle Dennis of Portland; father, Richard Branch; mother and stepfather, Bernice and Lewis Harmon of Portland; brothers, Sherman Branch of Philadelphia, Ronald Strong of Seattle, Alex Spearman of Portland and Byron, Marucs, Eric and Ricky Branch, all of Portland; sisters, Sharon and Deon Branch, both of Portland; grandmother, Helen Gibbson of Detroit, Michigan; one grandchild; and a special friend, Chris West.

### In Memory Of Virginia Lee McDonald

Funeral services for Virginia Lee McDonald, 64, of northeast Portland, who died Oct. 13, 1995 at Providence Hospital, following a long illness, will be held Thursday at 1 p.m. at New Hope Baptist Church, 3725 N. Gantenbein. Interment will follow at Rose City Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of the Killingsworth Little Chapel of the Chimes.

She was born Sept. 1, 1931 in Florence, Ala., and moved to Portland with her family in 1942. She married Robert McDonald in 1951. Her maiden name was Peters.

She was a homemaker and a member of the Fellowship Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband; five sons, Dennis Sanders of Dallas, Texas, Earnest Johnson Jr. of Portland and Marc McDonald, Michael McDonald and Robert McDonald Jr., all of Portland; two daughters,



MyraAnn McDonald and Monique McDonald, both of Portland; two brothers, Lawson Peters and Anthony Peters, both of Portland; three sisters, Martha L. Ollison and Margaret Willis, both of Portland and Linda Green of Japan; a step-mother, Rosie Lee Peters of Portland; 18 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

### Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

Rev. Dorsey McCullough, Pastor Bethel AME Church, 5828 N.E. 8th Ave. will host it's Annual Fall Rally November 3, 1995 through November 5, 1995. The overall theme is "The World's Greatest Giver".

On Friday, November 3rd at 7:00 pm they will celebrate their 106th Anniversary program and Reception. Father Krueger of St. Andrew Catholic Church will speak on the theme "God's Love - Our Eternal Gift". There will be music groups and they will honor "Ordinary People". Saturday's African Festival, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm, will feature drama and presentations depicting "History and Heritage of Africa/Afro-Americans through Leadership and Perseverance".

On Sunday, November 5th, they observe "Stewardship Day" at the 11:00 am service. The theme for the day is "The Ministry - Our Service". The Rev. Martha Redfield, Associate Pastor of First AME Church, Seattle, WA. will be guest speaker. Contact the Church Secretary at 288-5429. Chairperson is June Terry 281-0813.

To The McDonald, Johnson, Peters, Ollison And Willis Families  
In Your Time Of Loss Our Hearts Go Out To You. Virginia, We Love You.  
From Mrs. Frieda, Iva, Joyce, Mable And Larry.

### Cox Funeral Home Inc.

(503) 281-4891



Jerome G. Tanner  
A. Funeral Director

A.A. COX, SR.  
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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.*

### 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

### Birth Announcement

Name: Victorian Marie Clark

Date Of Birth: 10/11/95

Time: 4:24 PM

Weight: 8 lbs 8 oz Length: 22 in.

Parents: Leslie H. Garth - Clark, Mother  
Earl F. Clark, Father

# 25th ANNIVERSARY

The Portland Observer

### 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



### 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



### 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