

HOLINESS MESSENGER

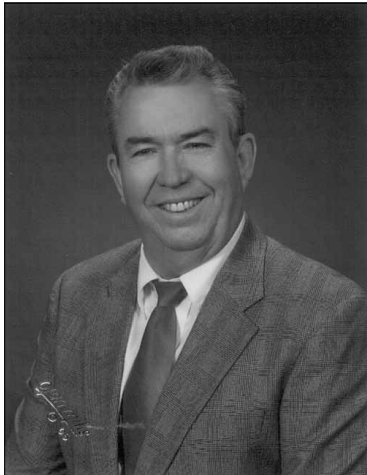
WITHOUT HOLINESS NO MAN SHALL SEE GOD.

VOLUME 54 NO. 1

JANUARY, 2008

“God, Man’s Creator”

REV. RONNIE BAKER



Creation: Because the carnal mind is enmity against God, it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. (Rom. 8:7). Also, in I Cor. 2:14: But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him. Neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. In order to believe in Gen. 1:1, you must believe that there was someone before Gen. 1:1.

There could not be a creation unless there is a creator.

On God’s mind: It is certain that creation of this world was not the first priority in the mind of God. II Tim. 1 :9 informs man that his salvation and holy calling was in the creator’s mind before Gen. 1:1. But at the same time it would be impossible to say that creation was not on His mind at the same time as man’s redemption. The one would not be without the other. In Gen.2:1, the heavens and the earth were finished and all the host of them. When God worked, He completely completed His work—everything in perfect order and organization. There was no one or anything when God (Elohim: God in three persons’) started His work: Nothing along side of Him. God did not create a world and afterwards, become bound to its limita-

tions. When God finished His work of creation He stood alone, outside of it all, Father, Son and Holy Ghost (transcendent).

God, in a certain moment created the heaven and the earth. Gen. 1:1, they were not here before because there was nowhere to be. They were here because God created them and created here for them. The living creatures and man show of God’s other acts of creation, which He placed here to live in his created universe. Animals, after their kind, will never evolve into another kind. Man, who is in the image of God, will never evolve into anything else but can better himself through the knowledge of his creator.

Providence: Casting all your care upon him; for He careth for you. (1 Pet. 5 :7). He careth or continues to care for mankind. Yes, God is man’s creator but He also is our caretaker. He is our preserver, companion, and the director of man’s life—from conception in the womb to corruption in the tomb.

Suffering: The old farmer plants the crop and later goes to bed with a terrible back pain: The track star runs five miles in a record time and collapses with side pain and leg cramps: A young woman holds her new born to her breast, the new mother cannot eat or drink, yet, she smiles through her suffering and says that the prize was worth the pain. Suffering is a part of life and it is the kind of world we live in. Did God in the garden hate Adam when he told him to go to work? Of course not, the work was made harder because of the fall of man. Work is not a curse, sweat is, not work.

In looking at the sin suffering, it must be admitted that a large

(See Man’s Creator, Page 3)

WWW.HOLINESSMESSENGER.COM

THE HOLINESS MESSENGER
P.O. BOX 472202
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74147

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Permit 347

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Editor/Treasurer

Rev. Ralph Cox
P. O. Box 472202
Tulsa, OK 74147
(918) 252-2967 or
(904) 824-4253

Co-Editor/Publisher

Rev. Bill Parks
9743 E. 66th. St.
Tulsa, OK 74133
(918) 249-1944
FAX: 918-252-1244

Email: billparks@holinessmessenger.com

Trustees: Aaron Brock,, Leon Farley, Lloyd Shuecraft

ARTICLES of FAITH

The object for which it is formed is: To preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and promote a better understanding among all brethren.

The Word of God alone shall be the Doctrine, Practice, and Discipline of this Board of Members: it being understood that we receive it as the inspired Word of God and the Divine rule of faith and conduct.

We believe in God the Father Almighty. Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried and arose on the third day according to the Scriptures, afterwards ascended into heaven where He is now seated at the right hand of God the Father, from whence He is come again to judge the quick and dead.

