



Please Don't Have a Stroke

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COMPLIMENTARY

BY THE WILL OF I AM THAT I AM — Exodus 3:14

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Body of Christ News

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Installed as President of Ministerial Alliance

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Time to Educate and Inspire

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WE ARE ACTUALLY ISRAELITES

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Should Sunday be our Day of Worship & Easter Celebration?



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Good Enough for Big Momma

By Karen Little, HHP, MH, NC

Ever gargle with salt water, put butter on a burn, used castor oil to treat an ear infection or sipped chicken noodle soup to nurse a cold? If so, you are participating in a long tradition of African American natural remedies. I know Western medicine is just now embracing the validity of "alternative medicine" but most of these remedies, many of which can be found in health food stores across the nation, are remedies that enslaved communities cultivated despite the then racist healthcare system and inhumane living conditions.

West Africans brought not only their knowledge of herbal treatments across the Atlantic Ocean but

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Out of Order

IN THE FIRST BOOK OF GENESIS (Genesis 1: 1-31), God set the order for the world and said that it was very good. The question is, are we as his children still in order? From my observation, man is the only part of God's creation that is out of order. Man has consistently drifted away from the things God set in place for us. We have tampered with the warranty which God gave us and yet many of the things that we use on a daily basis such as washing machines, stoves, refrigerators, automobiles, etc.. all have a warranty period ranging from ninety days to several years. When it comes time for repair, we have to call on a repairman. How long would you be willing to wait for your repair? The best estimate of time between the creation of Adam and the birth of Jesus is more that four thousand years. This is how long God detained his patience, waiting to see if man would self correct or self repair. We are all aware of that outcome. God's intention when he made man was that we would all have a lifetime warranty, with a lifetime guarantee. But because of Adam's disobedience, he nullified all of our warranties in the garden. It took one man to create the need for repair, and another man to bring about repair and restoration.

As we observe the world in its present condition, we reflect upon the order of things and people in particular. Most things that God created are still functioning as he intended. Each of us should ask ourselves the question; am I in line with God's expectations? Yes, we all have fallen short. In (1 John 2:1) it reads, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the father, Jesus Christ the righteous." We as human beings sometimes do not understand why we are not able to predict what and when God decides to send certain things into our lives. It is God's prerogative to change the timing and alter the function of the things he created as he sees fit. In the book of (Isaiah 55:8) it says, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord." In other words, if we had the all-knowing ability of God, we would also be God.

Seasons still change, Oceans and Seas continue to flow in the way that God intended. In the gospel of (ST John 3:8) it says, "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is everyone that is born of the spirit." Rain still comes, snow still falls, Animals are still following their instincts, Volcano's still blow and spill over, birds still fly, tornados still cause devastation, hurricanes still cause destruction, Mountains still remain in their places until the one with much faith ask them to be removed. The sun still shines during the day, the moon still lights up the night.

In (Matthew 24:32-44) it reads, " Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not

pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the days that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the Goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

Many times we would like to change the things that were created by God to act or function in a certain way to our liking, and we lose sight of God's intention. Yes, he wants us to take care of the earth and replenish it but not try to change it or destroy it. Off times, what we want to do it seems is try to change the order of things God created, and eventually destroy ourselves in the process. God's original intention was for us to live forever in his love, peace, joy, and contentment.

On some occasions we drive up to a gas station, and we see a sign that says out of order. This is very frustrating when you are running on fumes and need gas now. Ask yourself, why did I not prepare sooner? We see vending machines with out of order signs when we become desperately hungry. Why did we not prepare sooner? We go to the ATM machine to get cash and we find that it is out of order. Why did we not prepare sooner? Think of how God must feel with his children being out of order after he did all the prep work to insure us that we would live a life of satisfaction, joyfulness, and tranquility forever.

The point is that everything that is out of order, will at one time or another be fixed or deemed none repairable, this also includes people. In (Romans 1:28) it says, "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;"

"The propitious smiles of heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregard the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself has ordained."

— George Washington
(Inaugural Address 1789)

— Wil Wilson

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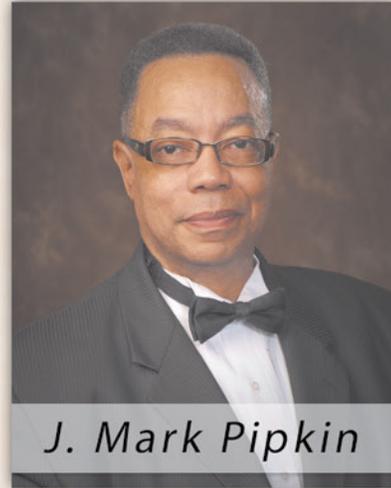
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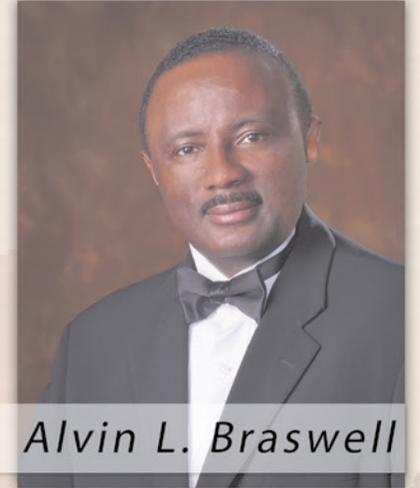


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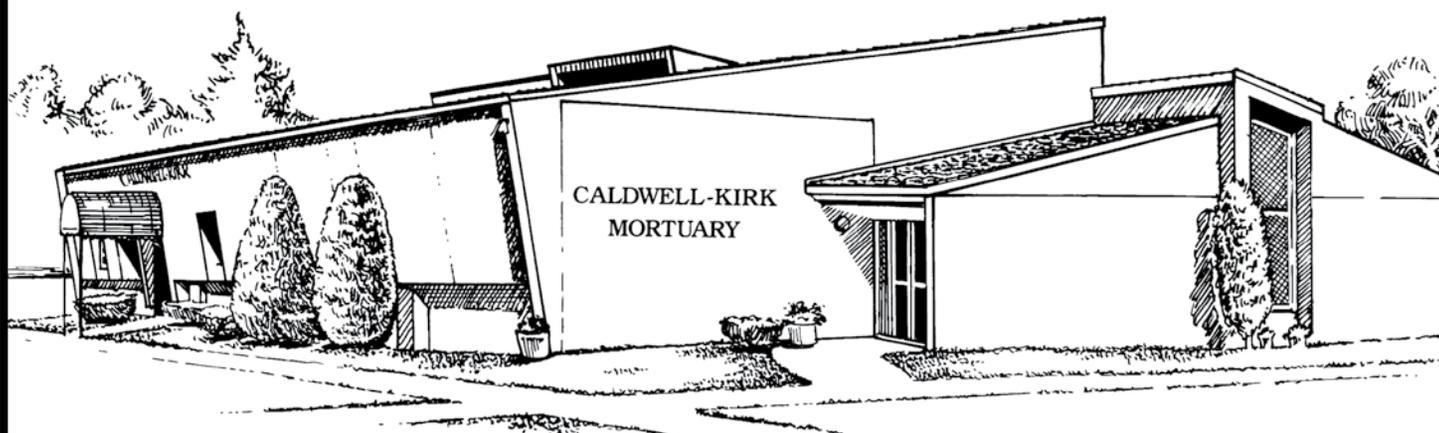
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The Churches Ushers Union of Colorado, Inc. will be sponsoring a Mother and Daughter Brunch on Saturday, May 11th, 2013 at Silos International Restaurant from 10:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., located at 14050 E. Evans Avenue, Aurora, CO. For ticket information call: Vanessa Evans 720-394-3657 or Shirley Boone 720-272-4720.

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Don't Have a Stroke!

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

— 3 John 2

By **Byron E. Conner, M.D.**

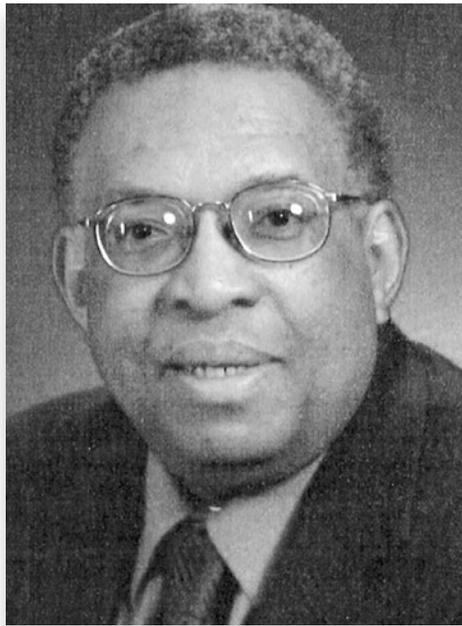
Having a stroke can mean loss of life or permanent disability. There are some who have strokes and are fortunate enough to have little in the way of residual long-term problems. All too often physicians encounter a patient who is paralyzed on one side of the body, with impaired vision, speech, swallowing and ability to care for oneself. Frequently, by the time we see a person who has had a stroke, the damage is already done and there may not be much that will change things. Believe me, it may be a painful experience to be a physician for a stroke victim and you may be thinking that you would like to do all in your power to prevent families and individuals from going through the potentially tragic experience of a stroke. Because of this, I would like to make a plea and say please don't have a stroke!

