

RELIGION

Together As One

A Tribute To The Heritage Of Quartet Music



Slim & The Supreme Angels - Mighty Clouds of Joy - The Williams Brothers.

Rarely does a tribute set new standards as this one truly does. "Be prepared for a well produced exhibition of harmony & style. This

excellent recording is more than fitting to the tribute," stated Brian Walton of the Washington Informer.

"It's one of the greatest record-

ings we've ever done because of the tribute to Quartet Music. We're past time on this one. I'm glad we're a part of this collector's item," said

Joe Ligon, lead singer of Mighty Clouds of Joy.

"It's a real Down-Home Spiritual Project! It reminds me of a soundtrack with such a heavy lineup like the Mighty Clouds of Joy, Slim & The Supreme Angels and The Williams Brothers," said Glen Stevenson, Owner of Paradise Music Store, Rome, Georgia

"The impact of this record will be so strong that every music lover in the country would want it in their collection. It's an incredible inspiration especially for the people who work at night such as taxi drivers, hospital workers and truck drivers who are on the road all night," commented James Bullard, Gospel Vice President, Intersound.

"This is a great piece of history. What an incredible performance!" declared "Hossman", WLAC Radio, Nashville, TN.

"I feel real good about this project, even better than any others I've done in a long time, because it shows togetherness and lets the world know that Quartet singers are together and we're reaching out together for souls to be saved in the name of Jesus Christ," said Rev. "Slim" Hunt, lead singer of Slim & The Supreme Angels.

ALTERNATIVES I Do Not Agree

BY MARGARET ISAACS

I have followed the reports on the news of burning churches in our Country, as I am sure most of you have done. I do not agree with the manner in which this news has been reported. The inappropriate words selected to sensationalize the events, the suggestions or speculations on where it will happen again, and whether it might be racially motivated assumes that it will happen and will be racially motivated. Copy-cat participants in crimes are motivated and thrive on the fact that they will have top billing in the news. It is possible that these Church burnings are "the work of one or two sick-minded people with imagined axes to grind, and not the organized terrorist's racially motivated plans..." and activities against Black religious establishments.

This type of news reporting also includes gang speculations, which I have heard several times on the news, beginning before school closures for the summer months, on the summer crime activities of gangs in Portland. This increase in gang activity has not occurred, but it seems, according to news reporters, that it is expected, and as a matter of course, will happen. Suddenly all minors are the enemies of all society; and it is only to be determined where and when the uprising of gangs will occur. Cannot we, as citizens, expect straight reporting of facts, instead of speculations on where, when, how the crimes will occur again and of which group will be held responsible? Is it not a possibility that no gang activity will occur in Portland this summer; especially if families, police, neighborhood associations, etc., are quietly initiating social programs, jobs for teens, sport activi-

ties, supervised entertainment, etc., for targeted age groups, where trouble is likely to occur? It would make our Communities much more serene if we could hear (on the news programs) about these teen programs, jobs, teen sports, teen entertainment, etc., which are open to all teenagers. It seems that all we hear are the "bad" occurrences on the news, reported in a manner to increase panic among the populations, especially among Senior Citizens.

It seems that there are very few citizen organizations, police organizations, news organizations, etc., that concentrate on prevention of crimes, beginning with young violent offenders, rather than concentrating on "bad" behavior which has not occurred, as yet we have many laws regarding second offenders; We have many classes on how to handle and control gangs. Each year the Juvenile Courts send larger numbers of children to be tried as adults; and these get top billing in the news. We have very poor probational supervision of first or second teen offenders.

Our solution is to fill the jails, especially if the offenders are Black or of other ethnic origins. The news reporting of arrests made in the Northeast area is much more colorful, suggestive; filled with more "key" panic words, than that of those arrests made in other areas of the city.

One alternative to what I call "bad" reporting is to give the public news of "good" happenings among the teen population. Report results of successful teen programs. Report on what jobs are available and where they can be found. Report on Companies, Churches, Charitable Organizations, etc., that offer all types of teen support.

These are all our children!

Ecumenical Ministries Decries African-American Churches Arsons

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon joins its voice in solidarity with our African-American brothers and sisters who have suffered the loss of their churches through arson and firebombings, including and especially the members of Immanuel Free Methodist Church in North Portland. We also denounce the recent burning of a cross on the front lawn of a Gresham resident.

We urge federal, state and local law-enforcement officials to commit all possible personnel and resources to bringing the perpetrators to justice. In addition, we encourage investigators to treat these crimes as acts of racism and hatred, rather than simply as acts of vandalism.

While we encourage swift and just prosecution of those who are

responsible for these evil acts, we also understand that this is not the only needed solution. America's racial divisions are still not fully healed; indeed, they have been somewhat deepened in recent times. Only when we examine and deal with the underlying racism, that exists in many of our hearts and our institutions, will acts such as these truly be a memory.

Portland Mennonite Church is planning a special service to show its solidarity with those who have been burned out of their houses of worship. On Sunday, July 28, the church will close its doors and congregate outdoors for its 9:30 a.m. service. The service will include mourning and repentance for the racism that still marks this county. The church will also celebrate "the

good news of fellowship, of evil overcome by good, and of God's healing for our lives and hearts." Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and Portland Mennonite Church urge congregations statewide to join in this effort by planning similar services or other activities which show that good shall not be overcome by evil.

The Rev. Dr. F. Wayne Bryant, Executive Director of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, said, "I call upon every pastor in the EMO family to exercise the prophetic privilege of the Sunday pulpit to speak in support of our brothers and sisters of color who are being harassed and abused by these senseless acts of bigotry. We cannot, we dare not, remain silent in the face of this kind

of intimidation. We must declare to those responsible, and I speak of the rhetoric of racism that gives permission and encouragement for such acts, that we will not tolerate the injustice of such acts. For if we remain neutral, passive and silent, we are ourselves guilty of the violence of racism."

As we mourn with our brothers and sisters the losses they have experienced, may our anguish re-energize us to stand firm with all who still work for racial reconciliation. Let us affirm and reaffirm the words of the Apostle Paul when he said that we are all one in Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:38), and in the body of Christ, "if one (part) suffers, they all suffer together" (1 Corinthians 12:26).

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