We believe in Water Baptism and that it should be administered to every believer according to the Scriptures given by St. Matthew 3:17;28:19; St. Mark 16:15; Acts 8:36-38. We teach that the Blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin, and sanctifies the believer, thus making him or her eligible to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost which is given to them that obey (Acts 5:32) and the evidence of such experience shall be according to Acts 2:4.

We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the Communion of the saints, the Lord's Supper and washing the saint's feet. We believe that divine healing for our physical bodies was included in His suffering as mentioned by the prophet Isaiah 53:5. It is still available to all who meet conditions and according to His will (James 5:14).

We believe that all ministers should be of good report (1 Timothy 3:7-12) including Pastors, Evangelists, Deacons and Elders (Titus 1:5-7); and husbands of one wife.

We believe the Church of Jesus Christ to be a living Organism. The Body of Christ, and habitation of God through the Spirit (Ephesians 2:20-22), and that each true believer is a member of the Body (1 Corinthians 12:14; Acts 2:47).

By Brother Ira J. Roberts

The yearly subscription rate for the single subscriber is \$6.00. Fill in the blanks below and send with subscription rate.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

We must pay return postal rates, and it is an unnecessary cost to us when you do not notify us of your change of address. USE A STANDARD GOVERNMENT CHANGE OF ADDRESS, or a postcard. Give your old address as it appears on this issue, and your new address. We appreciate your cooperation.

EDITOR'S DESK



"...My tongue is the pen of a ready writer."
Ps. 45:1



Rev. Ralph & Doreen Cox
9737 E. 66th St. Tulsa, OK 74133

Hello, folks! I hope you had a good year in 2007. We are now in 2008 and I pray that God will bless us with a year of greater success. The work of God is to me a very important work.

It seems that in these last days we must constantly deal with heresies and compromise. If the ministry doesn't speak out against these things they make inroads into the church. While I am not over anyone, I feel it is my duty to speak out against the wrongs of our time. *Webster's Dictionary* define heresy as "a religious belief that is at variance with the orthodox doctrine."

Please keep in mind that no matter how much someone feels that what they teach is correct, if it is not truth, then it is wrong to teach it. We are told in Titus 2:1, to speak the things which become sound doctrine. The only way to stop some foolish teaching is to show that it is foolish.

It has been taught that Jesus Christ became the Son of God. This is an error of the baser sort. Jesus Christ never became the Son of the Father, He has always been

the Son of the Father. There is a trinity of Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Folks, it is impossible to split the Trinity. John 10:30, says, "I and my Father are one." The Pilgrim Study Bible (Oxford Press) says that they are one in essence. This is true for Christ says "...my Father and I are one." Be very careful what you say about the Trinity and please don't deny that there are three persons in the Godhead. God the Father did not die on Calvary for you, His Son did. We must remember that denying that Christ was the Son of God is an anti-Christ attitude. The devil and the demons know that God has a Son. I refer to Matt. 8:29, "And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? Art thou come hither to torment us before the time?"

Jesus is the incarnate Word. In the beginning was the Word. Christ, the Word was in the beginning. Read Jn. 1:1-3. In

**We here at The Free Holiness Church, in Wilder, ID, need a Holy Ghost filled and God-led evangelist to come and hold a few days meetings for us. If you feel God speaking to your heart then come and get acquainted with us here in Wilder.
Contact: Bro. Jerry Goldhart, 208-482-7081; Bro. Larry Stills, 208-482-7450 or Bro. Dale Phillips 208-482-7072**

the book of Genesis, the first mention of God (In the beginning God...) is a plural word. Then in Gen. 1:26, God says, "Let us in our image." So we Christ the son of God present at the beginning.

Adam was created innocent but not sinless. Jesus was not created but was incarnated, which was His beginning on the earth in a human body, this being

necessary to die for our sins. At that time God was a being that was separated from the Son. While He was on the earth, He said that He was going to ascend to His father (Jn. 20:17). This shows that they were two separate persons.

All one has to do to see that Jesus and His Father are two separate beings is to read St. John, the First Epistle of John and Colossians 1:12-17. If you are in er-

ror concerning these truths, please desist from these silly notions. Read also, Ps. 90:2, 93:2 and Is. 9:6. This should be convincing that Christ is from Everlasting to Everlasting.