I would like to mention some key observations, and facts and figures about stroke. Stroke is the fourth leading cause of death in the United States today. About 795,000 Americans have a new or recurrent stroke annually and strokes may kill 128,000 people. Stroke is a leading cause of long-term disability and this disability can occur in an individual who may be relatively young. It is important to point out that about 80% of strokes could have been prevented by changes in lifestyle, habits and taking care of some chronic conditions such as diabetes and high blood pressure.

Stroke is a condition that affects the arteries leading to and within the brain. A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is blocked by a blood clot or when a blood vessel bursts. As a result, because a portion of the brain is not able to receive the blood and oxygen it needs, brain tissue starts to die. The result of this may be a sudden loss of function of a part of the body controlled by the affected part of the brain. There may be a blocked blood vessel, or actual bleeding in the brain with blood spilling into brain tissue. There may also be something called a "warning stroke" called a TIA (transient ischemic attack) in which symptoms like a stroke occur but resolve in a few minutes. This means a temporary interruption in blood flow to a portion of the brain, but when this TIA ends the symptoms disappear with no permanent findings. It is in fact a warning that requires taking action to prevent a full-blown stroke.

I want to tell you some things you can do to prevent having a stroke, as I do not ever want to see anyone with this condition. First of all, if your doctor tells you that you need to quit smoking--just quit! This absolutely does not mean "cutting down", as you will still be at risk. Know your blood pressure reading and do what you can to keep it at least less than 140/90 and achieve a number your doctor is pleased with.

If you have diabetes, have it under



Dr. Conner

control and work with your health care provider even if you feel perfectly well. Make sure you know what your cholesterol readings are and get the testing you need to have it under control. Keep your body weight where it should be. Do not ever be sedentary, and make a decision that you are going to be physically active by doing some activity such as walking 30 minutes daily. Be careful with alcohol use and more than one drink a day for women and two for men may raise blood pressure and be a risk factor for stroke. It has been observed that some illegal drugs may cause stroke such as cocaine, and because of this people who are surprisingly young may have a stroke when using such drugs.

It is a good idea to discuss with your health care provider at some point in time your risk factors for having a stroke or heart attack, but be willing to do what you are advised to do to diminish your chance of having a stroke or heart attack. There may be some other conditions that need attention, such as a heart rhythm irregularity (atrial fibrillation), and other heart issues and artery disease causing blockages or partial blockages of arteries in the neck.

There may be acute symptoms of a stroke such as the following:

- Sudden numbness of the face, arm or leg especially on one side of the body
- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding things said to a person
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
- Sudden trouble walking, sudden dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause

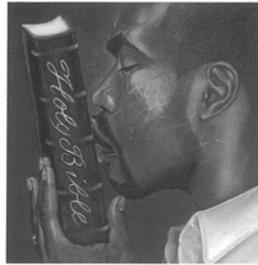
What should you do if the above acute symptoms happen to you or someone you are with, or know? CALL 911 immediately! Urgent medical attention may allow certain things to be done to minimize the impact of a stroke and just find out what the problem is.

As always, I hope that what is written here may help you to live longer and better by God's grace. ✚

If your doctor tells you that you need to quit smoking — just quit! This absolutely does not mean 'cutting down.'

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Universal New Birth Baptist Church

3:30 p.m. Guest Messenger: Rev. DeWayne Moore
Ebenezer Baptist Church

Theme:

Essence of A Man:
Listening, Learning, and Leading
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Scripture Reference:
James 1:22-25

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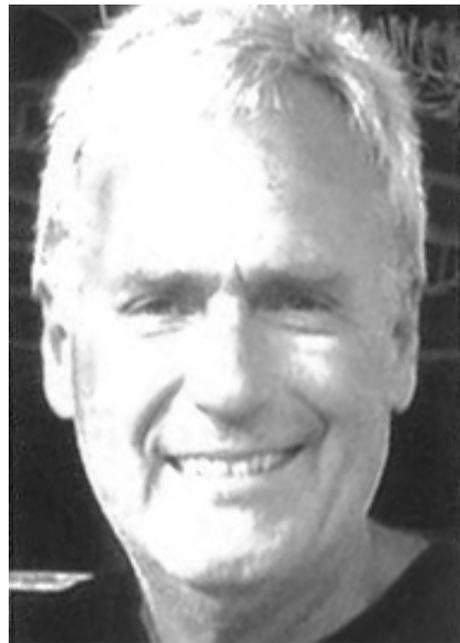
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Sin of Compromise

By Michael Forti



Michael Forti

From the very beginning of the early church, the original apostles stopped at nothing when it came to DEFENDING the truth of God's Word. COMPROMISE of all kinds were creeping in and the original gospel of Jesus Christ was being CHANGED by many who claimed to know God. Jude said, "For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who CHANGE the grace of our God into a LICENSE for immorality and DENY Jesus Christ our ONLY Sovereign and Lord" (Jude 3-4 NIV). The word "DENY" means to "CONTRADICT" the TRUTH (Strong's-Greek #720).

Some, who are inspired by the Gospel, will develop a desire to become a pastor and then start a church. He will usually start out with the zeal to preach on the last days, holiness, sin, evangelism, love, forgiveness and fulfillment. Unfortunately, as time goes on with the hopes of a growing congregation, he becomes overwhelmed by the feelings of discouragement and failure.

After much time wrestling with the human ego and praying daily for an increase of membership, the pastor starts to develop the root of bitterness as he patiently waits for people to show up at the Sunday morning service. He will struggle through the week to make sure that he has someone to look after the toddlers and to teach the children's Sunday school. He will work hard on his next sermon and the weekly bulletin, deal with unexpected finances, the concerns of a few members and contact the musicians to lead Sunday worship.

As the months continue with a few new faces in the pews, the pastor quits his full time job in hopes that the offerings will increase. In fear of rejection should anyone leave the fellowship, he begins to take a closer look at the content of his Sunday morning ser-

mons and he soon becomes extremely cautious of what he preaches. Being very careful not to take his small congregation out of their comfort zones, he makes a decision to eliminate the last days message of God's judgment and wrath, the FIRE and BRIMSTONE, the increase of earth quakes, asteroids, volcanoes and violence. Through the discouragement of dealing with church politics and the ongoing struggle to increase membership, he has decided in his heart to simply preach on worldly wealth and forget about the Second Coming of our Lord (1 Tim 6:3-15, 2 Tim 4:3-8, 2 Pet 2:1-3). The next thing you know, his congregation is now becoming more conformed to the patterns of this world instead of coming out from among it. "Therefore, I urge you brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship. Do NOT conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Rom

12:1-2, Eph 5:3-20, Jam 4:4, 5:1-7 NIV). Failing to realize the major media mess that many well known mega churches have fallen into within the past few years, he then becomes more inspired with big church preachers instead of God's Holy Word. He has become a modern day preacher, filling his Sunday sermons with all sorts of human reasoning and philosophies, with a sprinkle of scripture. Unfortunately, his Sunday sermons become loaded with MAJOR DOCTRINAL ERROR as he looks the other way when it comes to sin.

2 Timothy 4:3-8 explains what the apostle Paul had to say to Timothy when he was faced with the challenge of compromise in Ephesus. "For the time will come when men will not put up with SOUND DOCTRINE. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears AWAY FROM the TRUTH and aside to MYTHS" (2Tim 4:3-6 NIV). Has God changed His way of thinking?

Today, we have many, who have watered down God's Word to the bone! Yet at the same time, they are calling what they are preaching the gospel of

Jesus Christ. They are continuously offering salvation down the broad road of unrighteousness while they are preaching some other Jesus, some other gospel and some other spirit that DOES NOT SAVE. While convincing their listeners that God's hand is on their popular ministry, these false apostles have fallen into the same categories as the preachers in the churches of Thyatira, Sardis and Laodicea. Instead of their congregation responding to the conviction of the truth of God's Holy Word and the leading of the Holy Spirit, they are replacing a true born again relationship with Jesus Christ with a weekly adrenaline rush and the temporary relief from a guilty conscience. Many within modern day Christianity are NOT bearing any biblical fruit of true biblical salvation or biblical repentance.

Friends, I am far from being a perfect Christian. I am a simple unschooled ordinary person, who is working out his own salvation in Jesus Christ. Like Paul, I struggle with the thorn in my flesh. I wrestle with sin and discouragement. Yet, after leading worship for many years in several church-

Continued on Page 17

Today, we have many, who have watered down God's Word to the bone! Yet at the same time, they are calling what they are preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. They are continuously offering salvation down the broad road of unrighteousness while they are preaching some other Jesus, some other gospel and some other spirit that does not save.



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Coming Out of Bondage

And He said unto Abram: Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them for four hundred years.

