

# RELIGION

## A Message to the Churches

Fifty-six miles southwest of Ephesus, on an oasis of stone hedged about by the unforgiving stretches of a liquid desert, John languishes amidst the craggy remains of the isle of Patmos. He is isolated and alone; set apart from the stand he has taken on behalf of Christ and His invisible Kingdom of Truth.

For this Truth John is imprisoned. For this Truth, he is maligned and declared anathema by the powers that be.

Isolation is the price so often paid by those who would dare to see beyond the popular views.

Indeed difficult truths are hard to bear. But what hope hath a world where Men of God shrink from the burden of sight.

So it was there, far from the feverish fray of a church embattled by competing claims on its philosophical focus, that John discerned clearly a Word from the Lord concerning the Church's wayward path.

Already at odds with the political powers of imperial Rome, already exiled from his native land and at loggerheads with its leadership on

the meaning Christ, John is driven to confront a Church leadership who in drinking too deeply from the cup of a corrupt culture has become drunk with the wine of the world.

Already imprisoned for his powerful but unpopular position he is unable to preach.

But though his mouth be bridled and his feet in chains, his heart and his hands are free.

Hence the unspoken Word must be written to be heard. While the insatiable waves of a determined sea waged war with the stubborn stone of Patmos' forsaken coasts, John remained unshaken and in tune with God.

June, commissioned by Christ to engage the kingdoms of this world in the theater of Asia Minor has resolved to see it through.

Having risked it all on the faithfulness of God, he holds fast to the stubborn belief that there are some who have not yet bowed at the feet of Baal.

There were those in the church who began to drift from the Word of God.

Preoccupied with their own financial well being they began to compromise both the fellowship of the body and its doctrine for personal gain.

The process was slow but effectively fatal to the life of the church if left unchecked.

Wealth and other concerns began to replace ability and understanding of the Word as the criterion for leadership.

The leadership, with no deep understanding of the church or the culture with which it was surrounded and in which it was fully immersed, was not capable of navigating the Ship of Zion through the dangerous waters ridden with the subtle seductions of a culture in Satan's grasp.

The wheel of histories ever spiraling gyre has once again brought us to just such a point. Above all the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. Inc. with more potential than any other body here in America or abroad to send here clear and certain signals to a confused world is becoming increasingly slavish and compromised in its views.

## ALTERNATIVES Choose Whom Ye Will Serve!

BY MARGARET ISAACS

Jesus, the Christ was born as prophesied, (Matt. 2) he was reared in Nazareth, as it is written. His coming was foretold of John, the Baptist, Jesus' earthy cousin. Jesus' father is Jehovah God. He taught the people and clarified the law. (Matt. Mark, Luke, John). He proclaimed the kingdom of God, and was tried, scourged, mocked, and chosen for crucifixion, by his own people, as it is written.

When the Son of God died, graves were opened and upon his resurrection the dead came forth and appeared to many people. The earth shook and the veil of the Holies of Holies in the Temple split in two pieces, from top to bottom; no longer were men separated from God, but were now free to go to him

personally, at any time they choose; without offering sacrifices (as the law states); without Priests; for the Christ is now the mediation, the High Priest without Temples; now they may come unto the Lord at any time and at any place, wherever they choose to pray.

The perfect pure, righteous sacrifice had been offered up; slain to atone for the sins of all the people, whether they be Jew or Gentile.

The Son of God, Jesus Christ, chose to save mankind by the giving of his life and by the journeying to hell to defeat death and to wash away the stain of sin, that condemned man and separated him from God Almighty.

Jesus, the Christ, arose from the grave on the third day following his death and appeared to the women,

Mary Magdalene, the other Mary, and the wife of qebudee; and the first commission was given by Jesus to the Women; "Go and tell my Brethren that they will see me in Galilee". These women were the first to recognize and worship the risen Savion in the flesh; for they held his feet and worshipped him.

Jesus is the light of the world and this light cannot be extinguished; and this Savion; this God full of love for mankind will come again, when the Good News (the Gospel) has been told throughout all the world. And at his second coming, as conqueror, Lord, King and Judge; every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus, the Christ is Lord.