Now to change my thought. The institution of marriage has been down-played in this country and this is a grief to God. Many are living in common-law relationships and this is becoming more widely accepted. Jesus respected marriage, attended a wedding and spoke much about weddings, love and marriage. To live together without being married is sin. If common-law is accepted it will ruin the nation. All sensible people know the corruption that this is bringing to our society.

Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well and asked her for a drink of water and then to go and call her husband to come. This woman then replied, "I have no husband." Jesus then said to her, "thou has well said, I have no husband." Jesus then let her know that he knew that she had five husbands and the one that she lived with at that time was not her husband. She recognized that He was a prophet and the Messiah. She ran into the city and began to broadcast to the city to come and see the man who had revealed her sinfulness to her. She made such a scene that many of the Samaritans believed on Him. They wanted Him to stay with them because they saw He was the savior of the world.

If you believe in common-law relationships, Jesus will not agree with you. Why should we have weddings and recite vows if common-law relationships were right in God's sight. God teaches marriage is "honorable in all and the bed undefiled; but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge (Heb. 13:4)."

God bless everyone for their financial support and prayers through this past year. If we have not heard from you in a while drop us a line and let us know that you are still interested in the Holiness Messenger.

Editor Ralph Cox

Point That Prods

The electronic security sensors at store exits aren't just to nab shoplifters, but to stem an even bigger problem — employee theft. About 30% of "inventory shrinkage" is due to shoplifting, but a whopping 43% is due to stealing by employees. Furthermore, the cost of everything we buy is inflated by 15% to compensate for losses due to theft.

Most of us wouldn't think of stealing from our employers, but consider this: There's a Divine Employer who requires faithfulness among His workers. For financing His earthly work, He desires our tithes and offerings. And the prophet Malachi said that our failures in these areas are tantamount to stealing from God.

"God, Man's Creator"

REV. RONNIE BAKER

part of man's hurting in his lifetime is due to sin, cursing of the land, more pain in childbearing, and sweating of the face. Man's suffering today, in the larger part, is due to his own sin; Sin in disobeying God's laws—both natural and spiritual. Sickness itself can be a direct judgment of God. When suffering of any kind comes, it is time to check your life for malice, bitterness, envy, or some sin. This does not mean that all sickness or suffering is the result of sin. Sometimes, our providential God is testing our faith or allowing us to go through a new growth. Many times it will hurt to do his will, but the prize is worth the pain.

Miracles: The miracle of salvation should be enough to show anyone the power of God who can and will work beyond nature. A miracle is an event or happening outside or beyond what can be. God has the power to perform acts which defy nature (water standing as a wall; the sun standing still or going back ten degrees). Let it be known that God did not build himself into this world. He did not build a house and later find himself locked inside it. God has the freedom to act within or without earth, nature, atoms or Adams. He may do miracles to show his power to the Egyptians or give deliverance to his children. Compassion can cause God to go beyond the laws of nature to feed five thousand with five loaves of bread or to heal a man of leprosy. The greatest miracle of all is the incarnation of Christ. He came from where he was to where man is to make it possible that man can go from where he is to where God is. God's love goes beyond all human understanding. To say that an infinite, almighty, and eternal being could care for a God denying, God hating, totally selfish, and hopelessly lost world, is in itself a miracle.

In regard to miracles in modern times; what classification would salvation, healing, and baptism of the Holy Ghost be put in today? If someone changes his complete life style, the world would say that he was just self-motivated: If a leg that is proved broken by an x-ray on Monday, then on Tuesday, after a Monday night prayer meeting, the same machine shows no break, most will say that the x-ray machine malfunctioned: these are the most common answers to these and all other miracles today. Yet, the same people who say that miracles do not occur, believe in the coming of Jesus Christ in the clouds of heaven to take from this old world all saints in a moment of time; Yea, much faster than a moment of time. If His resurrection was a miracle, His return will be also. And between the end of the New Testament and the coming in the clouds, there have been and will continue to be miracles.

Angels: The angel of God, or may we say, God as an angel,
(See Man's Creator, Page 3)



YOUTH PAGE

"Even the Youth...Shall Mount Up with Wings as the Eagles."