— (Genesis 15:13)

By Pastor Joyce Edwards

This prophecy was given to Abraham by Almighty God (Yahweh) concerning the children of Israel, God's chosen people. We know the children of Israel were in Egyptian bondage or slavery four hundred years based on the biblical account recorded in the book of Exodus. The prophecy and fulfillment resulted due to Israel's disobedience and idolatry. This happening was the first fulfillment of the Genesis 15:13, prophecy.

Prophecy can be repeated by the recurrence of disobedience and idolatry. We witness this truth by the second fulfillment taking place when the Babylonians and Assyrians took Israel into captivity. The Babylonians seized the Southern Kingdom and the Assyrians captured the Northern Kingdom. Although the Southern Kingdom (Judah, Benjamin, and one half of the tribe of Levi), spent seventy years in bondage, they returned to the Nation of Israel after they were set free.

The Northern Kingdom (the remaining tribes) when released from Assyrian captivity, were dispersed throughout the world. This dispersion of the Northern Kingdom became known as the 'lost tribes of Israel'. Interestingly enough, while the ten lost tribes (the Northern Kingdom) were scattered throughout the world, the Lord Jesus (Yeshua) sent the disciples to minister to them. This suggests Yeshua knew exactly where His chosen people were situated in spite of them being lost. (Exodus 12:41; 2 Kings 18:11-12; 11 Kings 25; Matthew 10:6)

Another fulfillment of the Genesis 15:13, prophecy took place after a segment of the ten lost tribes settled in Africa where they were taken into captivity by other Africans. Subsequently, we were sold to Europeans and herded onto slave ships which bought us to the Western Hemisphere.

It's apparent that we had once again fallen into disobedience and idolatry prior to our captivity. It is also obvious that these happenings are aligned with Deuteronomy 28:68 which states: and the Lord shall bring thee into Egypt again (symbolic of oppression) with ships, by the way whereof I spake unto thee, thou shall see it no more again; and there ye shall be sold unto your enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and

no man shall buy you.

Think about it, we were actually brought from Africa to America aboard ships and after arriving in America, we were once again sold into slavery. While these events are fulfillments of prophecy, they also portray imagery of our identity. As certain as Jesus Christ (Yeshua HaMashiach) is Jewish of the tribe of Judah, we are Jewish or Israelites of the ten lost tribes of Israel.

As prophesied, the majority of Black Americans have never gone back to Africa or Israel. Instead, we have submitted ourselves and

accepted the racial labeling of being called Negroes, colored people, and most recently Black Americans. This recent labeling is more accurate than the others, but we are actually Israelites.

Centuries ago, Israel and Egypt were situated on the African continent. Remember the angel of Yahweh was sent to Joseph to tell him to take Mary and

the baby Yeshua to Egypt for refuge. Egypt and Israel were neighboring countries the same as United States and Mexico. When our ancestors returned to Africa during the dispersion, it was a homecoming to them even though they were not in Israel.

When our ancestors were taken into captivity and sold into the slave trade market, before entering the ships we were cursed. One of the curses was for us to forget our identity, and that curse has truly been a reality for most Black Americans. Also in Deuteronomy, it was prophesied that we would not see our homeland again.

These prophesies could have ceased to occur if we had humbled ourselves and been obedient to the commandments of Yahweh and had placed no other gods before Him, but we did not do that.

Upon arrival in this country, we were sold into slavery to a people whose language we did not understand. In many instances, our ancestors' sons and daughters were taken from them and sold to other slave masters while their paternal parents watched helplessly and painstakingly, longing for their children. Our ancestors labored brokenhearted and with their spirits broken.

When I think of broken spirits, I think of how a wild horse is broken; and once its broken, the horse will submit to the commands of its owner/trainer. Our ancestors' spirits were broken similarly, and they humbled themselves to the commands of their slave masters. But the cruel and harsh oppression they suffered brought many of them back to Yahweh. It was in the midst of some of the most horrific times that the old Negro hymns were sang, and our ancestors grappled with hope praying and singing to the same God (Yahweh) the Israelites had sang to back in Egypt. And just as

Yahweh had heard their ancestors' cries of pain and agony, they knew if they repented and returned to Him, He would hear them.

In 1865, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery in America passed the House of Representatives. But how long did we cling to the commandments of Yahweh and put our other gods away? Although the Constitution was amended, how long did we remain faithful and true to our one and only hope, Yahweh? Israel walked through the parted Red Sea; but once on the other side, they began to complain about water to drink. We are those same peoples, with the same unfaithfulness. (Exodus 13:17-14:31; Deuteronomy 28:32, 49)

In this country with the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, the Civil Rights Act, Affirmative Action and other bills or laws, Black Americans are still treated different than other classes and groups of people. In my heart of hearts, the unjust treatment of Blacks has always been a wonderment to me. It seemed as though most Black Americans could not pose a threat to Whites materialistically, educationally, or in a financial manner so why the hatred? But having gained the knowledge of who we really are, Israelites, my understanding became clear.

At John 15:18, Yeshua said: if the world hates you, ye know that it hated Me before it hated you. We know the world hates Yeshua considering that it's okay to use the generic word "God", but it is not politically correct to use the Name of Yeshua in most venues. However, we should use the Name Yeshua

(Jesus) wherever we are... He has a Name that is above every name, and it is His Name that will bring us out of bondage. But we must recognize and accept who we really are.

Many people accept the title of Christian, but don't you know that Jews, Israelites were the first people to be called Christians. This designation came about to differentiate between Jews that accepted Christ as their Messiah from the Jews that did not. (Acts 11:26) Today, many Jews who accept Christ as their Messiah are referred to as Messianic Jews. Nonetheless, we are Jews, and we are in bondage because we have left Yahweh behind. If you do not believe you are in bondage, that's a sure indication of the fact that you are deeper into bondage than many others. Even though you may have a six or seven digit salary, you borrow from the same banks that everyone else borrows from.

If you were truly free or blessed, you would be the lender and not the borrower. The remedy for us coming out of bondage is quite simple: if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all His commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all the nations of the earth; and all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God (Yahweh).

This is the only way for us (the children of Israel, the lost tribes) to come out of bondage. Otherwise, we can expect the prophecy of Genesis 15:13 and Deuteronomy 28:15-68 to continue to recur repeatedly. Blessings. ✚



Edwards

Instead, we have submitted ourselves and accepted the racial labeling of being called Negroes, colored people, and most recently Black Americans. This recent labeling is more accurate than the others, but we are actually Israelites.

Catholicism's Contribution to Christianity

By R.M. McCowan

Sunday is observed as a day of worship today, not because Christ rose on Sunday, but because of a decree issued by Constantine and false teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Regardless of man's customs, if Jesus Christ observed the Sabbath day, Christians should also honor the Sabbath day.

■ Constantine called the Sun-diet: "Unconquered Sun, my companion." His edict in the year 321 legislated the "venerable day of the Sun" to be a rest-day. This rest was commanded in honor of the Sun, and not in honor of Messiah.

■ Constantine was said to have affirmed that early in his upward struggle he had seen in the heavens the cross of Christ with the inscription "In hoc signo vinces" ("In this sign you shall conquer") and although he was not baptized, he had vowed to rest his hopes of conquest in the Christian God.

■ He made the Christian Sunday a legal holiday. His successors followed in his steps. Christianity was declared the imperial state religion in 383.

■ The Archbishop of Reggio at the Council of

Trent in 1562 openly declared that tradition stood above Scripture! His words were, "The authority of the Church could therefore not be bound to the authority of the Scriptures, because the Church had changed...the Sabbath into Sunday, not by the command of Christ, but by its own authority.

■ Most Protestants uphold the Catholic tradition of a Sunday Sabbath, in opposition to God's fourth commandment to worship on the seventh day of the week (Saturday). Sun-day worship of the sun-god (Helios/Apollo/Lucifer) was the custom of pre-Christian Rome.

Q. Wasn't Jesus resurrected on Sunday?

The Bible says in Mark 16:9 "Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils." -KJV

Matthew 28:1, "In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher."

According to Strong's Concordance, #4521 the word that is translated as 'week' in Mark 16:9, actually means 'Sabbath', as seen in Matthew 28:1. ✚

THE MATH Days & Nights in the Grave

Chart 1 (If Jesus Died on Good Friday)

Days and Nights in the Grave			
	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Day		1	
Night	1	2	

(Only 1 day and 2 nights)

Chart 2 (Jesus Christ is our Passover)

Days and Nights in the Grave				
	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Day		1	2	3
Night	1	2	3	

(3 days and 3 nights)

If Tomorrow Never Comes

By Kendra Cotton

Being a pre-need counselor is more than a job, it's a calling. I had one of my first clients pass away recently, and it really hurt to see them go. We never know what the end of life may entail, and I was honored to see them face it with such dignity and strength. In one of our meetings while pre-planning we ended up having a sing along session, and this is the memory that I will keep in my heart both now, and always. He had felt that his illness was burden enough and he did not want to burden his family with his funeral as well. He was a man who did not do "dirt", and he insured that what he wanted was paid for, he chose the mausoleum.

