

RELIGION

Pope denounces harming life

A few days after the Vatican called for a ban on cloning humans, Pope John Paul II on Sunday denounced "dangerous experiments" which harm human dignity.

After dedicating his speech to faithful in St. Peter's Square to the Gospel account of Jesus' driving out the money changers from the Temple of Jerusalem, the pope decried the

"temple merchants of our age," those who make "the marketplace their religion, until they trample, in the name of 'power-their-god, money-their-god,' the dignity of the human person with abuses of every kind."

"We are thinking, for example, about the lack of respect for life, which has become at times the object of dangerous experiments," John

Paul, without mentioning the widespread concern raised by the recent news of the cloning in Scotland of a sheep.

On Wednesday, the Vatican newspaper urged governments to quickly pass laws banning the cloning of humans because people have the right to be born "in a human way."

John Paul also denounced as dam-

aging to the dignity of people environmental pollution, "the merchandising of sex," as well as drug-selling and exploitation of children and the poor.

He decried two missing person cases in Italy in which a young Sardinian mother was kidnapped and little girl disappeared, apparently abducted.

A religious fervor takes hold in Florida

In one of the most spectacular revivals in modern times, charismatic Christians have flocked to a Gulf Coast church four nights a week for 20 months. Their goal: to bring about a spiritual awakening in America before the third millennium.

More than 1.5 million people have attended the revivals at the Brownsville Assembly of God since it began on Father's Day 1995. People line up as early as 2:30 a.m. to get one of 2,000 seats for evening services.

Little noticed by the mainstream secular and religious media, the Brownsville Revival has shaken up Pentecostalism with its return to the movement's roots in emotional worship. Hundreds of pastors visit each week in hopes of learning how they, too, might fill their churches with baby boomers.

This is hard-edged Christianity - the path to hell is paved with pornography, alcohol, drugs and cigarettes - combined with a contemporary worship style that allows participants the freedom to cry, dance, sing or do whatever else the Holy Spirit tells them to do.

If it sounds a lot like the "Jesus Movement" of the '60s, it is.

Only this time, church leaders say, the church is not going to keep its distance if people want to dress casually, listen to their kind of music or pump their fists in the air if they get excited about their faith.

"People are hungry for a real move of God," said 55-year-old Jay Smith. He had driven up from Talco, Texas, and got his lawn chair in line at 4 a.m. for that day's revival service. "People are tired of going to church ... and leaving church the same as they went."

There is also something more: a shared sense that America is in moral decline, and a belief preached by other great revivalists through the nation's history that God is going to set things right.

Pensacola - known as "the gay Riviera" for its openness to homosexual tourists, and more recently as the city where two abortion doctors were murdered - is the place God has chosen.

"I believe America is ripe for revival," said evangelist Stephen Hill. "I believe this is turning into an awakening."

America has seen two great moments of religious fervor, in the 18th and 19th centuries. Hill, a 43-year-old former drug addict and leader of the revival, says this "very well could be" the third.

Hundreds of people lie prostrate, face down, wailing.

"Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy," the choir sings, each time lifting their voices higher as Hill storms across his holy stage, holding out the promise of eternal life for those who step to the altar and warning of eternal damnation for those who hold back.

Heaven. Hell. Heaven. Hell. Two

minutes left. Now people are running down the aisles, stepping over the bodies of teen-age girls and middle age-men already "slain in the Spirit."

"Get on your face before God. ... You've got 40 seconds left, what on Earth are you waiting for? ... 11, 10, 9, hurry, hurry, hurry."

Hill and the Rev. John Kilpatrick - the church's pastor - like to say the Holy Spirit runs things at Brownsville. No two services are alike and few emotions are wrong to get the last sinner in the house to repent.

One night, a lone trumpeter plays "Reveille" to get people up to the altar, then "Taps" for those who are "in the grave, and they're throwing dirt on you, spiritually speaking."

Another night, children being cared for behind the sanctuary start to sob uncontrollably. Microphones are turned on the kids until many worshipers inside take up the wailing.

There is not a dull moment. An organist dressed in black with long blond hair and the mannerisms of a rock musician gets the audience on its feet with contemporary Christian music.

Revivalists have long been accused of appealing to emotion rather than reason to win converts. Hill explains the dancing, the tears, the prone bodies on the floor, another way: "God is in this house, friends."

How else to explain how a one-

day stop at Brownsville by the traveling evangelist Hill grew into a spiritual colossus?