Bill and Melanie Parks

9743 E. 66th. St. Tulsa, OK 74133

918-249-1944 E-Mail: billparks@valornet.com

We have for a guest this month, Michael Touchton, presently of Elkton, VA. He attends the Bible Holiness Church, Pastor Gary Edenfield. Michael is a graduate of FGBI.



I Kings 20:13 And, behold, there came a prophet unto Ahab king of Israel, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou seen all this great multitude? behold, I will deliver it into thine hand this day; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

I Kings 20:14 And Ahab said, By whom? And he said, Thus saith the LORD, Even by the young men of the princes of the provinces. Then he said, Who shall order the battle? And he answered, Thou.

As we begin I would like to pose a question to our young people. What are you doing for God? Yes it's a simple question but also one that holds great weight to it. I'm afraid that too many young people have the mentality today that they are too young for God to use them, or that God doesn't use young people at all. I believe that is one of the greatest lies that is being told by the devil today. We've heard it all of our lives we are not the church of tomorrow, but rather we are the church of today. Young person, God is looking for you! He needs someone that has a willing heart and will say yes to what He desires to do in our world today.

What is stopping you from fulfilling the will of God in your life? Should we allow

what is going on in Babylon to affect us and hinder the move of God in these last days? I admonish you young person, our churches need some young people that will rise up to the forefront and take a stand for something! You've heard the saying before if you don't stand for something you will fall for anything. We have seen too many of our young people fall because they could not stand. Our fallen young people have become the majority of our sermon illustrations today. Let us stand for Christ! Live for Him, love Him, and dedicate yourself unto Him!

Without a dedicated heart one cannot completely serve the Lord. It is important that you be dedicated to the Lord and consecrate yourself to Him. There is no greater fulfillment than knowing that you are doing that which is pleasing in the sight of the Lord! Young people there is a battle to be fought, and we are the ones that must man the front lines now. If our churches are going to go on, if Holiness is going to live on it is going to be by the young men and the young women of today. Our grandparents and our parents have blazed the trail for us; they have taught Holiness to us, they have fanned the flames of Pentecost, now it is high time that this generation does arise to the challenge. This is where we must take our stand!

Never leave what you have been taught. The Bible tells us to seek for the old paths where in is the Good Way! The old time way is the good way! We must know that new ideas, higher education, and fancy sermons are not what's going to get it done; we still need the same old fashioned move of the Holy Ghost like those before us have had! The battle is raging and men are dying. There is a multitude to be had and when men ask by whom will this be done, God is calling out and saying, "Even by the young men". I have watched as this passage of scripture com-

pletely changed the mindset of a group of young people. When our young people are truly convinced that God greatly desires to use them, Oh what a church we will have! There are those that say that the church is going down, but over the past few months I have watched how God has gotten a hold of the lives of our young people, and He is shaping and molding them for the work that must be done. God will have a church and this church will stay alive at the hands of this younger generation.

The fight is great and it seems sometimes that there is more on the enemy's side than there is on ours, but I heard a man say one time that it is the minority that shall prevail in the midst of adversity! The minority has always come out on the winning side. Young people just like in the story there in I Kings 20, Benhadad may have spoken out against us, but let the truth be known; God's people will triumph over them. Fight with everything you have. If in the streets then fight there, if in the city then fight there, if in the towns then fight there. My prayer is that wherever the fight may be that we



will have some young people that will be there to meet the enemy head on.

What we have to fight for is far too precious to loose! Young people we have everything to lose if we don't fight! We are a generation that is well able to overtake and conquer if we will but move forward in the power of the Holy Ghost. Will you join with me in this fight? This world is depending on us to keep that which has been committed to our trust. This is our battle, let us stand together and fight! By whom shall the victory be won? "Even by the Young Men"

Michael Touchton
Elkton, VA

appears to men. Angels are tremendous encouragements to believers. When Jesus made his bodily appearance (incarnation), there would certainly be no need for an added angelic appearance of —” himself. But after he ascended back into heaven, could there never be a place where man on earth could again see Christ? In Acts 27:23, “For there stood by me this night the Angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve.” Paul said that this was the angel of God, or the appearance of God (Theophany). Paul also states the one who appeared to

him was the one, who he (Paul) belonged to and served.