I have encountered, many adult children who have confided that they wished their parents had handled this matter on their own. For those

that are the trustees of their parents affairs are often questioned by their siblings as to how much was spent for a parents funeral. This can cause there to be additional stress and has even fractured some families.

I met a wonderful young 90 year old woman a few weeks ago who came in to pre-plan. I might have thought that the timing was a bit late, but for her it was just right. She like so many others know that the inevitable will one day come, but this was the time in which she was ready to face those fears. We did a complete package that day including filling out the Personal Planning Organizer. The PPO contains all the vital information



Kendra Cotton

a family member will need at the time of death. When she left, we hugged and she thanked me for being so patient and kind. She with her husband will be interred at Fort Logan. Although, she was not in need of cemetery services, she did need mortuary services. Did you know that although Ft. Logan will insure a veteran with proper documentation a location, but unless you're killed in active duty, you are fully responsible for arranging your mortuary services? We have taken care of hundreds of veterans through the years, and have the expertise in ensuring your timely arrival.

There are many unspoken beliefs

that if one talks about death, then God is going to be sure to pull your number. The truth be told, it doesn't speed up nor slow down the process. No one knows the length of their dash, the timeline from one's birth to death, for that information is reserved for God alone. For some, it may only be a matter of hours and for others it may be a hundred years.

One thing I know for sure is that God gives us the time we need to get it right, but it is up to us in how we spend it. I have seen first hand the benefits that pre-planning can bring, and would be hard pressed for someone to convince me otherwise. We cover ourselves for everything else that may or may not happen, but leave ourselves wide open on the matter that will one day come to us all. Let's close the door so that the one's we love will be protected. ✚

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Now is the Time

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." — Hebrews 11:1 (KJV),

By Rev. Dr. Henry L. Armington, Sr.

I am sure you are familiar with the cliché, "if you continue to do the same thing, you will continue to get the same results." The truth of the matter is that, because things around us are constantly changing, if we continue doing the same things, we will not get the same results. Instead, our once fruitful results begin to decrease and could possibly disappear altogether.

Here is one illustration demonstrating why. What store can you go to today with a dollar and get the same amount as you did ten years ago? Five years ago? Two years ago? One year ago? Either one of at least three things have occurred: The price for products has increased, the amount (quantity) of a particular product once received, decreases, or the quality of the products diminishes, making it less valuable. Therefore, those who continue to carry a dollar to the store in order to make a purchase are getting less, in one form or another, year after year after year.

Here's another example. What if, your employer paid you the same salary every year, while consumer prices continue to increase? Because your paycheck stays the same, your purchasing power will decrease which means you will not be able to afford as many things in the future as you did in the past. If this trend continues, you will soon be in financial distress.

The same principle demonstrated

We must be willing to step out in faith, to get out of our comfort zone, and start responding to God's directions even if he is leading us to do something different, something so outlandish we haven't a clue what the outcome will be!



Henry L. Armington

in the above examples is applicable to our faith. We cannot possess the same amount of faith from day to day, year after year, and then expect to get where God wants to take us. When our faith is stagnant, we are not growing (maturing) in our relationship with Jesus Christ. By virtue of who we are, and who's we are, we must allow our faith to grow. We must be willing to step out in faith, to get out of our comfort zone, and start responding to God's directions even if he is leading us to do something different, something so outlandish we haven't a clue what the outcome will be!

Of course, doing the same old thing is comfortable, but consider what happened when Abram (Abraham), Moses, Joshua, Jacob, Rahab, Elisha, Esther, Ruth, Mary, Peter, Paul, and so many others trusted God. As a result of their faith, something different, something amazing, something marvelous, something supernatural happened in their lives!

We must be willing to let our faith lead us to where God wants to take us. Let's get out of "our" comfort zone and then move into the new territory God has prepared and destined for us. Now is the time! ✚

For more information regarding Rev. Dr. Henry L. Armington, Sr., please visit Central Baptist Church this Sunday morning for a dynamite worship experience at 10:45 a.m. located 2400 California Street, Denver, Colorado or cbcdenver.org via cyberspace.



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- Tuesday** Evening - Community Computer Classes (9 wk. intervals)
- Wednesday**
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 Evening - Intercessory Prayer - 6:30pm
 Evening - Bible Institute & Academy of Ministry - 7:30pm
- Thursday** Evening - Choir Rehearsal - 6:30pm
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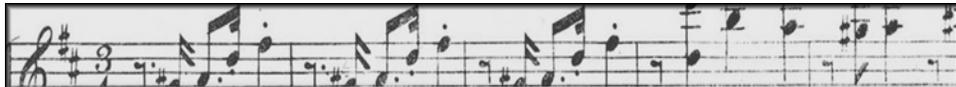
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**see
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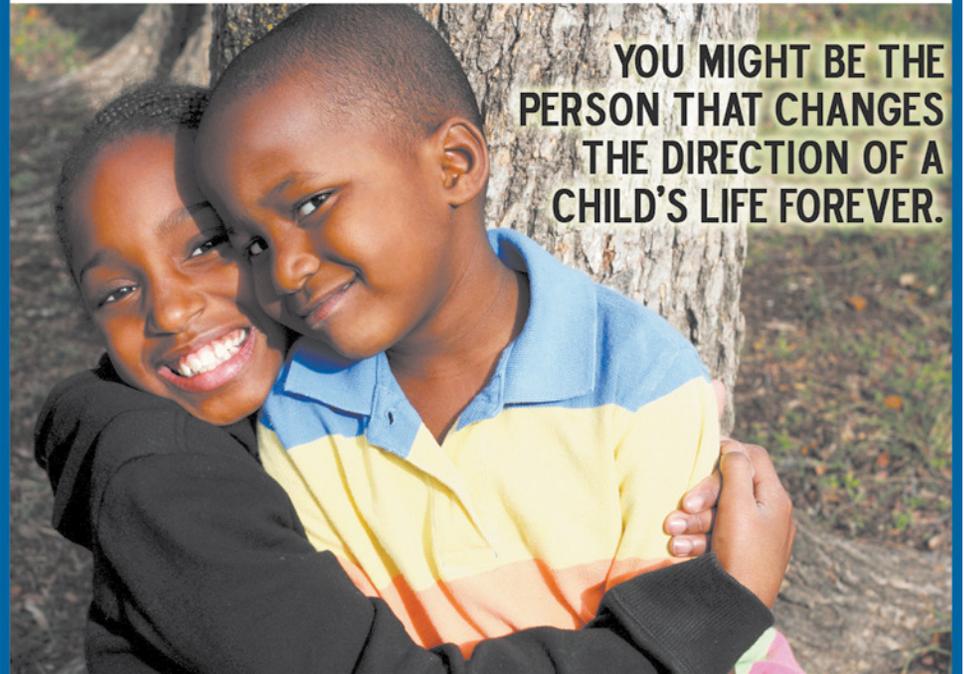
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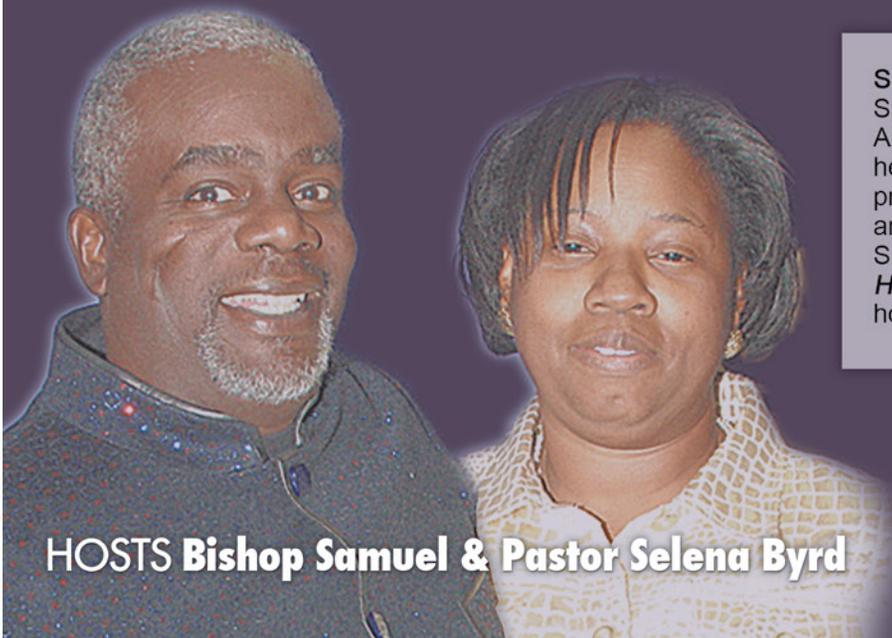
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Fatal Distractions

By Dr. P.M. Wynn Grove

How many times in our life, have we had a flash back moment to our past and said; “What was I thinking” or “if I knew then what I know now....” We all have fallen short of the Glory of God and said or did something we did regret later on. It happens due to fatal distractions. The Bible says that Satan was “more subtle than any other wild creature” (Gen. 3:1) Satan used the art of deception to lure Eve into disobedience, which eventually culminated in the Fall, ushering sin and death into the world. In other words Satan gave us the very first “fatal distraction,” and Eve, the mother of all mankind, fell right into his trap.