Hill had a troubled youth; at age 21, he was a morphine addict. He was jailed, and was sentenced to a religion-based drug rehabilitation center. There, he gave his life to Christianity, and he became a traveling preacher.

His work took him to Argentina and throughout the United States. But nothing like Brownsville had ever happened before.

A thousand people responded to the altar call that first day in June 1995. Kilpatrick grabbed the pulpit and announced that he felt a wind blowing through the church and that the revival the church had been praying for had come. He fell back on the marble floor and didn't move for nearly four hours.

Each night they decided to go one more night. Word got around. Suddenly, people were coming from throughout the city, and then from around the world. Now, hundreds are turned away from the sanctuary each night, and must watch the services on a monitor in the church cafeteria.

"I know it's so big it has to be of the devil or of God," said Shirley Keltner, 66, who flew in with a church group from Washington state. "If God gets the credit, it can't be of the devil, can it?"

It is so big that the organized church is sitting up and taking notice.

Grief Recovery Retreat

Beginning Experience is announcing the next grief recovery weekend retreat for the Separated, Divorced, and Widowed. The weekend consists of presentations by lay team members, periods for private personal reflection and small group dialogues. The weekend begins Friday evening and concludes Sunday afternoon.

Location: McCleay Retreat Center, Salem, OR

Dates: March 21-23, 1997

Cost: \$110.00 (partial scholarships available)

Includes: Room, meals, resource materials

Registration: 503 585-6874 (Salem) 503 614-9607 (Portland)

Write: Beginning Experience PO Box 13422 Salem, OR 97309

A Musical and Religious Gift To The Community

A rare opportunity to hear a performance of Franz Joseph Haydn's masterpiece, The Seven Last Words of Christ, by the world-renowned Vermeer String Quartet and prominent religious leaders in the community, will take place on Tuesday, March 23, at 8 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, N.E. 16th & Hancock. Doors will open at 7:15 o.m. Admission is Free.

This event is sponsored by the

Friends of Chamber Music as their "gift to the community"

This free, ecumenical event brings together the unique collaboration of seven religious leaders in the community, who will each offer a short meditation relating to one of the seven last "words" of Christ. This will be followed by the appropriate music written by Haydn. For more information, contact Pat Zagelow, 224-9842.

An invitation to welcome Rev. Dr. Leroy Haynes, Jr. to the Portland community

Dear Friends:

The members of Allen Temple C.M.E. Church, located at 4236 Northeast 8th Avenue (Corner of N.E. 8th and Skidmore), in Portland, Oregon, would like to invite you to attend a special welcome program for our new pastor - the Reverend Doctor Leroy Haynes, Jr., from the great State of Texas, on Friday, March 7th, from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm., at the Church.

Dr. Haynes is a very impressive person with a Doctor of Theology and Ministry degrees from Bethany and Brite Theological Seminaries, has been an instructor in Black Studies and an organizer in the Civil Rights Movement.

We are sure, after meeting him, you will agree we have a valuable resource in our City. We would be honored by your presents and hope you will be able to attend this welcome program.

North Portland Bible College

An interchurch, interracial gathering of choirs and soloists will combine their gifts of devotion and song on March 15,

for the Annual Musical of North Portland Bible College.

Hosted by Allen Temple at 4236 N.E. 8th Ave, the event will include such outstanding choirs as the Maranatha Sanctuary Choir, and The Choir of the Gospel Music Workshop of America.

The program, which will begin at 7 o'clock, will focus on the Person and work of Christ, and will include readings as well as music.

There is no charge, but a freewill offering will be taken, to further the ministry of the college.

For further information, call Beth Nance at (503) 287-0885

Obituary

Mrs. Charlie Bell Morgan

June 27, 1910 - February 26, 1997

Charlie Bell Morgan was born June 27, 1910 in Clarksville, Texas to Rev. John and Hattie Bagby. At the age of 18, she married Brisco Morgan on December 28, 1928. She was Baptized in the Church of Christ as a young woman. She has lived in Portland since 1956. She lived in Dallas and Paris Texas before Portland. She has been a member of Mallory Church of Christ since 1956. She was a homemaker and was very active in her church and the community.

Charlie Bell died on February 26, 1997 at her home in Portland, Oregon Cause of Death - age related.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Brisco Morgan on June 11, 1994 and by her son, Brisco Morgan, Jr. and Daughter Dorothy Perry in 1988.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 4, 1997 at The Mallory Church of Christ, in Portland, Oregon.

Burial followed at Sunset Hills Memorial Park in Portland, Oregon.