"In the image of God, man was to be the representative of his creator on this earth ... Not divine and not to be compared to divinity, man was never to be like God (in God's place) but to be like God (in God's will)."

Angels are created moral beings and are of great number. They do the will of God by choice— whether archangel, cherubim, seraphim, or miscellaneous classes of angels. All angles praise and worship, crying “Holy, Holy, Holy.” Standing ready by legions to do God’s will. They will deliver a message of joy like lighting but just as swiftly a message of judgment. Angels may sit, talk, and eat, as in the case with Abraham (Genesis 18:1-8) and also, Lot (Genesis 19:1-3). Or they may refuse to eat, as in the

case with Gideon (Judges 6:18-21) and also, Manoah (Judges 13:15-16). Angels also come as ministering spirits (unseen angels) sent to minister to the saints. They seem to camp around very close for protection to those who love God. For every little one (disciple) there is one angel beholding God’s face or maybe many angels beholding God’s face for that little one. Never pray to see one, and never pray to one, but be not forgetful to entertain strangers (Heb. 13:2), for that stranger just may be one.

Man: In the creation of man it is interesting to note that the last of God's work was to be His greatest. Everything else was made by Him, but this creation was to be for Him. Although man was lower than the angels, he was so much higher than all other things created on the earth. He was connected to the animal kingdom but also above it. In the image of God, man was to be the representative of his creator on this earth and he was to do his will here, like the angels do his will in heaven. Not divine and not to be compared to divinity, man was never to be like God (in God's place) but to be like God (in God's will).

Rev. Ronnie Baker
The Pentecostal Tabernacle
Richmond, IN .



MARRIAGE QUESTIONS (Answered by Children)

HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHO TO MARRY?

No person really decides before they grow up who they’re going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you’re stuck with. — Kirsten, age 10

WHAT IS THE RIGHT AGE TO GET MARRIED?

Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person FOREVER by then. — Camille, age 10

No age is good to get married at. You got to be a fool to get married. — Freddie, age 6

HOW CAN A STRANGER TELL IF TWO PEOPLE ARE MARRIED?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids. — Derrick, age 8

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR MOM AND DAD HAVE IN COMMON?

Both don’t want any more kids. — Lori, age 8

WHAT DO MOST PEOPLE DO ON A DATE?

Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough. — Lynnette, age 8 (isn’t she a treasure)

On the first date, they just tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date. — Martin, age 10

WHAT WOULD YOU DO ON A FIRST DATE THAT WAS TURNING SOUR?

I’d run home and play dead. The next day I would call all the newspapers and make sure they wrote about me in all the dead columns. — Craig, age 9

WHEN IS IT OKAY TO KISS SOMEONE?

The law says you have to be eighteen, so I wouldn’t want to mess with that. — Curt, age 7

The rule goes like this: If you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It’s the right thing to do. — Howard, age 8

IS IT BETTER TO BE SINGLE OR MARRIED?

It’s better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them. — Anita, age 9 (bless you child)

HOW WOULD YOU MAKE A MARRIAGE WORK?

Tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if she looks like a truck. — Ricky, age 10

“Living in Victory”

REV. CHARLES MITCHELL

The Christian life can be described by words such as love, faith, peace, joy, obedience, purity, holiness.



Rev. Charles, Karen & Kelly Mitchell

A single word to describe all of these things is Jesus. He’s the only person ever to live the Christian life. Even the Apostle Paul only lived the Christian life by letting Jesus live in him (*Gal 2:20*). It’s the same for us. We can quit struggling because we can’t live the Christian life on our own; we need Christ to live it in us.

So we pray, “Lord, live your life in me” and trust Him to do so. Yet when certain temptations, doubts or adverse circumstances arise, we succumb to them and fall short. Why?

An answer is found in the parable of the Sower and the Seed – *Lk 8:5-15, Mt 13:3-23 and Mk 4:3-20*. The Word of God, entering our hearts and taking root, brings victory over every sin and giant – because Jesus is the Word of God.