Evan. Dr. Wynn Grove

We face fatal distractions every-day. In the Book of Ephesians the Apostle Paul warned us to put on the whole armor of God that we might be able to stand against the “wiles” of the devil (Eph. 6:11) wiles means a trick or stratagem intended to ensnare or deceive; trickery; guile. I have good news for you, Satan can’t just attack us outright because the balance of power is in the Believer’s hands, but he will use every trick in the book to pull a “sneak attack” and draw us away from the things of God.

The Bible informs us that Satan is a deceiver, a liar and the father of lies. (see John 8:44). Although he can’t defeat us, he can deceive us, and his plan of deception has unfortunately been successful against the Body of Christ. Believers everywhere are under attack as our archenemy attempts to foil our blessings, cause our spiritual gifts to be ineffective, trivialize our anointing and nullify the power working through us to deliver God’s Word to a world of hurting people.

In these last days Satan has renewed his assault. As we move to higher levels in our spiritual walk, there are new challenges to be faced. As we grow in Christ and elevate to higher levels in God it does not come easily, it doesn’t come without a struggle. As we go higher in God, Satan will mount up new strategic attacks to bring us down. The (deeper in His Word) we go there are devils on that level.

Satan is ruthless, if he tried to tempt Jesus he will steam roll over us if we aren’t careful, watchful, keeping our discerning spirit tune in and a constant prayer life. Satan will slip right in there with a major distraction to take us off course of God’s plan. You might ask yourself, what is a fatal distraction? It’s anything or anyone that deters you from the growth and development of your faith. Fatal distractions can be some of the people

you have in your life that shouldn’t be there – Whenever you talk about going to church or being involve in some type of ministry or how good God is that person will say something like; “why are you always going to church, or being with the wrong people at the wrong time place you in prison, having folks around you that has an addiction that’s a fatal distraction. You might be the best alto in the choir with anointing but you just can’t break the habit of going to gamble or mingle in nightclubs that’s a fatal distraction.

Satan wants to break your spirit because if you have the faith of a mustard seed you can move a mountain (Matt. 17:20) When we are unwise, uninformed, unaware and full of ourselves Satan will send fatal distractions. Fatal distractions are similar to what we saw in the movie “fatal attractions” when you’re attracted to something or someone that you know is wrong

and you continue the pursuit. Fatal attractions make you begin to justify keeping a dirty little secret and fatal distractions bring about destroying your home, your marriage, your career and most of all your spiritual growth and walk with God. Fatal distractions we allow into our lives will fester into death; the death of our anointing; the death of our gifts and callings and eventually, if we are not wise and apply the remedy, the death of our God-ordained purpose.

Fatal distractions usually start out small and before you know it, it has become out of control, it’s causing you sleepless nights, anxieties, not eating, taking pills to go to sleep and pills to wake up, worry about people finding out your little secret etc, As time progresses, it gains more power over you until what had once seemed small begins to take your mind off the plan, purpose and power of God. Your relationship to God and your faith in Him are weakened, and by the time

Continued on Page 16

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Dr. P.M. Wynn Grove is an Associate Pastor at the Potter House of Denver. Pastor PM & Pastor Lee are the founders of Heavenly Sent Ministry. You can contact her at pmwynn9@msn.com.

Satan is ruthless, if he tried to tempt Jesus he will steam roll over us if we aren’t careful, watchful, keeping our discerning spirit tune in and a constant prayer life.

Warning To Black Political Leaders, Religious Leaders, and Civil Rights Leaders: Come Out Of Hiding!

By Dr. Rosie Milligan

Blacks suffer continued injustices from their own government. Blacks have been fighting for years to get their financial due from the 1865 Treaty but to no avail. Dr. Claud Anderson and the Harvest Institute Freedmen Federation, LLC, have fought all the way to the Supreme Court. The powers that be are counting on us running out of money, and we may just do that after spending thousands of dollars fighting in the courts. This administration provides 3.8 billion dollars for redress to descendants of the Five Civilized Tribes (Seminole, Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, and Chickasaw) because the United States Department of Interior did not make payments as required by the 1866 Treaty, nor did it properly enforce other aspects of the treaty. However, the 1866 Treaty was written primarily to force the Five Civilized Tribes and other Indians to release the slaves they owned and mandated that freedmen have the same rights and benefits as Indians.

Every group that has requested reparation for the wrong done to them by our government has been paid—except Blacks, and none of them have had to spend millions fighting in courts. The United States Department of Agriculture admitted that they discriminated against Black farmers; however, they continue to fight to NOT pay Black farmers what they owe. The Black Farmers lawsuit is one of the largest civil rights suits for Blacks in America . . . so where are the civil rights organizations? Since the Black Farmers claims were filed, a few got paid, but others are still fighting to get paid. The USDA has been taking claims from Hispanics and women farmers, ranchers and Indians, and the Indians have started receiving checks . . . while Black farmers are still fighting in the courts.

We have three money issues on the table: the 1865 Treaty lawsuit, Reparation, and the Black Farmers lawsuit. Our political leaders would not even respond to our cry for help after receiving thousands of letters. Why is everyone afraid to address Black issues? If there were ever a time that we needed to hear from our political leaders, religious leaders, and civil rights leaders, it is now, in these dark economic hours. Please come out of hiding. We need you. We have supported you. Why can't you help now in our time of need?

As an elder, a mother, a grandmother,

a voter, and one who loves Black people and cares about their plight, I frequently recall the predictions Dr. Claud Anderson made more than a decade ago when he said that the Black race would become a permanent underclass by 2013. As I watch the accelerating decline of the race and see Black people abandoned, I am saddened and disappointed in the way our political leaders, our civil rights leaders, and our spiritual leaders have sat as quietly as "church mice" and remained silent on issues that are driving Blacks into a permanent underclass position.

To all politicians and leaders—as you sit in your comfortable spaces and in high places—let me remind you to read a few scriptures from the book of Esther from the Bible. While reading, pay close attention to Mordecai and Esther's relationship during racial turmoil and the annihilation attempt. Mordecai helped Esther to become queen in the royal palace of King Ahasuerus. Look at the comparison between then and now. We helped you to get into your position as well. In case you do not keep a Bible near at all times, permit me to quote these scriptures that will refresh your memory of the story.

(Chapter 3:13) And the letters were sent by couriers into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all the Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their possessions. I will also quote Chapter 4:13-14 which reads: And Mordecai told them to answer Esther: "Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews. For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

I pray that you will read the entire book of Esther and substitute the words "Black people" where it reads "Jews." May I remind you that as Blacks vanish and become an underclass, so will you, your children, and your children's children. We are beginning to see it now. As the demography changes, Black politicians are becoming a disappearing act—Blacks have lost many elected political positions. And Black churches are feeling the effects of the demography shift and the economic decline of its members and

Continued on Page 17

Lyndi McCartney, 1943-2013

By Steve Chavis

She was widely known as a coach's wife: quiet, in the background. And in a quiet way, away from the sports headlines and TV lights, Lynne Marie (Lyndi) McCartney simply, deeply impacted lives. Hundreds gathered at a suburban Denver church Monday morning to celebrate that impact.

"Lynne Marie!" shouted Dr. Raleigh Washington, president of Promise Keepers, McCartney family friend and officiant. "Celebrate!" replied the congregation of family and friends from the worlds of sports and ministry.

Another officiant, Messianic Rabbi Gene Bender called Mrs. McCartney "the living embodiment of Second Corinthians 1:3-4, "... so that we can encourage others in whatever trials they may be undergoing with the encouragement we ourselves have received from God."

The memorial event was part worship service (including an altar call-styled invitation to Christian faith – one man responded, many others stood to rededicate their lives to Christ), and part celebration of life. Each of Bill and Lyndi McCartney's children shared their own stories of their mother's dedication.

"My mom's greatest passion was her family," said Mike McCartney, a sports agent based in Illinois.

For son Tom, a high school football coach, hers was a legacy of prayer. "She was always on her knees, praying for her kids."

Youngest son Marc said, "I am overwhelmed, but not with sadness. I'm overwhelmed with a deep feeling of thanksgiving and gratitude."

Daughter Kristy wrote, "I'm going to miss her in ways I haven't even thought of yet."

After several slide presentations set to music ("If you could see me now," "Come to Jesus," "The Air I Breathe"), Bill McCartney underscored his children's tribute. "What she did for them, she did for me."

When the floor was opened to remarks by friends, nearly 20 people lined up to describe the personal encounters with Lyndi that impacted their lives. Among them, a battered nephew who reconciled with his mother, a young coach's wife trying to navigate the storm of Division 1 football life, a former football player who said he felt fully embraced by Lyndi. "She was a beacon," said



Lyndi McCartney

one man. "A Proverbs 31 woman," said another. "Her children rise up and call her blessed. Her husband praises her."

In a most personal moment, Dr. Washington shared the words of a man who lost his life partner. "I reach for her, and she's not there." "That's true," said Washington. "She's in the arms of another man, Jesus." The people laughed.