Survivors:

Daughters: Ervie Patterson Las Vegas, Nevada; Rozel Morgan Portland, Oregon; Margie Burks Portland, Oregon; Lillian Brewster Portland, Oregon; Helen Hall Dallas, Texas; Grace Kennedy Seattle, Washington; Doris Hunter Seattle, Washington. Sister: Mildred James, Vancouver, Washington. Also 31 Grandchildren - 68 Great Grandchildren and 6 Great Great Grand.

Obituary

Roy J. Harris, Sr.

June 5, 1914 - March 2, 1997

Roy was raised in Beaumont, Texas and moved to Portland, Oregon after World War II. Roy is the father of four sons, Roy Jay, Joseph, Alfred and David. His devoted wife, C. Louise preceded him in death. He is survived by his only remaining sibling, a sister, Mildred Williams. He has a multitude of grandchildren.

Roy was a professional painter and member of the Painters Union for over 50 years. For many years, he lived in Pasco, Washington as a painter at the Hanford Atomic Plant, while his family lived in Portland. He would diligently drive back and forth hundreds of miles every weekend to be with and support his family. He was recently awarded his 50 year pin by the Painters Local #10 for his years of dedicated service. He served on the executive board and was an active union member, even after his retirement.

Known by his children and many others as simply "Roy Sr.", he survived for 82 years.

Roy will be laid to rest, near his wife at a private interment at Rose City Cemetery.

Memorial Service will be at Little Chapel Of The Chimes - 430 N. Killingsworth on Friday March 7th at 12 Noon.

Obituary

Betty Jean Green

Betty Jean Green, born March 25, 1951 in Vancouver to Christine Kelley and Major Green passed away on February 24, 1997 in Portland, Oregon.

Betty Jean has lived in Portland since 1954. She attended Boise Elementary and Jefferson High School. She had been a bank teller in the 1970's. Due to her health, she has not been able to work in recent years.

Friends are invited to attend Funeral Services 1:30 p.m. Friday, February 28, 1997 at Killingsworth Little Chapel of the Chimes, Portland, Oregon. Burial will follow at Lone Fir Cemetery, Portland, Oregon.

Betty Jean Green is survived by: Mother, Christine Kelley; Father, Major Green of Portland, OR; Sons, Phillip and Damarus Green of Portland, OR; Sisters, Thelma Gates, Ida Green, Shirley Williams, Karen Green of Portland, OR, Yalonda Pompey of Beaverton, OR, Joyce Holcey of Las Vegas, NV, and Cynthia Perez of San Jose, CA; Brothers, Eugene Green and Clifford Green, Johnny Holcey and Dwayne Myers of Portland, OR, Bobby Green of Grover Beach, CA, Clyde Green of Vancouver, WA and 3 Grand children.

Obituary

Mardell Wilson-Taylor

Mardell Wilson-Taylor was born to Arthur E. and Dorothy Wilson on February 12, 1941 She passed away on February 18, 1997 at the age of 56.

She attended Portland Public Schools and continued her formal education by earning a Masters of Education, Degree at Rutgers University. In 1958, she was recognized as being the Outstanding Vocalist while attending girls Polytechnic High School, in 1971, she was chosen Outstanding Freshman Woman and member of the Honor Society while attending OSU. In 1972, Mardell was one of eleven students Nationwide to receive a Fellowship grant to Rutgers University Graduate C.O.P. Program. In 1974, she received honorary Recognition by J. Monroe High School as an Outstanding Alumni. In 1980, she was recognized as the Parent Representative at the Oregon Winter Title 1 Conference (P.A.C.); was taking numerous courses such as Fetal Alcohol Syndrome & Effects through the Harvard School of Medicine in Boston, Massachusetts.

Mardell is survived by: Arthur and Dorothy Wilson, preceded her in death, Sister's Flora McCray, Carol James, Judith Wilson-Brown, and Elena Wilson of Portland, Oregon; Blanche Holloway and Neta Wilson of Los Angeles, California; Brothers Clarence and Vernon Wilson of Los Angeles California; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends. Remembrances: Black United Fund for Children at Risk in her name.

The Funeral Services were on Tuesday, February 25, 1997 at 1:00 a.m. at Bethesda Christian Church - 109 N Emerson St., Portland, Oregon.

Vault entombment Services followed at The Portland memorial Mausoleum-Portland, Oregon.

Cox Funeral Home

2736 N.E. Rodney, Portland, Oregon (503) 281-4891

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--Jerome Tanner, Funeral Director