Sometimes, we’re defeated because our hearts still have some hard spots, stony places or thorny areas in them. Therefore, the Word of God can’t take root or produce the fruit of the Christian life in us. Some people get discouraged by this, thinking there’s no hope, because they’re just “stony ground” Christians or “thorny” Christians. But God doesn’t label people like that. No ground is naturally “good ground.” Even the best soil has to be tilled – broken up – to become good and useful for planting. We, too, can become good ground, free from hard areas and thorns.

So how do we make our hearts “good ground”?

- ★ Prayer: *Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. (Hos 10:12)*

Be totally honest with God about areas where you don’t measure up to His Word. Talk with Him about them and ask for help and understanding. That’s humility, and God gives grace to the humble. Ask Him to search your heart (*Ps 139:23,24*) and open up His Word to you.

- ★ The Word: *Is not my word like as a fire? saith the*

LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces? (Jer 23:29)

The Word is God’s “tiller.” Read the Word, meditate on it, hear it preached in church. God will use the Word to break up your heart.

Some people beat themselves up for their failures, but that only hinders the process. Instead, we should patiently seek the Lord, asking Him what the real issues are. Remember, He’s on our side. All of our fretting and struggling never brings victory.

Only God knows the way to victory in every battle. He is also the only One who can see deep into our hearts and identify hindrances (*Jer 17:9,10*). We see outward symptoms; God sees the root causes. That’s why we need to hear from Him. The faith and understanding we have just don’t cut it. We need His battle plan.

We can see many examples of this in the Word:

- ★ Joshua chapters 6-8: The victory at Jericho – over huge giants and a walled city – was won by following God’s “foolish” instructions to a tee. Joshua had received those instructions from God, instructions he would never have dreamed up on his own. At Ai, Joshua didn’t ask God for directions. The people trusted in their own ability. When they were defeated, Joshua came to the wrong conclusion, basically blaming God (*Jos 7:7,8*). But God knew what the real problem was – hidden sin in the camp. He revealed this to Joshua as Joshua prayed. When the sin was taken care of, God gave a battle plan that brought victory. If only Joshua had sought God *before* going into battle, they would have been spared a terrible defeat.
- ★ Joshua 5:2-9: After the children of Israel crossed over Jordan into the Promised Land and before their first battle at Jericho, God told Joshua to circumcise the males. This was necessary so they could conquer the land. Joshua wouldn’t have known this if God had not revealed it to him.
- ★ 2 Samuel 5:18-25: David faced the same enemy, in the same valley, twice. He asked God for direction both times. God gave him different instructions for each battle. David followed God’s instructions and won both victories.
- ★ Judges chapters 6 & 7: Gideon, a person with no confidence, was transformed by God into a mighty leader, one who led the children of Israel into victory over the Midianites. The Midianites had totally impoverished Israel, and Israel had no might against them. Gideon remained in constant communion with God, admitting his own weaknesses and need for assurance. God instructed and led him, building his faith little by little, and Gideon gained the victory. All Gideon did was follow along and do exactly what God told him to do.

And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, "Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.-Luke 24: 15. How appropriate are those words in the Emmaus story for the NEW year. "Jesus Himself drew near and went with them"

Here is something positively good- "Jesus Himself". Here is something comparatively better- "drew near". Here is something superlatively the best- "and went with them". Reflect for a moment on the first of these. As those two cretfallen men sadly "communied together" on the Emmaus Road, it was none other than "Jesus Himself" who joined them. It was the real, personal Jesus, the very subject of their conversation, who actually drew near, then and there, unchanged after His crucifixion and resurrection. Yes, "Jesus Himself". Few things grieve me more than to hear preachers speak of our dear Lord as though He were merely a figure of the bygone, with us now only as a benign influence, or in a vague, uncertain way. No, our dear Master Himself is really with us, invisibly yet none the less personally.

But second, "Jesus Himself drew near". Yes, He drew near even though, paradoxically enough, He was "near" before He "drew" near. He was with them spiritually and invisibly before He now drew near observably. So is He always with us, while yet there are times when He draws near in some special way, making His presence a luminously conscious reality to us. We may well observe that it was while those two men were conversing about Him that He drew near. When Christ draws near it is always that He may make some further revelation of Himself, even as on that Emmaus road He "expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself". At the beginning of this year, He draws specially near to us.