I traveled with the McCartneys occasionally, and I enjoyed watching "Coach Mac" dote on his bride. His love for her seemed to grow over time. And in Lyndi's eyes I saw respect and admiration for her husband. When I saw them together, on stage, back stage and at home, there was no daylight between them. They celebrated their 50th anniversary on December 29, 2012.

Lyndi McCartney was a sharp observer of life, and she had a sharp wit. But when it came to people, as was testified to by many at this service, she was graceful, and a deeply caring, compassionate person. As a communicator, Lyndi McCartney could have written a dozen books. Instead, she poured those gifts into her children and the rest of us. Lyndi McCartney's blog entries can be read at www.stringapearl.blogspot.com.

Before the service, Coach told me, "I want Lyndi to be honored, and I want the Lord to be glorified."

It looks like Lyndi orchestrated another successful family gathering. The pain of grief notwithstanding, Lyndi would call it a "win." ✚

Rev. Golson Installed as President of Greater Metro Denver Ministerial Alliance

For more than 70 years, the Greater Metropolitan Denver Ministerial Alliance (GMDMA) has been the strong voice of hope for change and empowerment in the Metro-Denver Community. Since the early 1940's, the original focus of this organization was to edify and strengthen the ministry of the Black Church and provide a sounding board for complaints from the citizens in the Five-Points community. Today, the focus continues to be targeted towards those who have suffered discrimination, socio-economic disadvantages, or unequal access to benefits that should be afforded to all citizens in the community.

In keeping with these principles and mission, the GMDMA recently held their 2013 Installation Ceremony of Rev. William T. Golson, Jr. as the new President Elect.

On hand for this momentous occasion were many local pastors, including past presidents of the GMDMA, a charge from Rabbi Yoseph Moshe Katznelson (Shorshay HaMashiach), a challenge from Pastor Kay Farley (Faith Community Baptist Church) and a prayer from Father Phil Eberhart (Resurrection Anglican Fellowship). Musical selections from the True Light Baptist Church Choir rounded out the sense of unity and faith felt by those who gathered for this event.

Also in attendance was Denver's Mayor Michael Hancock, who knew all of the pastors at the ceremony, having grown up in Denver and visited their churches. He showed his support and solidarity toward them, recalling that throughout the years, these pastors have been involved in his life as advisors, confidantes, and prayer warriors. He went on to state that the GMDMA serves as an important body in the community, helping to open the eyes of community members to be pro-active on key issues that present challenges. An ordained deacon, who spends a lot of time in church and in study, Mayor Hancock said, "I have always appreciated the Ministerial Alliance in a really big way." ✚

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Occupational Therapy Month

By Maya Wheeler, MHA

Did you know occupational therapy (OT) can help your elderly loved one live their life to the fullest? Yep, that's right according to occupational therapist the path to health and well-being is intricately linked to the daily activities in which individuals choose to participate.

OT is primarily focused on the performance of activities of daily living (ADLS) which includes: dressing, bathing, grooming, toileting, feeding as well as performing the necessary mobility required to complete these activities.

Occupation therapy also focuses on what is known as instrumental activities of daily living (IADLS) which includes: money management, shopping, cooking, housekeeping, community transportation and medication management which enables seniors maintain independence.

The primary goal of OT is to facilitate the return to the highest level of independence in the performance of ADLS following the effects of illness, injury, mental or social problems as a result the aging process.

OT utilizes a wide variety of techniques and activities to restore muscle strength, coordination, balance, memory, range of motion and endurance required to perform the various activities of daily living. The methods used include: individualized therapeutic exercise programs, self care training, transfer and mobility training, along with specialized facilitation techniques in cases involving partial or total paralysis of an extremity, and memory games to help improve an individual's ability to remember certain things.

Health conditions that are frequently



Maya Wheeler

treated by occupational therapy in a long-term health care setting include but are not limited to: arthritis, stroke, fractures, Dementia, Parkinson, Multiple Sclerosis, amputations, joint replacements, degenerative joint disease and overall weakness and deconditioning as a result of aging.

At Forest Street Compassionate Care Center we provide the full spectrum of rehabilitation services including: physical, occupational and speech therapy. Our therapists tailor their approach to each person individual needs to maximize independence and quality of life.

Residents who return home following rehabilitation at Forest Street receive a free home evaluation to assess the need for durable medical equipment to insure a successful return home. ✝

For more information on Forest Street Compassionate Care Center please visit the facility at 3345 Forest Street, Denver, CO 80207, or visit www.forestst.org, or call 303.393.7600.

Redeemed Ones Jail-Prison and Community Outreach



Ex-Offenders Orientation

Tues. & Wed. 10:00am

Food Bank

1st & 3rd Tues. 10:30am-12:30pm

Distribution at local hotel Thurs. 4p

Kidz Food Bags distribution Fri. 4p

Accountability / Mentoring Group

Ex-offenders, families and friends

2nd & 4th Saturdays 11:00am-1:00pm

Distribution of resources following lunch

Anointed for the Call

Ministry & Leadership Training

1st & 3rd Saturdays 10:00am-12:00noon

Office Hours

Tues. 9:00am-1:00pm

Wed. 9:00am - 1:00pm

Corporate Prayer

Tues. 8:00 - 9:00am



Apostle Pat Winn
Founder/Exec. Dir.
with husband John

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Mailing: PO Box 31105, Aurora, CO 80041
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ACTIVE CHURCH SEEKS MUSICIAN

Lowry Community Christian Church (LCCC), a non-denominational church, is searching for a Gospel Lead Musician. Qualified candidates will have a passion for gospel music and a desire to be associated with a church committed to our vision which is to see people walk in a personal, fulfilling and active Relationship with Jesus Christ.

LCCC is a moderate size church with approximately 200 members. This is a part-time position, approximately 15 hours per week, with additional hours available as needed and approved by the Director of Music.

Candidates interested in this position would need to meet the following criteria:

- A personal and vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ
- Biblical foundation and knowledge
- Related job experience in and should be proficient in keyboard, piano, and/or organ and voice harmony recognition
- Demonstrated ability to lead and work with others
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills

For more information:

- LCCC website at www.lowrychurch.org – see the “Job Section” for a job description
- Call the LCCC Church Office at (303) 364-7146

Completed resumes can be sent to:

- Barbara Davis at 5bdavis@comcast.net
- Lowry Community Christian Church
Attention: Barbara Davis
855 Yosemite Street
Denver, CO 80230

FATAL DISTRACTIONS ... from page 14

the process is complete, it has become a fatal distraction in your life.

James 1:15 says “Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death (fatal distraction).” Jesus stated; “And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.” (Mark 4:19) It is not just enough to receive the Word; you must also take the time and effort necessary to ensure that the Word becomes productive and fruit-

ful in you and not just fruitful in you, but also fruitful in the people in your life. The Word must be so fruitful in you that it inspires you to do the will of God according to the plan of God.

Saints, we just celebrated Holy Week remembering how Jesus suffered, bleed and died for our sins. God loved us so much that HE gave his only begotten Son. As we move forward in our spiritual growth let's keep our eyes fixed on Jesus instead of fatal attractions and fatal distractions. It will kill your spiritual growth and the anointing on your life.

Body of Christ News

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BOULDER, COLORADO SPRINGS & PUEBLO

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Randy M. McCowan, publisher

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Send Church News and Items for Calendar of Events to editorial@bocnews.com or mail to:

Body of Christ News
11 Del Mar Cir.
Aurora CO 80011

DEADLINE:
15th of the Month

On the Matter of Civil Unions: A Majority Opinion

By Rev. William T. Golson, Jr.

The Colorado Legislature has recently proposed, and seemingly is in the process of approving, the issue of "Civil Unions." The bill creates the "Colorado Civil Union Act" (Act) to authorize any 2 unmarried adults, regardless of gender, to enter into a civil union." This bill has engendered an enormous amount of conversation and debate.

When it comes to the matter of civil unions, and the concurrent consideration of "same-sex marriage," the church has been charged with being "homophobic." Interestingly, that same blatant designation has not been assigned to other societal sins: adultery, theft, lying, gossiping, and others.

In a blog "Crossing the Line" by Michael Gentry, he proposes that "the issue has the African-American community at odds with one another." Some have declared it to be a matter of civil rights, similar to the plight of African-Americans. Others have declared it to be about validation and respect. Still others have felt it is an attempt "to strong arm the people into accommodating a lifestyle that many find offensive, contrary to nature, socially destructive, and morally

repugnant.

The GMDMA recognizes that we live in a society that has become hypersensitive to sexual sin. We are a society that has become culturally obsessed and places a premium on sexual sin. While we acknowledge the matter of sexual sin, we recognize that sin takes a multitude of forms, both in thought and actions. As ministers of the gospel, we are called to speak or focus on more than just one particular area of sin. We are called to speak to all sin in general in all its forms, attitudes, and manifestations.