Thus, it is written and thus it shall be done. Blessed be the name of our risen Lord, forever, Amen.

## Oregon Resident Honored By Oklahoma Christian

Oklahoma Christian University of Science and Arts has announced the names of 1995 students who have been named to the Honor Roll's List for the Spring 1996 trimester.

The Honor Roll List recognizes the academic performance of students who have earned between a 3.40-3.84 grade point average on a four-point scale. Honor Roll List honorees were announced by Dr. Baily McBride, provost of the Uni-

versity. Those students who have attained the Honor Roll List include:

Shannon Daniel O'Bryan, son of George & Donna O'Bryan of PO Box 219283, Portland, Ore. Shannon is a sophomore majoring in Hist/Pre-Law, Opt A, BS.

Oklahoma Christian is a private liberal arts university recognized by U.S. News & World Report for two consecutive years as a "Best Value" in higher education. The University

has been named to the Templeton Honor Roll of Character Building Colleges and the Honor Roll for Free Enterprise Teaching. Oklahoma Christian offers fully accredited programs in more than 70 major areas of study in five colleges: Bible, Business, Education, Liberal Arts, and Science and Engineering. Now in its 46th year of operation, its student enrollment represents most of the 50 states and 26 countries.

## Sorrow Is Turned To Hope

A young man, who broke his mother's heart abusing drugs, turned his personal sorrow into hope for other mothers and their children during a special Mother's Day event held recently at Bruce Monroe Elementary School in Washington, D.C.

During the event, sponsored by the Church of Scientology's Drug-Free Marshals campaign, former drug abuser Darren Andrews gave an emotional speech to 150 to 1st and 2nd graders, during which he stressed the importance of children obeying their mothers and leading drug-free lives.

Mr. Andrews began years of serious drug abuse starting at age 9 but is now a straight-A student seeking a divinity degree at Howard University. He told the children that they can make their dreams come true by working hard and sticking to their goals.

"We sponsored this program to make it real to the children that only by living drug-free can they have happy lives," explained Drug-Free Marshal coordinator Pat Jones. "It is vital that we start driving in this message as early as possible and keep repeating it over and over

again." The highlight of the event came when teachers, mothers, law enforcement and church officials joined in as the children took the Drug-Free Marshals pledge.

The pledge, which has been administered to thousands of children throughout the U.S., requires students to live drug-free lives and to encourage their friends and relatives to do the same.

Each of the new marshals received an official Drug-Free Marshals badge and rose donated by Chesapeake Bagel Bakery.

"This program helps to create POSITIVE peer pressure to stay drug-free," noted Rev. Jones. "and shows children that drug-free living can be fun and rewarding."

The event ended in touching moment as the children, whose mothers were present, gave their moms roses and their written pledges to live drug-free lives.

The Church of Scientology runs the Drug-Free Marshals program in cooperation with local churches, schools, businesses, community groups and law enforcement organizations.

Thousands of children in Los Angeles, Boston, New York, Atlanta, Miami, Buffalo, San Francisco, Sacramento, Chicago, St. Louis and Washington, D.C. have been sworn in as Drug-Free Marshals.



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Bring friends for an evening of blessing  
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Student Speakers & Good Music

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## Obituary

**Lois W. Irving**  
March 14, 1923 - June 9, 1996

Lois Winifred Irving was born in Pawhuska, Oklahoma on March 14, 1923 the youngest of two children of Louis and Augusta Meador.

She began her teaching career in the Portland Public Schools in 1968 and retired as Vice-Principal of Madison High School in 1988.

In 1944, Lois entered into holy matrimony with Mr. Robert Irving, to this union a son and daughter were born. They both preceded her in death.

Left to rejoice in her memory are: a beloved brother, Olin Meador; a grandson, Anthony Laico; a son-



in-law, Andre Laico; many relatives and a host of friends.

The family suggests remembrances be sent to the Lois Irving Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Scholarship Fund.

## JOURNEY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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