Third, and best: "Jesus Himself drew near and went with them." He who draws near on the first day of January will companion us to the last day of December. He goes with us as individual disciples, guiding, guarding, encouraging, renewing, and sharing the qualities of His own life with us. He loves His people's company. He delights to make our days a sunlit Emmaus walk. Oh that this may be for us a year of the burning heart, - as He "talks with us by the way"!

-J. Sidlw Baxter

In conclusion, the victorious Christian life only occurs when Christ lives it in us. He lives in us as His Word remains in our hearts and brings forth fruit. Hindrances can keep this from happening. Those hindrances could be lack of faith, hidden sins, or some other issue. As we seek God, He will show us what the real need is and what to do.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Rev. Charles Mitchell
Wichita, Kansas

Special Services

Youth Services

Franklin, OH

Roberts Road Pentecostal Church
Youth Camp June 16-19

10:00 AM..... Bro. Darrell Allen
2:00 PM..... Bro. Donald Tapio
Night Spkr Bro. Brent Gabbard
Pastor Jimmy Jewell 937-866-6467

Bond, KY

2nd Annual Bond Holiness Youth Camp
July 22-25

Day Spkr Rev. Tim Brimm
Night Spkr Rev. Dennis Heath
Contact: Brent Gabbard 606-224-3253
or Darren Cunagin 606364-2605

Fellowship, Camp Meetings

Glencoe, AL

Liberty Holiness Church
Annual Winter Campmeeting
Jan. 17-20, 2008

Day Spkr Bro. Charles Barnett
Night Spkr Bro. Lynn Head
Pastor Joe Mayo 256-546-7373 or Bro.
Raymond Wood 256-538-7730



Connersville, IN

Full Gospel Holiness Church
Annual Fellowship Meeting
Jan. 30 - Feb. 1, 2008

10:00 AM..... Visiting Ministers
7:00 PM..... Bro. Dennis Heath
Pastor James C. Parrett 765-825-3813



Bristow, OK

Bristow Holiness Church
Business Meeting for Bristow Holiness
Camp, Feb. 9, 11:00 AM
Contact: Aaron Brock 405-640-8409



Irvington, AL

Lighthouse of Hope Holiness Church
Anniversary Camp Meeting
Feb. 12-15

10:00 AM..... Bro. Randy Webb
7:30 Bro. Bill Houston
Pastor Rusty Johnson 251-370-6346



Idabel, OK

Holiness Assembly Church
Holiness Convocation, Feb. 27-29
9:30 AM, 7:00 PM..... Prayer Services
10:00 AM..... Visiting Ministers
7:30 PM..... Bro. Eugene Futral
Pastor Philip Snow 580 286-3545



Sterlington, LA

Sterlington Holiness Tabernacle
Annual Fellowship Meeting, March 7-9
10:00 AM..... Bro. Dwain Galiher
6:00 PM..... Youth Service
7:30 PM..... Bro. Randy Webb
Pastor T. D. Boyd 318-348-1463



Tulsa, OK

Hale Pentecostal Church
80th Anniversary Services, March 7-9
10:00 AM..... Bro. Thomas Smith
(& Visiting Ministers)
Sun. 10:00 AM Homecoming
7:30 PM..... Bro. John Gabbard
Pastor Eric McDaniel 918-697-9620

Prophecy Conference

NOTE CORRECTED DATE

February 21-23

9:30 a.m. - Morning Services

7:30 p.m. - Evening Services

Night Speaker: Rev. B. D. Sutherland

Youth Service: Fri. Night 6:00 PM

Day Speakers: Dwain Galihier, Scott Loper, Jerry Pascarella, Randy Webb, Charles Barnett, Bill Parks & others