When it comes to the matter of "civil unions," we are not limited in our concern but broadly proclaim our concern regarding neglect and impropriety where there is a lack of justice and equality for all people. In our assessment of those who seemingly are struggling with gender confusion, who have undergone hormonal and surgical change, who feel contrary in mind to what they are in body, we recognize that we must first extend to them a spirit of love. Our first and foremost priority is to accept people, as God does, where they are. God does not require us to get ourselves cleaned up or fixed up, but asks that we come as we are. Secondly, we recognize that every person and situation is unique and we must not throw everyone into the same basket, or place them under the same label. Everyone has a story, a context of life, and we need to take the time to hear and understand what that is.

There are those who proclaim that their struggle ensues from birth. Whether or not a person ascribes to being born a certain way, the fact of the matter is that we are all sinners in need of being born again. Regardless of how we were born, we are all in need of a transformative relationship with the Lord Jesus



Rev. William T. Golson, Jr.

Christ. However we see, or don't see, ourselves the born again experience is a must and is not limited by sexual orientation, economic or educational status, or any humanistic standard.

Succinctly, the Greater Metro Denver Ministerial Alliance (GMDMA) has considered this question of "civil unions" and has come to the following "majority" opinion. We affirm:

- that biblical marriage is between a man and a woman
- God's love for all people and His desire that all people may be saved
- that God in his infinite wisdom has given us free will, and our choice to live in accordance to the Word, way, and will of God is a matter of personal choice, which we are ultimately held accountable unto God
- that God is a God of grace and therein he extends opportunity

for spiritual transformation according to His will and way in a manner often unrecognizable to us

- that we will defend the rights of all people, regardless of their gender, race, or status in our society

Although there is much concern in our society with sexual sin, the GMDMA recognizes that as ministers of the gospel our first obligation and concern is for the salvation of humanity. In the fulfillment of that obligation, we are called to love as Jesus loved, to forgive as Jesus forgave, to transform not conform to our society, and to be agents of light and love to a community that desires to dwell in darkness. ✚

William T. Golson, Jr., MDiv, is President of the Greater Metro Denver Ministerial Alliance.

There are those who proclaim that their struggle ensues from birth. Whether or not a person ascribes to being born a certain way, the fact of the matter is that we are all sinners in need of being born again.



COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION JOB FAIR

The Divine Love Christian Center was the sponsor of a Community Revitalization Job Fair, Saturday, March 9, 2013. The weather forecast was for cold blizzard conditions with up to 8 inches of snow for that day, which did not stop more than 200 applicants from attending the Job Fair. As of Friday, March 8th there were 700 registered job seekers which is evidence of the desperate need for employment. There were 11 employers in attendance with more than 400 available job openings.

The purpose of this event was to serve the Community with making available jobs that will establish financial stability. The 2012 statistics of unemployment in original Aurora is 8.1%. The national unemployment average, was 8.3%. This rate is statically challenging, however it can be addressed. The need to alleviate unemployment is strategic to the economic well being of our fine city, and our nation.

This was a valuable opportunity to make a difference in our community. This job fair provided

the forum for potential employers to satisfy staffing needs and for candidates attempting to locate employment.

Many of the job seekers expressed optimism and the employers saw good prospects. The final result is yet to be seen. However, the expectation is that many will find employment as a result of this very successful Community Revitalization Job Fair.

District Missionary Lavern Mills, Job Fair Coordinator partnered with Nate Valtakis, Arapahoe/Douglas County Works Workforce to make this event happen. It is because of the very fine leadership of Superintendent Martin H. and First Lady Joyce Phillips that this event was possible. ✚

PHOTO: Those in the picture left to right are Greg Hammond and Nate Valtakis of Arapahoe/Douglas County Works Workforce and District Missionary Lavern Mills and Deacon Tyrone Mills of Divine Love Christian Center.

FORTI ... from page 6

es, I have learned that many operate with FALSE MOTIVES (Acts 4:13, 2 Cor 12:7-10, 1 John 1:8-10). However, I will not TURN the other WAY and simply IGNORE the deliberate error that is sweeping throughout the main line church so that church members can remain in their comfort zones. When you stand before Jesus Christ one day SOON, will He look the other way and ignore your false motives and the COMPROMISING message that you preached? Will you be judged at the judgment seat of Christ which will be the time when Jesus rewards and judges true believers, or, will you be sent to hell with those who thought they knew the real Jesus (2 Cor 5:10, Matt 7:21-23)?

I am more concerned with the TRUTH of God's Word instead of money and popularity. I will continue to live in peace and joy knowing that my Lord is COMING SOON for those who truly want to be with Him, and for those who are truly saved. I have made the choice to do everything that I can to walk in Biblical REPENTANCE (Jam 5:19-20, Matt 3:8, Eph 5:3-21, Rev Ch's 2-3, 1 Tim 6:3-15).

"Let no one deceive you or beguile you in any way, for that day will not come except the APOSTACY comes first, unless the predicted GREAT FALLING AWAY of those who have professed to be Christians has come" (2 Thess 2:3 AMP). Until next time, Jesus is coming soon, are you going to be ready, or LEFT BEHIND? ✚

Hiding ... from page 15

have to rent their churches to Latinos for church services in order to meet their financial obligations. As of today, there are over 50 Black churches in the Los Angeles and surrounding areas in bankruptcy. I warned you that when the Black community suffers financially so would the Black church, but nobody listen to me.

Time is of the essence for you to get involved and "time is the one thing that you cannot call back!" ✚

Dr. Rosie Milligan, Minister, Counselor, Estate Planner, Publisher, Author of Black America Faces Economic CRISIS—Solutions Made Simple Web site:www.Drosie.com

Obama Not to Blame for African-American Lack of Education

In a recent interview with Body of Christ News, Khalid Abdullah Tariq Al-Mansour, ph.D., discussed the critical state of education concerning Black America, noting that this issue did not originate with President Barak Obama. In fact, Dr. Monsour praised President Obama, referring to him as extremely bright, acknowledging that he is faced with the difficult task of managing his potential as well as changes that are unfolding in a globalized setting.

"President Obama has only four years to accomplish complex matters facing the country, including educational issues. There is not a one-stop easy solution to the 'diseases' America is facing," said Dr. al-Monsour. "And concerning education, we [as African Americans] are still at the stage of not having even defined the problem in order to strategize for solutions."

He went on to explain that Black Americans began lacking education during slavery. Early on, the former slaves were discouraged from learning to read and write. At that time, as 10% [of the population] we Blacks could not out-vote others, but we could have educated ourselves. Instead, while other races were focused on educating themselves and progressing as a people, Blacks focused on entertainment, partying and going to heaven. This is the same nonproductive message that Blacks are concentrating on today.

How many churches award young Blacks in their congregations for being honor students? We do not go to libraries and get knowledge and, therefore, we have lost valuable educational and economic ground and remain at the bottom of these scales.

Dr. Monsour insists that the resolution of the Black educational deficit is to implement a strategy that starts at the solution, understanding that the races which have been the most dynamic and successful have had an educated leadership and strong parental roles that strengthened their families and communities.

Politically speaking, we see that other educationally progressive races such as the Asians, Africans or Jews, did not go to Washington and demand civil rights, as did Blacks, but instead have used the strategy of their knowledge of their identity, education, discipline and self-confidence to succeed in America.

"Black politicians pushed a message to get Black people to vote in the Black-power elite who actually had no credentials or experience, no vision, and could not reach the Black masses. In Martin Luther King, Jr.'s speech in Washington, he did not mention higher education as part of his dream for Black

people, but rather said: "...I saw the son of the slave and the son of the slave master walking hand-in-hand in the red clay hills of Georgia." His message was that Black and White children could play together, but the essential education of the Black person was not mentioned, nor were physics, chemistry, knowledge of Africa, farming, or the ingredients to raise a strong and healthy family. The message was of desegregation, which in the end, proved to be harmful to the identity, growth and sustainability of the Black race," lamented Dr. Monsour.

"This was a very difficult period in our history and the educational message continues to be avoided by the Black community who historically, and still today do not give a message of confidence, identity, education and motivation. Now, 50 years later we are wondering if Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered the right message and if it's too late to educate the Black masses. Contemporary Black leaders and other influential Blacks are saying, 'We want to disappear as quickly as possible regarding our color, the size of our nose, the size of our lips and our level of commitment to Black communities.'"

It is puzzling to Dr. Monsour that the NAACP has not adopted a protocol that stresses the importance of honor grades and has not set up tutoring support in Black neighborhoods. Yet, it is a fact that African children born in Africa with hungry stomachs, learning in poverty amongst the flies, mosquitoes and turmoil in their land, out-perform every other group in the world, including Black Americans, Whites, Jews and Asians! They have high grade point averages in the midst of poverty with 22% being honor students, 33% are B students at the college level and 36% are C students. Only 9% are D or F students. This is the highest in the world!

"Why don't our leaders recommend that we read?"

questions Dr. Monsour. Even Jesse Jackson's son has not given a plan to move forward since he has been convicted, which could be used as a powerful tool to encourage young Black children to overcome failures and aspire to higher walks of life. We must stop pitying ourselves and start desiring to excel." Dr. Monsour finds it intolerable that the Black community wants others to fix our ongoing slavery problem and stated that they must come out of the slavery mindset of "What's in for me?"