Trinity Pentecostal Tabernacle
Louisville, KY

Host Pastor: Rev. Bill Finley
502-964-0528 also Bro. Kevin Lloyd
937-832-1215

Full Meal after Each Service
Holiday Inn Express 502-955-4984

Citronelle, AL

Cedar Creek Holy Church of God
Fellowship Service, March 10
7:30 PM..... Rev. Mike Roberts
Pastor Dallas Lakes
251-866-5779



Wilmer, AL

Tanner Williams Holiness Church
Fellowship Service March 10
7:30 PM..... Bro. Steve Moore
Pastor Donnie Williamson
251-649-2472



Semmes, AL

Allentown Holiness Church
Fellowship Meeting, March 11-14

Night Spkrs To Be Announced
Pastor Eugene Futral
251-645-6599



ChIPLEY, FL

Spirit of Holines Fellowship
Fast Convention, March 26-28
Teachers: Bro. W. E. Parr (Why We
Fast) Bro. Jeffry Dykes (Christian
Character)

Night Speakers: Bro. Steve Gentry, Bro.
Keneth Montgomery, Bro. Noah Phillips
Contact: Bro. David Sims
334-493-3107

Maysville, OK

Wallville Holiness Church

Annual Easter Fellowship, March 21-23
10:00 AM..... Visiting Ministers
6:00 PM (Sat.) Youth Service
Night Spkr Bro. Tommy Toliver
RV Hookups Available
Pastor Al Hunt 405-207-1691 or Joe
Hunt 405-206-7495



Decatur, TX

Bible-Way Holiness Church
Campmeeting, March 27-30
10:00 AM..... Bro. Matt Homer
(& Visiting Ministers)
Night Spkr Bro. Lynn Head
Pastor Davy Smith 940-627-9052 or
940-389-0798



Franklin, OH

Roberts Road Pentecostal Church
Fellowship Meeting, April 1-3
10:00 AM..... Bro.. Mike Roberts
7:30 PM..... Bro. Ralph Horton
Pastor Jimmy Jewell
937-866-6467



Tuscalossa, AL

Harmony Holiness Church
17th Annual Homecoming
May 13-16, 2008
10:00 AM..... Bro. Brent Gabbard
7:00 PM..... Bro. John Gabbard
Pastor Ralph Lowery 205-752-4147 or
Bro. David Beard 205-535-0523

Ministerial Conference

Smokey Shadows Conference Center

Jan. 29-31, 2008

Jan. 29: 10:00 AM, Bro. Don Rich, Bro.
Lynn Head, 7:00 PM, Bro. Randy Webb

Jan 30: 10:00 AM, Bro. Ben Shaw, Bro.
Shad Macdonald, 7:00 PM Bro. Darrel
Meadow

Jan. 31: (no morning service) 7:00 PM,
Bro. Joey Hight

Contact: Ryan Ralston 912-596-5752,
Bro. Michael Switzer, 817-750-0043, Bor.
Don Ingram 865-932-0580

Motel number is 1-800-251-4444
Rates are 39.77 for standard room and
55.77 for a suite.

Westside Holiness Church

19th Annual Holiness Campmeeting,
April 29 - May 4

Sunday Morn, 11:00 AM, Homecoming
Special Day Seakers:

Rev. Charles Barnett, Rev. Neil Bridges,
Rev. L. L. Collins, Rev. Ralph Cox, Rev.
Richard Crayne, Rev. Don Rich, Rev.
Lindsey Savage, Rev. Ben Shaw, Rev.
W. H. Wyatt

Night Spkr Rev. Paul Markee
Pastor Gary M. Roberts 276-971-2022
or 971-1306

Bristow, OK

Bristow Holiness Camp
June 9-12
(speakers to be announced)
Contact: Aaron Brock
405-830-1928

**Conservative Christian Ministries
Ladies Retreat
Pigeon Forge, TN
Music Road Inn & Convention Ctr.
April 10-11, 2008**

Speakers:

Ladona Blue, Debbie Roberts

Contact: Connie Harman
276-964-5663

MUST Register to Attend.
email: ccharman @roadrunner.com

NOTICE

Pastors and camp directors, please send info concerning special meetings you wish to announce as early in the year as possible. We get numerous requests for this info as many must plan their vacations near the first of the year and like to do so to attend these special services. Note that most day services begin on the second day of the meeting.