In all fairness to President Obama, how many Blacks have there been in positions to help Black America before he took office? What exactly is it that Blacks want him to do? What strategy have we put forth that we want him to implement? Our plan should lay out a process for him to help us effectuate honor students and a proven method to promote self-sufficiency and economic growth in our communities. "Why haven't we, and why don't we take advantage of radios and libraries to push our children towards educational excellence? How long will our Black communities ignore what all other races have accomplished so long ago?" asks Dr. Monsour.

The issue remains that Black Americans still think that President Obama is going to, and should do something to pull us out of these many years of having done nothing for ourselves. In reality, the weight of this misplaced expectation lies dormant on our shoulders. We have to-date, shown no plans, no visions and no strategies to elevate our race to a place of knowledge and excellence. Our actions do not educate, inspire, or hand down a legacy, nor do they promote pride in our heritage. Instead we steadily water the seeds of self-hatred, ignorance and dependency.

We cannot afford to wait much longer. ✚

Now, 50 years later we are wondering if Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered the right message and if it's too late to educate the Black masses.

Contemporary Black leaders and other influential Blacks are saying, 'We want to disappear as quickly as possible regarding our color, the size of our nose, the size of our lips and our level of commitment to Black communities.'"

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Church Directory



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www.lowrychurch.org
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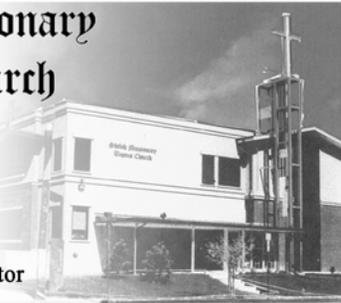
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Church Secretary: 303-388-3248
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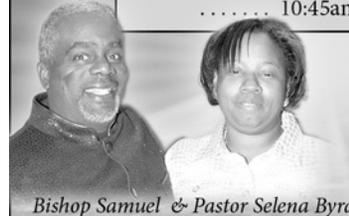
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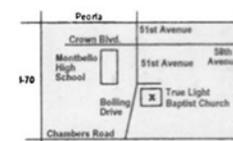
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they also imported a complete and comprehensive health care system of their own. Simply put, African Americans were not passive victims of the medical mafia nor did they patiently wait for civil rights laws to be addressed. They successfully took healthcare into their own hands. Unfortunately, an unjust education system and false images perpetuated by Hollywood caused Blacks to steer away from their roots. We, for a period



Karen Little

of time, disapprovingly referred to our traditional healers as voodoo workers, witchdoctors and make shift physicians. The good and bad news is that the failure rates of allopathic medicine have awakened the cultural DNA that has lied dormant in us for far too long.

This awakening is the result of unsuccessful treatments of disease and the high rates of illness amongst African Americans. It is estimated that 63,000 Blacks will die from cancer next year. Blacks have 3x as much high blood pressure, diabetes, and heart disease. In fact, 80% of all Black people will be diagnosed with high blood pressure by the age of 45. And the fact that Blacks suffer from diabetic induced kidney failure at rates 4x higher than our counterparts is astounding. Modern medical practices are unpredictable at best with ridiculously high failure rates. Even the American Medical Association admits to being wrong in their diagnosis and treatment 48% of the time. This information alone should be persuasive enough to drive you back home to Big Momma.

Big momma understood the science of natural medicine. Natural remedies

treat the causes and not just the symptoms and it does so without the nasty side effects. Don't get me wrong. I am not saying that allopathic (modern) medicine doesn't have its place because it most certainly does. I am saying that many of the failures of allopathic medicine have affected Blacks at the most alarming rate. Do the research for yourself. Chemotherapy and radiation does not cure cancer, it only addresses

the symptoms. Insulin is a salt. It does not cure diabetes. Drugs used to treat arthritis destroy the body. This list goes on and on but ALL disease can be prevented, treated and sometimes cured by strengthening the body's own natural defenses.

God designed each of us with our own immune system and a spirituality that has always encouraged a mind, body and soul healing through faith. Our historical and modern practices of healing through prayer, laying of the hands, and letting go and letting God speaks to this very tradition. I believe God has provided us with everything we need through the Earth's bountiful supply. Considering the fact that there are 46 million people in the United States without healthcare, holistic health care practitioners are greatly needed. Big momma knew what she was doing when she rubbed mustard on the chest to treat pneumonia or used eucalyptus to treat respiratory infections. Maybe it was divine knowledge. Maybe it was cultural hand-me-downs. Maybe it was trial and error. But if it was good enough for Big momma, it's good enough for me! ✚

Mental Health and the Black Church

By Randall Craven

As a Black male psychotherapist, I attended a conference sponsored by Brother Jeff's Cultural Center on the State of Black Mental Health that, by the way, was a great conference of high value. One of the major theme's surfacing from the conference was the relationship between the Mental Health (MH) Community and the Black Church. It was clear from the conference dialogue that there is a significant gap between many African-American Christians and how they value the practice of counseling from a spiritual perspective. It's a valid question to weigh especially since this specific tension doesn't get much public attention but according to the conference participants it needs more room for critical discussion and debate.



Randall Craven

Represented were several points of view from the religious perspective that seemed to motivate some church goers and some church leaders to move in the direction of rejecting psychology (talk therapy) and psychiatry (medicinal treatment of mental health conditions) as legitimate forms of healing. At the root of the argument is the mega-narrative of Christian belief that nothing should be valued higher than God otherwise it runs the risk of being idolized or used to replace God as the one true source that can satisfy human needs. "Therefore speak to them and tell them, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: When any of the Israelites set up idols in their hearts and put a wicked stumbling block before their faces and then go to a prophet, I the Lord will answer them myself in keeping with their great idolatry'" (Ezekiel 14:4). Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry (1 Corinthians 10:14). Many Christians believe that Mental Health practitioners see their practice and the cure for abnormal behavior and anything defined as the cure over-and-above God's design meets the standard of idolatry. Christians seeking help or Pastors referring for help from a professional counselor can be perceived as a worldly approach to a spiritual need. So, what we have is a natural tension for Christians who believe that they might be violating their own principles for the sake of valuing man-made designs of health.

In addition, many Black people have had direct experience with the Mental Health community and the outcomes have not been all that pleasing. Black people who've been directed to White therapists (the majority of practitioners) who lack a minimal degree of cultural competency have had bad experiences with the counseling occurrence and many African Americans have left more frustrated than they were when they walked in the door. Plus, there have been numerous occasions where the Department Social Services has stepped into abusive & neglectful households and in the name of correcting wrongs they have only managed to separate children who later find themselves in an even more abusive condition or they have completely disenfranchise fathers and made mothers dependent on the system for their survival. As a

psychotherapist (a counselor with a masters degree), I would agree that what is offered often times as a solution for brokenness is altogether unsatisfying, unproductive and sometimes deeply destructive.

The counter-argument is that not all Mental Health practitioners are non-believers. Many practitioners are faithful Christians who are committed to valuing God's truth, reality and designs as their ultimate aim of healthcare and wholeness. In this sense, psychology and psychiatry can be tools that a skilled professional can use to repair brokenness in people that compliments relationship to God's truth, not as a replacement of it.

As a mental health practitioner for over 25 years and a Christian, I would argue that the essence of Mental Health practice is to aid the process of closing the gap between what is real and what is unreal, to assist people in a condition of brokenness to remove distractions and distortions that create distance from reality. For example, distractions or distortions such as drug addiction, depression (hopelessness), anxiety (fear), etc can act as barriers that prevent a person's connection with reality. Psychology is a tool that has the ability to close the gap but it is not the cure for what is TRUTH. Once a person's thinking becomes clearer or once the distortions of emotions, drugs and countless other distractions of life are reduced then the ability to see objective truth is greatly increased.

TRUTH is a product of Christ not psychology or any other discipline for that matter. If a person believes truth then they can experience freedom from pain but if a person believes falsehood then the suffering continues. A great example is provided in the story of Pharaoh wouldn't change his desire to hold on to falsehood so he continued to experience greater levels of pain.

As such, there is nothing a Psychologist, Psychiatrist, or Medical Doctor can do for a person who believes that slavery or crack cocaine is the answer to all their problems. So, God will deal with his creation thus saying, "...I the Lord will answer them myself in keeping with their great idolatry." We have the freedom to believe that eating tubs of ice-cream on a daily basis is "my truth" for emotional dissatisfaction but the scale, the mirror or the spouse will help us revisit our sense of REALITY.

As such, the Body of Christ should not be so quick to misjudge and write-off the value of practitioners who are also Believers. Psychology and Psychiatry can greatly help people become clear enough to discern light from dark but the cure is in the substance of the light not just in removing the dark.

The problem is that not all Mental Health practitioners are Believers but neither are all school teachers who seek to educate our children on the question of homosexuality or the creation of life. This beloved, is the great work that the Body of Christ owns as an obligation to reach and teach truth effectively no matter what your job title is. ✚

BOC News
Kids Corner
 August 2011

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